

# Ajman University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report

November 2025





## CONTENTS

ABOUT AU	4
INTRODUCTION	7
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 1: NO POVERTY1	1
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 2: ZERO HUNGER1	9
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	:5
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION	7
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY	3
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	7
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	9
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH10	1
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE11	5
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES	29
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES14	3
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION16	1
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 13: CLIMATE ACTION	'5
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 14: LIFE BELOW WATER	7
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND	5
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS20	15
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS22	23



#### **About AU**

Established in 1988 as the first private university in the GCC, Ajman University of Science and Technology (AUST) was also the first university in the UAE to admit expatriate students in both genders. In 2016, the name of the university was changed to Ajman University (AU) to better reflect the comprehensive nature of programs offered by the university. AU, Licensed by the Ministry of Education (MoE) in the United Arab Emirates, continues to be a pioneer for inclusion, innovation, and social impact. It offers 23 accredited undergraduate programs and 13 accredited graduate programs through its nine colleges. In 2020, Ajman University became one of the first six higher education institutions in the world to receive global accreditation from the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), UK's independent body and a global leader in quality assurance for higher education. In 2022, AU became the first university in the UAE to receive an overall 5 QS Stars Rating, along with 5 QS Stars in 8 specific categories. In 2023, following its Re-Licensure review, AU was recognized as a High Confidence Institution by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the Ministry of Education (MoE). AU has also transitioned from a for-profit to a non-profit institution. In 2024, AU obtained accreditation from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC).

#### Vision

Ajman University aims to be internationally recognized as one of the leading universities in the Arab world for its cutting-edge learning environment, innovative career support, impactful research, responsible outreach and community engagement.



#### Mission

Ajman University is an independent, comprehensive, non-profit, multicultural academic institution that offers a broad range of high quality and relevant undergraduate and graduate academic programs. The University strives to fulfil the needs of students, alumni, employers, and society through a learner-centric development journey, quality education, hands-on experience, research as well as community engagement. AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, innovative and active contributors to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

**Core Values** 

**Excellence:** All AU activities are conducted with strong emphasis on

outstanding quality standards.

**Integrity:** AU adheres to the principles of honesty, trustworthiness,

reliability, transparency and accountability.

**Inclusiveness:** AU embraces shared governance, inspires tolerance, and is

committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

**Social Responsibility:** AU promotes community engagement, environmental sus-

tainability, and global citizenship. It also promotes awareness of, and support for, the needs and challenges of the local and

global communities.

**Innovation:** AU promotes community engagement, environmental sus-

tainability and global citizenship. It also promotes awareness and support for the needs and challenges of the local and

global communities.



Ajman University believes that the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are calling higher education – from individuals to institutions – to act now on the most pressing challenges facing humanity and the natural world. Considering our collective role creating and sharing knowledge, universities must stand united as leaders in addressing the issues set out in Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As one of the Arab World's leading and most diverse institutions, Ajman University's campus is a microcosm of the world at large. We are comprised of students and stakeholders representing 80+ different nations — each bringing ideas from their cultures and countries about making and keeping sustainability part of our collective responsibility. Together, we are demonstrating our commitment to the SDGs through AU's learning environment, public engagement, and campus operations.

We hold ourselves accountable by participating in transparent reporting processes such as this one for the Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings. The process of creating this report, and evaluating our own efforts thus far, has deepened AU's commitment and resolve to play a dynamic role in tackling the world's SDGs by 2030.

#### Dr. Karim Seghir

Chancellor

#### Ajman University's UN SDGs Progress Report (AY 2023–24)

#### **Commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its core are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an urgent call for action by all countries, developed and developing-through global partnership. The SDGs emphasize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth, while tackling climate change and protecting oceans and forests. For more information, please visit: UNSDGs.

Ajman University (AU) is fully committed to the UN SDGs through efficient resource management, quality and innovative teaching and learning, research, national and international partnerships, lifelong learning, inclusiveness, community outreach, and sustainability. AU strives to embed sustainability across all strategic initiatives.

#### Integration of SDGs in AU Strategic Planning

In 2016, UN representatives delivered a Sustainable Development Lecture to the AU community. Since then, AU has evaluated the SDGs and integrated them into its Strategic Plan 2017–2022. The University aligns its mission with the SDGs through quality education, lifelong learning, scientific research, and community service, reflected in institutional initiatives and measured via key performance indicators (KPIs).

#### **Student and Alumni Engagement with SDGs**

AU's commitment is also demonstrated through student and alumni initiatives:

- 2017: Two AU students attended the <u>UN</u> <u>Youth Assembly</u> in New York.
- 2018: Alumna Maha Jaafar '16 shared her innovative work against hate, racism, and xenophobia at the UN as part of <u>YouTube's</u> <u>"Creators for Change"</u>.

- 2019: AU students participated in the <u>Model</u> <u>United Nations (MUN) Conference</u> hosted by the American University in Dubai.
- 2020: <u>AU's delegation won top awards</u> at the American University of Sharjah MUN (AUSMUN). In the same year, <u>Maha Jaafar '16</u> was appointed UNICEF National Ambassador to Sudan.
- 2021: <u>AU facilitated visits to Expo 2020</u>, enabling students to attend free workshops and tours across over 192 <u>pavilions</u>, enhancing knowledge, skills, and understanding of technological advancements while supporting the UN SDGs.

## Sustainability Integration and Institutional Initiatives

**2022:** AU integrated sustainability across operations, research centers, and policies aligned with the UN SDGs. Key initiatives included:

- Launching the <u>AU Climate & Sustainability</u> <u>Strategy: Carbon Neutral by 2030</u> to unify sustainability efforts.
- Renaming the Office of Environmental Health and Safety as the Office of Sustainability, to lead environmental, social, and economic initiatives.
- Implementing the <u>Strategic Plan 2022–2027</u>, emphasizing academic excellence, research impact, student development, community engagement, and institutional sustainability.
- Joining the <u>UN's Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)</u>, participating in <u>UN Youth Café</u> consultations, and becoming a member of the <u>Nature Positive Universities Alliance</u> at COP15.

**2023:** AU reinforced its climate action through partnerships with the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE), joining the UAE delegation at COP27, serving as the sole university

supporting partner of the World ESG Summit, hosting the "Make it Sustainable" Forum, and joining the COP28 Universities Climate Network (UCN).

**2024:** AU made significant sustainability strides:

- The Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with the UAE Universities Climate Network and supported by the UN High-Level Climate Champions, launched the MENA Climate Solutions Research Network, addressing regional climate challenges and enhancing AU's global sustainability rankings.
- AU launched the free University Climate Network (UCN) Decarbonization Academy, in partnership with the American University of Sharjah and New York University Abu Dhabi. The Academy offers interactive workshops led by sustainability experts, empowering participants to develop decarbonization strategies, reduce emissions, and strengthen sustainable practices, supporting UCN's carbon neutrality pillar and the UAE's 2025 Community Year.

#### **Student-Led Impact on Global Sustainability**

AU students achieved international recognition for practical contributions to climate solutions:

- Undergraduate Doaa Al Alimi, alongside Shaima Hussein and Bibi Hashimi, presented their award-winning <u>Electric Green Pot</u> at COP29 in Baku.
- Selected after winning the Green Campus Competition among 70 projects from 15 universities, the solution captures carbon, purifies air, and promotes plant growth through a sustainable, energy-efficient design.
- The project demonstrates how student-led initiatives advance multiple UN SDGs, offering

practical solutions to global climate challenges, supported by AU's Office of Sustainability and guidance from <u>ICARDA</u>, an NGO.

#### **AU's Ongoing Commitment to SDGs**

The UN SDGs aim to create a globally sustainable future by addressing critical challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice, with targets set for 2030. AU continues to improve quality education, equip graduates with essential skills, and enhance the impact and relevance of research. The University actively engages community partners, NGOs, government entities, and industry stakeholders, promoting interdisciplinary teamwork to address sustainability challenges and advance sustainable stewardship. AU's performance evaluations for AY 2023-24 demonstrate that it units met (1) and exceeded (11) KPIs related to the UN SDGs.

Through these initiatives, AU not only advances the sustainability goals of the United Arab Emirates but also contributes to the global achievement of the UN SDGs. For more information, visit <u>AU's Sustainability Page</u> and <u>Sustainable Campus</u>.

#### **Report Design**

This 2025 progress report, covering AY 2023–2024, presents a comprehensive overview of AU's contributions to the SDGs. It integrates data from Scopus-indexed research publications, curriculum mapping using the top 100 SDG keywords, and institutional data. The report highlights AU's impact across start-up companies developed at the AU Innovation Center, research outputs, and university operations, partnerships, and outreach initiatives.

#### **Key Performance Indicators related to UN SDGs**

Office	KPI_2023-24	Base 2022-23	Target 2023-24	Achieved
	# Activities carried out to support zero waste/carbon neutral campus and UN SDGs	6	8	11
	# AU community satisfaction with Sustainability related initiatives	NA	4.1	4.59
Office of     Sustainability	# Students participating or collaborating in hosting activities or events related to sustainability	NA	70	115
	# Students/ Employees who received a Sustainability/ EHS training	25	20	60
	# Sustainability/ EHS awareness sessions	5	4	6
	# EHS internal audits performed	5	4	6
2. Deanship of Student Services	# Community activities or events (supporting UN SDGs) co-hosted with students	15	12	25
	# Activities carried out to support UN SDGs	10	15	26
Office of Student Counselling Unit	# Initiatives with proven impact on UN SDGs and published on the AU website	3	8	9
4. Office of Student Housing	# Initiatives with proven impact on UN SDGs and published on the AU website	3	8	8
5. Office of Student Life	# Hosted community events in relevance to UN SDGs	13	20	31
6. Office of Community Engagement	# Initiatives with proven impact on UN SDGs	9	15	71





Sustainable Development Goal

## **NO POVERTY**



Ajman University (AU), in line with its commitment to SDG 1: No Poverty, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTER:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these is the <u>Humanities and Social Sciences</u> Research Center (HSSRC), which aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally.

#### **RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS:**

AU's Scopus publications and citations using the top 100 keywords search for SDG 1 is shown below.

#### **INNOVATION:**

The Ajman University Innovation Center (AUIC) has helped build startups, provide mentorship and obtained support from its partners to its innovation projects. The activities of AUIC contributes to poverty reduction and promotes economic opportunities for the poor. AUIC, since its inception in 2016 has launched 133 startups. In AY 2023-24 AUIC has achieved the following:

50 mentoring hours delivered

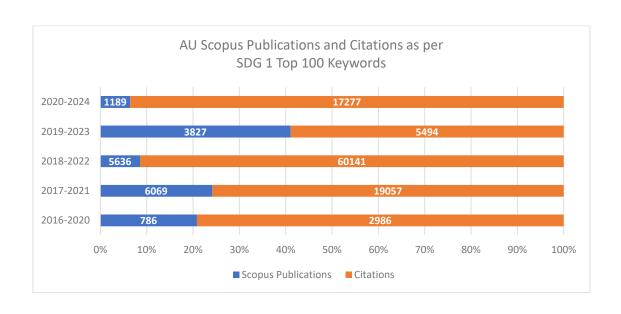
- 12 workshops held, attended by 200 students, faculty, and staff
- Incubated 44 startups, with 2 spin-offs valued at USD 30,000
- Secured USD 50,000 in soft funding commitments
- Awarded AED 25,000 in competition prizes

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, Ajman University develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, and who actively contribute to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

In Academic Year 2023-2024, Ajman University offered a total of 38 academic programs, including the newly launched Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Master of Digital Sociology.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs integrate sustainability as a mandatory topic within the General Education courses, in accordance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: A total of 15 graduate programs explicitly address the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on innovation, excellence and lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions



across diverse fields, including education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law (public and private).

#### • Evidence of SDG Integration:

- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- 27 courses directly cover SDG 1: No Poverty, identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms), evidencing direct curriculum engagement with poverty reduction.

## GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS:

 Ammar Al Nuaimi Chairs Meeting of Ajman University Board of Trustees (November 21, 2024)

His Highness Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman, chaired the meeting of Ajman University's Board of Trustees, where the University's transition to a private, non-profit institution was emphasized as a strategic step toward sustainable development. This transformation strengthens the University's financial stability by reducing reliance on tuition revenues and increasing fundraising efforts to support education accessibility. The

meeting also approved the <u>University's Fund-raising Policy and Guidelines</u>, which will attract contributions from individuals and institutions to expand opportunities for students, improve community engagement, and enhance sustainable development initiatives.

This transition contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty) by promoting equal access to higher education, mobilizing financial support for scholarships, and reducing barriers linked to economic status. It also supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) by enhancing academic excellence and accessibility, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through strengthened collaboration with public and private sector partners.

 Ajman University Center for Inclusive Learning for Students of Determination

On November 19, 2024, H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi inaugurated Ajman University's new Center for Inclusive Learning for Students of Determination, reinforcing the university's non-profit mission and its commitment to inclusivity. The Center provides state-of-the-art facilities, specialised tools, and tailored academic support to ensure equal access to education, resources, and opportunities for students of determination. This initiative contributes to SDG 1 by directing resources and services toward vulnerable groups, fostering their academic, social, and professional empowerment while strengthening inclusive governance and operations.





















- SDG 1 No Poverty Report on AU's crucial role in advancing SDG 1, focusing on poverty eradication
- <u>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy</u> Policy Statements Summary

Ajman University (AU) is dedicated to fostering a diverse and inclusive environment where all students can reach their potential. The university values respect for different backgrounds, perspectives, and ideas, ensuring honest engagement with equity and inclusion. AU creates a welcoming atmosphere for multicultural students, faculty, and staff, recognizing the social, academic, and community benefits of diversity.

To enhance equity, AU prioritizes hiring female faculty and staff in leadership roles when candidates are equally qualified. The university actively works to remove barriers to success, ensuring fair access to education and professional growth. Inclusive teaching, assessment, and student support services such as the Student Success Centre, Counselling Unit, and Office of Scholarship & Financial Aid further promote equity and opportunity for all.

 AU is committed to ensuring that no deserving student is deprived of access to transformative higher education. By actively engaging with internal and external communities, as showcased on the AU <u>Giving</u> website, the University secures scholarships and financial aid opportunities. Each year, nearly two-thirds of AU students benefit from these programs, underscoring the institution's dedication to supporting their academic success.

<u>Thamer Fund</u> - Established to support students facing financial challenges throughout their academic journey, the Fund was originally launched as the "Joint Fund" by the late Thamer Saeed Salman, former Vice President of Ajman University (1999–2013). Its primary aim was to ensure that students in need could continue their education without interruption. Following his passing in 2013, the initiative was renamed the "Thamer Fund for Educational Solidarity" in his honor. Today, the Fund continues to serve as a vital source of support, guided by a dedicated board and executive committee, and sustained through long-term funding mechanisms that embody the University's commitment to social responsibility.

#### Scholarship and Financial Aid

The Office of Scholarship & Financial Aid (OSFA) supports Ajman University's strategic goals in recruitment, retention, graduation, and employability by effectively managing scholarships and financial aid programs. OSFA empowers students to pursue their education-

#### **NO POVERTY**

al aspirations by providing transparent information on AU scholarships, tuition discounts, and the Thamer Fund. It also offers guidance on external financial aid opportunities, serving not only students but also parents and the wider community.

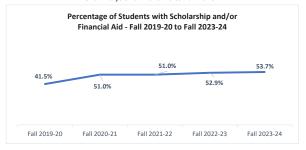
#### Trend Analysis (Fall 2019–2020 to Fall 2023–2024)

From AY 2019–2020 to AY 2023–2024, the overall share of scholarship and discount recipients increased from 41.5% to 53.7% of total enrolled students. This steady growth reflects Ajman University's commitment to accessibility and affordability.

At the same time, the nationality breakdown of recipients highlighted shifting socio-economic dynamics across the region. Arab nationals, particularly from Syria, Jordan, Yemen, and Iraq, remained the top beneficiaries, underscoring ongoing regional needs. Aid to Pales-

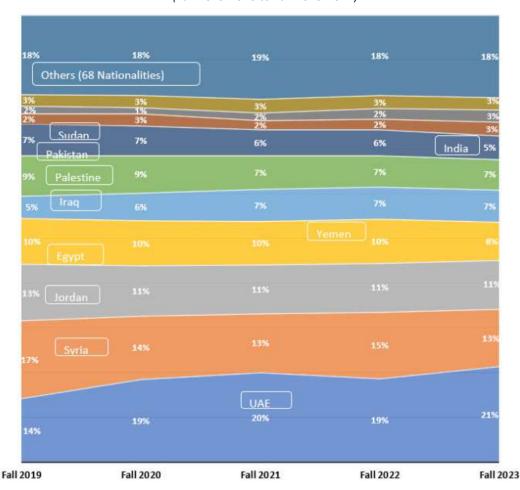
#### Trend Analysis Fall 2019-20 to Fall 2023-24

Trend Analysis Fall 2019-20 to Fall 2023-24



tinian and Egyptian students declined slightly (around 2%), largely due to enrollment shifts. Emirati student support rose substantially, with local recipients increasing from 14% to 21%, reflecting stronger national investment in higher education. South Asian students, particularly from Pakistan and India, also saw a modest increase, pointing to rising financial need within these communities.

Five-Year Trend: Top 10 Nationalities Benefiting from AU Scholarships and Financial Aid (Fall 2019-2020 to Fall 2023-2024)



#### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIPS:**

- The Community Services Unit of the Office of Community Engagement collaborates with private, non-governmental, and government organizations to provide community services in the UAE and abroad. Community Service Activities Reports are published on AU's Community Programs and Activities webpage. A few relevant examples for SDG 1 from the Community Engagements 2023 2024 Achievements are provided below:
- o Tarahum for Gaza 7 days Donation Drive & 3 days Packing - In October–November 2023, Ajman University's Office of Community Engagement organized a donation drive for the Tarahum for Gaza campaign, collecting over 120 boxes and 27 first aid kits as part of a College of Pharmacy and Health student project. Volunteers, in collaboration with Emirates Red Crescent Ajman, prepared and packed the relief boxes, highlighting the importance of humanitarian service and student involvement in community efforts.
- o Food ATM Distribution On November 24, 2023, Ajman University's Office of Community Engagement partnered with Food ATM Kitchen to distribute meals to over 600 laborers, supporting food security for low-income groups in the UAE. The initiative, carried out by student and staff volunteers, promoted social responsibility, strengthened community ties, and highlighted the spirit of volunteerism.
- The College of Humanities and Sciences Participates in the Seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child" (Sharjah International Book Fair, December 11, 2024)

The College of Humanities and Sciences participated in the seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child" during the 2024 Sharjah International Book Fair, organized by the Sociological Association in Sharjah. Dr. Nagwa Yousif, Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, moderated the session alongside Dr. Hala Al-Alablam, Director of Wesal Consulting. The seminar provided parents with strategies for positive parenting, focusing on strengthening family bonds, effective communication, and supporting children's psychological, social, and emotional well-being. Students, parents, and community members attended, gaining valuable tools to nurture children's resilience and balanced development.





+This initiative contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty) by addressing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, equipping families with social and educational tools to strengthen resilience and break cycles of disadvantage. It also supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) by promoting children's psychological and emotional well-being, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by enhancing parental engagement in children's learning and development.

Ajman University's Counseling Unit Launches
 "Ataa" Initiative to Enhance the Values of
 Giving and Volunteering (November 14, 2024)

Ajman University's Counseling Unit launched the "Ataa" initiative, encouraging students to share their skills and talents with the local community through volunteer work. The program fosters a spirit of giving, responsibility, and collaboration, while promoting mutual learning and community growth. Its first activity, a painting workshop at Shola American School led by psychology student Abdul Razzaq Ali Al-Hadheer, engaged children in creative expression and learning. By empowering students to contribute meaningfully to society, the initiative strengthens social bonds and promotes values of solidarity and resilience.

#### **NO POVERTY**













This initiative contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty) by addressing social aspects of poverty reduction through community empowerment, skills sharing, and volunteerism that strengthen local capacity and inclusion. It also supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) by promoting creativity and learning beyond the classroom, and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by fostering civic engagement and resilience.

 The Volunteer Journey of Ajman University Students: Positive Impacts on Students and Community (October 14, 2024)

Ajman University students actively engage in volunteering initiatives that provide direct support to disadvantaged groups and foster a culture of giving. Activities such as distributing Iftar meals during Ramadan and organizing community service projects have had a tangible impact on families and individuals in need, while enhancing students' empathy, cooperation, and social responsibility. By collaborating with local organizations, AU ensures that volunteering contributes to education, healthcare, and social welfare, amplifying its positive impact on communities.

This initiative contributes to SDG 1 (No Poverty) by providing direct assistance to vulnerable groups and raising social awareness of poverty and inequality. It also supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through health-related volunteering, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by enhancing student skills and awareness, and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)

through civic engagement and social responsibility.

- In addition, the Colleges, Offices, and the Unit of External Relations of the Office of Community Engagement collaborate with partner organizations through formal MoUs, which include private, government, and non-government entities. Some examples of MoU activations in AY 2023-24 are listed below:
- Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 1 (No Poverty)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University collaborated with several partner organizations to expand scholarships, endowment funds, discounts, and community-based initiatives. These efforts directly contributed to SDG 1: No Poverty by reducing financial barriers to education and supporting underprivileged students.



Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
International Charity     Organization	<ul> <li>2 students (100%) and 1 student (20%) benefited from discounts in Fall 2023.</li> <li>2 students (100%) benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> <li>Supported students and the Thamer Fund with AED 500K.</li> <li>Collaborated with AU's Office of Community Engagement to launch "Back to School Shopping" on 21 August 2024, providing AED 250 shopping vouchers for children.</li> </ul>
2. Bait Al Khair Society	<ul> <li>1 student (20%) benefited from a discount in Spring 2024.</li> <li>Supported AU College of Humanities' Iftar initiative in Ramadan.</li> </ul>
3. Dar Al-Ber Society	<ul> <li>2 students (20%) benefited from discounts in Fall 2023.</li> <li>3 students (20%) benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> <li>AED 400K in donations secured by AU's Office of Development &amp; Alumni Affairs to support the Graduate Fund.</li> </ul>
4. Ajman Bank	<ul> <li>AED 600K secured for the Ajman Bank Scholarship Endowment.</li> <li>Hosted 1–2 College of Business students for internships in AY 2023–2024.</li> </ul>
5. Ajman Free Zone	<ul> <li>1 student (20%) benefited from a discount in Fall 2023.</li> <li>Requested AU graduate CVs to fill trainee roles in Digital Marketing, PR &amp; Communications, and Graphic Design.</li> </ul>
6. Ajman Police	<ul> <li>3 students (20%) benefited from discounts in Fall 2023.</li> <li>5 students (20%) benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> </ul>
7. Municipality & Planning Department	<ul> <li>1 student (20%), 5 students (50%), and 51 students (100%) benefited from discounts in Fall 2023.</li> <li>3 students (20%), 4 students (50%), and 51 students (100%) benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> </ul>
8. Ajman Chamber	<ul> <li>1 student (20%) benefited from discounts in Fall 2023.</li> <li>1 student (20%) benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> </ul>
9. Easa Al Gurg Foundation	<ul> <li>Established two endowment funds: Sir Easa Saleh Al Gurg Endowed Scholarship Fund (AED 1.8M) and Dr. Raja Al Gurg Graduate Fund (supporting graduates with certification costs).</li> <li>Committed AED 500K annually in endowment support.</li> <li>Fall 2023: 17 students (100%), 13 students (20%), and 2 students (30%) benefited.</li> <li>Spring 2024: 17 students (100%), 12 students (20%), and 3 students (30%) benefited.</li> </ul>
10. Murshed Al Shehhi	<ul> <li>Fall 2023: 17 students (100%) and 2 students (50%) benefited.</li> <li>Spring 2024: 17 students (100%) benefited.</li> </ul>
11. Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation	<ul> <li>Fall 2023: 94 students (100%), 11 students (25%), 40 students (30%), 40 students (40%) benefited.</li> <li>Spring 2024: 76 students (100%), 10 students (25%), 17 students (30%), 34 students (40%) benefited.</li> </ul>
12. Marya Investments Company	<ul> <li>Fall 2023: 1 student (100%) and 1 student (30%) benefited.</li> <li>Spring 2024: 1 student (100%) and 1 student (30%) benefited.</li> </ul>
13. Esaad Card	<ul> <li>Fall 2023: 15 students (10%) and 269 students (20%) benefited.</li> <li>Spring 2024: 11 students (10%) and 383 students (20%) benefited.</li> </ul>
14. Bahri and Mazroei Group	<ul> <li>Fall 2023: 1 student (100%) benefited.</li> <li>Spring 2024: 1 student (100%) benefited.</li> <li>Supported students and the Thamer Fund with AED 200K.</li> </ul>
15. Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman	<ul> <li>72 students (100%) benefited from discounts in Fall 2023.</li> <li>68 students (100%) benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> </ul>



Sustainable Development Goal End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.



## **ZERO HUNGER**



AU, in line with its commitment to SDG 2: Zero Hunger, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

need for innovative and eco-friendly solutions that balance effective food preservation with the protection of human health and the environment.

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTER:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these is the <u>Humanities and Social Sciences</u> <u>Research Center (HSSRC)</u>, which aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally.

#### **RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS:**

- AU's Scopus publications and citations using the top 100 keywords search for SDG 2 is shown below.
- Student Research Project: How Materials Preserve Food, Health, and Sustainability

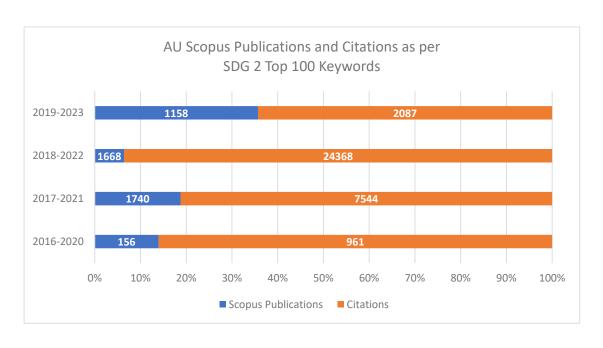
This student research project explores the critical role of food packaging materials in maintaining food quality and safety. By acting as barriers against contaminants and environmental factors, packaging helps preserve freshness and extend shelf life, thereby reducing food loss and waste—an important contribution to food security and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger). At the same time, the project examines the health implications and sustainability challenges associated with different packaging choices. The study emphasizes the

#### **INNOVATION:**

Solar Hydroponic Net House

AU, in collaboration with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA-NGO), continues to advance sustainable agriculture and food security through its Solar-Powered Hydroponic Net House project. Managed by the University's Office of Sustainability, the initiative actively engages students, faculty, and staff, providing them with a practical learning experience in planting and sustainable farming techniques. Beyond serving as a hands-on educational platform, the project also functions as a research hub and community model that promotes sustainable farming practices and contributes to the UAE's agricultural transformation.

This ongoing initiative harnesses solar energy (SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy) and smart irrigation technologies to enhance crop yields, particularly during dry seasons. By optimizing water use and cultivating drought-resistant crops, it supports SDG 2: Zero Hunger while advancing SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production through efficient resource management. The cucumbers harvested are distributed within the AU community, directly



#### **ZERO HUNGER**



contributing to community well-being and enriching experiential education, thereby reinforcing SDG 4: Quality Education. At the same time, the project fosters climate-resilient agricultural practices in line with SDG 13: Climate Action, offering a replicable model that can be adopted by local farmers to strengthen food systems and resilience.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the **Bachelor of Science in** 

Artificial Intelligence and the Master of Digital Sociology.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- Four courses specifically address SDG 2: Zero Hunger, as identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms). These courses highlight issues of food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and poverty reduction, ensuring that students engage directly with the global challenge of hunger and contribute solutions through their academic learning.

#### **OPERATIONS AND PRACTICES:**

- AU actively supports SDG 2 by addressing hunger and improving food access through various initiatives.
- <u>Cultivating a Greener Tomorrow: Innovation</u> for Food Security

Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability, launched a creative initiative where students distributed planting kits made of seed-embedded pencils and recycled pots to faculty and staff. Once used, the pencils can be planted to grow into herbs or vegetables, encouraging food cultivation at home. This initiative not only promotes food security (SDG 2) but also advances sustainable practices such as responsible consumption (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13), and biodiversity conservation



(SDG 15). By engaging the community in small but impactful actions, AU fosters environmental stewardship, education for sustainability (SDG 4), and the creation of sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11).

World Food Safety Day Celebration

On June 7, 2024, the Office of Medical Services celebrated World Food Safety Day under the theme "Food Safety: Prepare for the Unexpected" at the Student Hub cafeteria. The event included a rapid-fire quiz with food handlers and a discussion on the WHO's Five Keys to Safer Food, raising awareness on safe food handling practices for both consumers and providers. The activity also recognized cafeteria staff for their commitment to quality service and food safety standards. This initiative supports SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) by promoting safe and nutritious food, SDG 3

(Good Health and Well-Being) by safeguarding community health, and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by encouraging responsible food preparation practices.

#### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 Ajman University Participates as a Supporting Partner in Ramadan Aman Campaign

Ajman University, in collaboration with Al Ihsan Charity Association, participated as a supporting partner in the Tenth Edition of the Ramadan Aman Campaign (March 2024). The initiative engaged students, staff, and volunteers who dedicated their time to preparing and distributing more than 2,100 Iftar meals daily from the University's Sheikh Zayed Center for Conferences and Exhibitions. Through this effort, drivers and community members benefited, reinforcing AU's commitment to







- SDG 2: Zero Hunger while fostering a culture of social responsibility and volunteerism.
- Ajman University collaborates with a range of charitable and philanthropic organizations to support vulnerable communities, address food insecurity, and provide socio-economic assistance to students. These partnerships include initiatives such as scholarships, direct financial support, Ramadan iftar programs, and community-based campaigns that ensure equitable access to essential resources. The following table highlights AU's key SDG 2-related partner organizations and their activities during AY 2023–2024.



Partner Organization	MoU Activation in AY 2023–2024
International Charity Organization	<ul> <li>Provided discounts for AU students: 2 (100%) Fall 2023, 1 (20%) Fall 2023, 2 (100%) Spring 2024.</li> <li>Supported students and the Thamer Fund with AED 500K.</li> <li>Collaborated with AU's Office of Community Engagement to launch the Back to School Shopping initiative at City Centre Ajman on 21/08/2024, distributing vouchers worth AED 250 per child.</li> </ul>
Bait Al Khair So- ciety	<ul> <li>1 (20%) student benefited from discounts in Spring 2024.</li> <li>Supported the College of Humanities in organizing a Ramadan Iftar initiative.</li> </ul>
Dar Al-Ber Society	<ul> <li>Provided discounts: 2 (20%) Fall 2023, 3 (20%) Spring 2024.</li> <li>Partnered with the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs to secure over AED 400K in donations for the AU Graduate Fund.</li> </ul>
Esa Al Gurg Foun- dation	<ul> <li>Launched two endowment funds with AU to support underprivileged students (AED 1.8M).</li> <li>Committed AED 500,000 annually for student support.</li> <li>Discounts provided: Fall 2023 – 17 (100%), 13 (20%), 2 (30%); Spring 2024 – 17 (100%), 12 (20%), 3 (30%).</li> </ul>
Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation	• Significant student support through discounts: Fall 2023 – 94 (100%), 11 (25%), 40 (30%), 40 (40%); Spring 2024 – 76 (100%), 10 (25%), 17 (30%), 34 (40%).
Marya Investments Company	<ul> <li>Supported AU students through discounts: Fall 2023 – 1 (100%), 1 (30%);</li> <li>Spring 2024 – 1 (100%), 1 (30%).</li> </ul>
Bahri and Mazroei Group	<ul> <li>Provided discounts: 1 (100%) Fall 2023, 1 (100%) Spring 2024.</li> <li>Supported students and the Thamer Fund with AED 200K.</li> </ul>





Sustainable Development Goal Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at all ages.



## GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 3, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these are the following research centers that directly support SDG 3:

Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health Sciences Research (CMBHSR) - The University's central point for connecting AU researchers to opportunities for funding and a variety of research-related services. Research in Medical and Bio-allied Health Sciences is contributing to the development of life-changing technologies with significant impact on individuals and communities.

Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Center (HSBERC)- Aims to do impactful research at the intersection of building, environment and health to promote healthy living across communities and societies.

<u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center</u> (<u>HSSRC</u>) - Aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally.

#### **RESEARCH:**

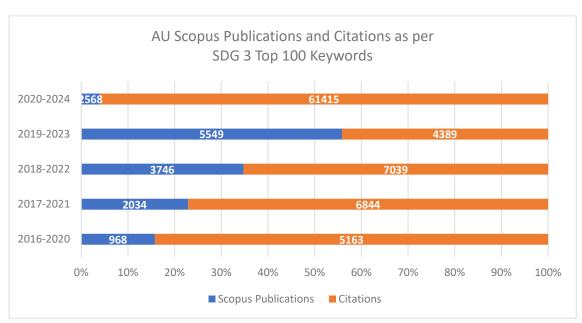
 AU's Scopus publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 3 is shown below:  Shahd Omar Fadil Elbshari: A Beacon of Inspiration in Dentistry at Ajman University (December 2024)

Shahd Omar Fadil Elbshari, a fourth-year dental student at Ajman University, exemplifies sustainable development through her academic excellence, pioneering oral health research, and international representation of AU at major conferences. Her study on dental caries in children with diabetes advances good health and well-being (SDG 3), while her academic achievements and role as a peer tutor reflect the impact of quality education (SDG 4). By serving as a role model and highlighting women's contributions in dentistry, she promotes gender equality (SDG 5). Her global conference participation and commitment to professional growth contribute to decent work and economic growth (SDG 8). Through community service, cultural engagement, and oral health education for vulnerable populations, she supports the creation of inclusive and resilient communities (SDG 11). Shahd's journey demonstrates AU's commitment to nurturing innovative professionals and socially responsible leaders.

#### **INNOVATION:**

Ajman University Students Innovate
 Advanced X-Ray Technology for TB Diagnosis

Three students from Ajman University's College of Engineering and Information Technology developed an Al-powered Chest X-Ray Screening Software to improve the



#### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**





diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis. The system uses machine learning algorithms to distinguish TB from other lung diseases, ensuring accurate and timely detection while streamlining healthcare workflows. Recognized with multiple awards, the innovation demonstrates AU's commitment to advancing healthcare solutions and student-led research (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully

to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the **Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence** and the **Master of Digital Sociology**.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 22 courses specifically address SDG
   3: Good Health and Well-Being, as identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms). These courses cover critical themes such as health care access, healthcare workforce, nutrition, antimicrobial resistance, health literacy, cardiovascular diseases, emergency medical services, air pollution, public health, and healthcare workforce training.
- Counseling Unit Events Newsletters (AY 2023-2024)

The Counseling Unit at Ajman University organized a series of events during the 2023–2024 academic year to promote student









well-being, personal development, and academic success. These initiatives reflect the University's commitment to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being by addressing mental health, resilience, and holistic student support. The workshops conducted were as follows:

- o Fall 2023-2024
- o Spring 2023-2024
- Ajman University Hosts Distinguished Neurobiology Researcher Prof. Karl Peter Giese

On November 11, 2024, Ajman University hosted Professor Karl Peter Giese, a distinguished neurobiology researcher from King's College London, for a three-day visit focused on Alzheimer's disease and related research. His program included a Dean's briefing, faculty meetings on potential collaborations, and seminars for both faculty and students. Highlights included a faculty seminar on protein synthesis in early Alzheimer's disease and a student session on research methodologies. The visit fostered knowledge exchange, inspired academic inquiry, and laid the groundwork for future research partnerships (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being; SDG 4: Quality Education).

<u>Fatima Adnan Almadani: Inspiring Biomedical</u>
 <u>Engineering & Molecular Medicine Journey</u>

Ajman University alumna Fatima Adnan Almadani has become a role model for Emirati youth, excelling in biomedical engineering and molecular medicine. After graduating with honors from AU in 2022, she pursued a master's



at Imperial College London, specializing in von Willebrand disease, and is now advancing her PhD on "Organs on Chips" technology—a breakthrough in medical research that reduces reliance on animal testing and accelerates drug development. Alongside her academic achievements, she has shown strong leadership, volunteering, and community engagement, making a lasting impact both locally and globally (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender







Equality, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

Pharmacy Students at Ajman University Participate in the World Pharmacist Day at King's
 College Hospital London Dubai

On September 25, 2023, the Experiential Learning office at the College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences collaborated with King's College Hospital London Dubai to celebrate World Pharmacist Day. The event aimed to raise awareness among hospital visitors and staff about the role of pharmacists in enhancing patient safety. Supervised by Dr. Sawsan Shanableh from

Ajman University and Dr. Ahlam Alqudaimat from King's College Hospital, students participating in experiential learning rotations played a key role in organizing the event and communicating patient safety issues. Through educational seminars, community outreach, and a strong social media campaign, they emphasized the importance of safe medication

#### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

use. Dr. Shanableh noted that the experience allowed students to engage directly with the public, patients, and hospital staff, underscoring their commitment to serving their communities and the vital role pharmacists play in healthcare.

### <u>University Hosts Workshop on Myofunctional</u> Therapy

On October 13, 2023, the College of Dentistry at Ajman University conducted a workshop titled "Myofunctional Therapy from Dysfunction to Harmony in Clinical Practice," led by Dr. Fadi Antar from the Lebanese University. Attended by faculty and postgraduate students, the workshop focused on assessing and diagnosing soft tissue dysfunction, breathing issues, and orofacial muscle function using the Myofunctional Evaluation Form. Participants learned to identify signs of malocclusion and orthodontic problems to potentially reduce the need for fixed orthodontics.

The session emphasized interdisciplinary collaboration among speech therapists, dentists, and ENT specialists for comprehensive patient care. The workshop received positive feedback, and the College plans to integrate this training into its clinical curriculum, reflecting Ajman University's dedication to enhancing students' practical skills and providing high-quality education.

#### Ajman University Hosts Interview with 2023 Volleyball Champion

On October 11, 2023, the Athletics Unit at Aiman University's Office of Student Life held a special interview with Kowthar Forast, the 2023 Volleyball Champion and a student at the College of Medicine. Kowthar shared her sports journey, which began in 2005, highlighting achievements like winning medals in various competitions and joining the AU Volleyball team in 2019. The interview series aims to inspire students by offering insights from sports champions, promoting teamwork, resilience, and discipline. Ajman University continues to support student development through initiatives that encourage learning from successful individuals and fostering a spirit of competition.

#### Ajman University Marks World Mental Health Day with Engaging Activities

On October 10, 2023, Ajman University celebrated World Mental Health Day by hosting special activities organized by the Counseling Unit. The event featured four workshops addressing key topics related to mental well-being and included various interactive activities.

Workshops covered subjects such as cybersecurity's impact on mental health by Mr. Ali Aldarwish, social media's influence on well-being by Mr. Waleed Alasbahi, positive thinking for academic success by Prof. Marei

























Ahmed, and stress management techniques by Dr. Ahmad Alzubi. The event aimed to raise awareness about mental health, promote a supportive environment, and provide students with tools for improving their well-being. Ajman University remains dedicated to empowering students through educational initiatives that foster mental health awareness and personal growth.

#### **GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS:**

- AU is dedicated to advancing the objectives of SDG 3, which focuses on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all.
- AU has an <u>Office of Medical Services</u> dedicated to providing educational, supportive, consultative healthcare services to students, staff, faculty and eligible dependents. In doing so, the Health Clinics strive to make the campus a healthy and safe place to study, work and live.
- AU's <u>Counseling Unit</u> provides various support services to promote health and well-being within the AU community, in alignment with the <u>Counseling Policy</u> and the <u>People of Determination Policy</u>.
- <u>Clinics</u> Dental Clinics and Pediatric Dentistry Clinic
- Mobile Dental Clinic Since 2018, AU has operated a high-tech mobile dental clinic to provide care to underserved populations, par-

ticularly the elderly and those with mobility issues. The clinic offers essential public health services without requiring patients to travel. It includes two dental units, a wheelchair carrier lift, an X-ray machine, and a sterilization device. Staffed by AU alumni, resident dentists, and student trainees, the clinic accommodates up to 40 patients daily and is designed to meet international standards, ensuring accessibility and high-quality oral care.

 The Office of Medical Services and the Office of Community Engagement Launch Anti-Smoking Awareness Initiative

On December 13, 2024, the Office of Medical Services, in collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University, organized an Anti-Smoking Awareness Initiative to educate the university community on the dangers of smoking and encourage quitting. The event featured free carbon monoxide breath tests using the advanced Smokerlyzer device, offering participants a documented report to track their health and progress toward smoking cessation. The initiative benefited around 10 participants monthly, including students, staff, and faculty, and was well-received with positive feedback from attendees. This program reflects the University's ongoing commitment to health promotion, preventive care, and fostering a smoke-free environment (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being).













#### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**







## OUTREACH, PARTNERSHIPS & ACTIVITIES:

Oral B Oral Hygiene Education Room

The Oral B Oral Hygiene Education Room at Ajman University exemplifies the institution's dedication to quality healthcare education and oral health promotion. Sponsored by ORAL B, a P&G brand, this initiative educates children on dental hygiene through interactive learning experiences. The space offers engaging sessions and informative materials, ensuring children leave with valuable knowledge, an ORAL B toothpaste and toothbrush, and a discount voucher for future purchases. This initiative supports the local community's health and contributes to the global goal of promoting well-being (SDG 3) by providing essential health education and resources to children.

The College of Humanities and Sciences Participates in the Seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child"

On December 11, 2024, the College of Humanities and Sciences participated in the cultural program of the Sociological Association in Sharjah during the Sharjah International Book Fair, where Dr. Nagwa Yousif, Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, moderated a seminar titled "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child." The seminar, held alongside Dr. Hala Al-Alablam, focused on strategies for positive parenting, enhancing children's social, psychological, and emotional well-being, and strengthening family bonds. Attended by association members, sociology students, and parents, the event provided practical tools for fostering resilience, balanced development, and harmonious family relationships (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being; SDG 4: Quality Education).

 Integrated Marketing Communication Students Present Graduation Projects Under the Theme "Health and Safety for UAE Generations" (Nov. 29, 2024)

In celebration of the UAE's 53rd National Day, the College of Mass Communication at Ajman University organized a graduation projects exhibition for Integrated Marketing Communication students under the theme "Health and Safety for the Generations of the UAE." Supervised by Dr. Dina El-Khattat and Ms. Layal Ayoub, and inaugurated by Dr. Hosam Salama, Dean of the College, the event showcased three innovative campaigns addressing key issues of cybersecurity, child development, and healthy lifestyles.

The projects included "Aman (Safety)" to promote cybersecurity awareness among children and youth, "Today's Children Are Tomorrow's Heroes" to highlight the importance of nurturing children's abilities and leader-









ship, and "Draw Your Life Path" to encourage healthy nutrition, physical activity, and participation in sports. Together, these campaigns reflected students' creativity and commitment to social responsibility, contributing to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

 Community Heroes: How Dentistry Students at Ajman University are Redefining Community Oral Care (Oct 30, 2024)

Ajman University's College of Dentistry students are transforming access to dental care through the AU Dental Clinic and the Mobile Dental Clinic, offering high-quality, affordable (often free) treatment to hundreds of patients daily, including children, workers, and people with special needs. Combining professionalism, compassion, and outreach, students not only hone their clinical skills but also bring essential oral health services to underprivileged communities, embodying AU's commitment to service and inclusion (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

 Office of Community Engagement Joins Breast Cancer Awareness Event

Ajman University's Office of Community Engagement participated in a breast cancer awareness event organized by Saudi German Hospital at Radisson Blu Hotel, Ajman. The program offered free screenings, medical consultations, and educational lectures on early detection and risk factors, fostering stronger community awareness and prevention practices. This collaboration underscores AU's role in promoting health, social connections, and institutional partnerships (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

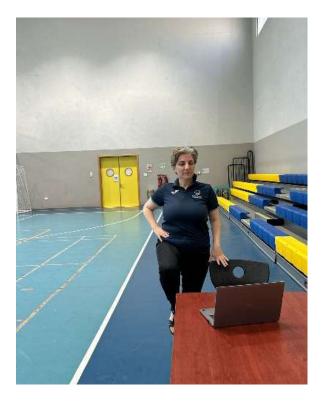
Ajman University Athletics Unit Organizes
 Virtual Awareness Workshop for Ajman Youth
 Council (Oct. 28, 2024)

The Athletics Unit at Ajman University's Office of Student Life conducted a virtual workshop titled "Golden Tips" for Ajman Youth Council members, focusing on health and well-being in office routines. The session highlighted posture, breathing techniques, desk exercises, and the 40-15-5 rule (sit-stand-move), helping participants reduce stress and improve fitness





at work. By promoting simple, practical strategies for healthier lifestyles, the workshop reinforced AU's commitment to community health and youth engagement (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).



#### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**

















 The Athletics Unit Concludes AU Inter-College Sports Tournament (Oct. 23, 2024)

Ajman University's Athletics Unit concluded the Inter-College Sports Tournament Fall 2024 with over 500 students from 101 teams competing across various disciplines, where the College of Business Administration emerged as the overall champion and winner of the AU Cup. The tournament highlighted AU's commitment to fostering health, fitness, teamwork, and collaboration among students, directly supporting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) through the promotion of physical activity, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by encouraging holistic student development beyond academics, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening inter-college collaboration and community spirit within the university.

Ajman University Counseling Unit Celebrates
 World Mental Health Day 2024 (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's Counseling Unit organized an awareness event under the theme "Mental Health at Work", featuring interactive student booths and sessions on workplace stress management, cybercrime impacts, social media influence, and an open Q&A with psychiatrists. The initiative promoted dialogue, resilience, and digital safety while emphasizing the importance of supportive environments for psychological well-being. This effort reflects AU's commitment to fostering a healthy and inclusive academic community (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).































#### Mental Health: Key to Superior Academic Performance at Universities

Global and UAE studies confirm that mental health directly impacts academic performance. with anxiety and depression linked to lower GPAs and reduced focus. At Ajman University, the Counseling Unit plays a vital role through counseling sessions, workshops, peer mentorship, and awareness campaigns, helping students build resilience, manage stress, and thrive academically. Creative initiatives like the VOICES magazine empower students to share their experiences, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment that prioritizes well-being as the foundation of success (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability
 Organizes First Aid Awareness Session (Oct. 2024)

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University held a first aid awareness session to train faculty, staff, and students in handling emergencies with confidence. Led by a certified

nursing student, the session covered first aid for burns, wounds, fractures, choking, and CPR techniques for respiratory and cardiac arrest, emphasizing prompt action until medical help arrives. The initiative supports AU's goal of building a safer, more resilient community (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities).

#### Ajman University Hosts National Seasonal Influenza Awareness Campaign (Oct. 2024)

The Office of Medical Services at Ajman University hosted the National Seasonal Influenza Awareness Campaign, organized by Emirates Health Services under the slogan "Protect Yourself... Protect Your Community." The campaign raised awareness on the importance of vaccination and preventive practices, particularly for high-risk groups, and engaged 142 staff and 100 students. This initiative reflects AU's commitment to fostering a safe, healthy campus environment and advancing public health awareness (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

#### **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**



 AU Athletics Unit and Ajman Youth Council Organize Youth Futsal Championship (Sept. 2024)

Ajman University's Athletics Unit, in collaboration with the Ajman Youth Council, hosted the Youth Futsal Championship at Ajman Youth Center – Al Safia, with 12 teams and over 80 young athletes participating in a knockout-style tournament. The event promoted fitness, teamwork, and community engagement while encouraging youth to adopt active lifestyles (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University strengthens community health and well-being through strategic partnerships with hospitals, charitable foundations, and government entities. These collaborations provide healthcare access, awareness campaigns, mobile clinics, and hands-on training for students across medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and health sciences. The following table highlights AU's SDG 3-related partner organizations and their activities in AY 2023-2024.



Partner Organization	MoU Activation in AY 2023–2024
Humaid Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi Foundation	<ul> <li>AU provided a Mobile Dental Clinic on 6 February 2024.</li> <li>The College of Humanities engaged students in volunteer initiatives with the Emirates Red Crescent.</li> </ul>
Saudi German Hospital – Ajman	<ul> <li>Breast cancer awareness session with Radisson Blu Hotel Ajman (23 Oct 2023), including free health checks and consultations.</li> <li>Training contract signed with the College of Pharmacy.</li> <li>Clerkship rotations provided for College of Medicine students.</li> <li>Hospital dentistry course training delivered to 195 undergraduate dentistry students (Spring 2023–2024).</li> </ul>
College of Dentistry (AU Clinics & Partners)	<ul> <li>Delivered hospital dentistry training modules.</li> <li>Enhanced student clinical skills in oral health care delivery.</li> </ul>
College of Medicine & College of Pharmacy (AU Clinics & Partners)	<ul> <li>Provided clerkship, rotations, and practical training op- portunities in collaboration with hospitals and healthcare providers.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police (Well-being Initiatives)	<ul> <li>Collaboration through AU Women's Empowerment Council: Celebrated International Women's Day with events on health and empowerment.</li> <li>Volunteers supported community health awareness sessions.</li> </ul>
Community Engagement Office (AU)	<ul> <li>Partnered with external organizations on wellness drives, health campaigns, and student volunteer initiatives focused on health and well-being.</li> </ul>



Sustainable Development Goal Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.





AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 4, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **Research Centers:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

Since 2021, Ajman University has been expanding its research capacity through the establishment of dedicated Research Centers designed to deliver real-world solutions, foster innovation, and provide advanced educational training in emerging fields. These centers serve as vital hubs connecting AU with regional and international institutions, offering unique opportunities for next-generation researchers while acting as valuable knowledge resources for the wider community. The six state-of-the-art centers focus on areas of national and global strategic importance:

- 1. <u>Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health</u> Sciences Research (CMBHSR)
- 2. Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC)
- 3. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> <u>Research Center (HSBERC)</u>
- 4. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)
- 5. Nonlinear Dynamics Research Center (NDRC)

6. <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research</u> Center (HSSRC)

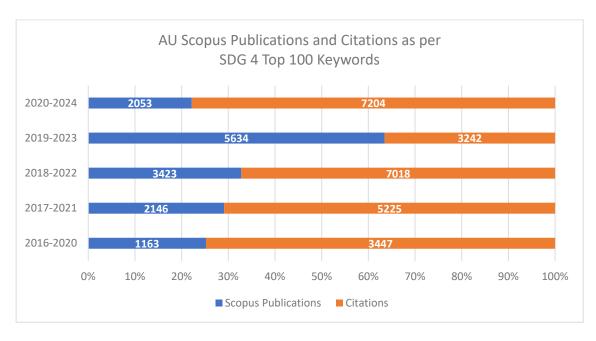
#### **RESEARCH:**

- 1. AU's Scopus publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 4 is shown below:
- Times Higher Education Ranks Ajman University Among Top 201-250 Global Universities
   <u>for Interdisciplinary Science Research</u> (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University has been ranked #2 in the UAE and placed among the top 201–250 global universities for interdisciplinary science research in the inaugural Times Higher Education Interdisciplinary Science Rankings 2025, developed in association with Schmidt Science Fellows. Out of 749 universities from 92 countries, AU earned distinction for its strong research processes and impactful outputs, with Scopus-indexed publications growing by over 600% from 2018 to 2023. This recognition highlights AU's commitment to advancing research with societal relevance and reinforces its growing global academic reputation.

#### **INNOVATION:**

The <u>Ajman University Innovation Center</u> (AUIC) has helped build startups, provide mentorship and obtained support from its partners to its innovation projects. The activities of AUIC contributes



to poverty reduction and promotes economic opportunities for the poor. AUIC, since its inception in 2016 has launched 133 startups. In AY 2023-24 AUIC has achieved the following:

- 50 mentoring hours delivered
- 12 workshops held, attended by 200 students, faculty, and staff
- Incubated 44 startups, with 2 spin-offs valued at USD 30,000
- Secured USD 50,000 in soft funding commitments
- Awarded AED 25,000 in competition prizes

### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 25 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 4: Quality Education. These courses emphasize critical

themes such as lifelong learning, critical thinking, problem-solving, training, project-based learning, and internships.

Accreditation, Rankings and Ratings - AU is licensed and accredited by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA), Ministry of Education, UAE, ensuring that all its programs meet national quality standards. Internationally, AU holds prestigious institutional accreditations from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC, USA) and the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA, UK). In addition, several AU programs are recognized by leading international bodies, including ABET for Computer, Electrical, and Biomedical Engineering; UNESCO-UIA for Architecture; ACPE for Pharmacy; AACSB, ACCA, CPA Australia, and CIMA for Business and Accounting; HCERES for Law as well as Sociology & Social Work; ACEJMC and AQAS for Mass Communication; ACQUIN for the Professional Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching; and ADC International for Dentistry programs.

#### WSCUC Accreditation (March 2024)

Ajman University became the first private and non-profit university in the UAE and Arab region to earn accreditation from the WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC), a U.S. Department of Education-recognized accrediting body. This milestone affirms AU's commitment to academic excellence, equity, and global standards, enhancing the value of its degrees, expanding international opportunities, and strengthening the employability of its graduates.

# • Ajman University Mass Communication Earns ACEJMC Accreditation

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University has achieved a major milestone by receiving international accreditation from the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC), making AU one of only five universities in the Arab region to hold this prestigious recognition. This accreditation, renowned worldwide for its rigorous evaluation of curriculum, faculty, facilities, and student services, affirms AU's commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and preparing students for the evolving

demands of the media industry. Together with its AQAS accreditation, this achievement enhances the College's reputation globally and locally, providing students with cutting-edge education and professional readiness. Aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), this milestone underscores AU's dedication to delivering world-class media education and equipping graduates to thrive in a dynamic communication landscape.

 Ajman University's MBBS Program Recognized by the General Medical Council of UK

Ajman University's College of Medicine has achieved a significant milestone with its MBBS program officially recognized as a Primary Medical Qualification (PMQ) by the General Medical Council (GMC) in the UK, enabling graduates to apply for the PLAB exam and register to practice medicine in the UK. This recognition, announced in the same year AU graduated its first MBBS cohort, highlights the program's adherence to rigorous international standards and strengthens AU's global reputation as a provider of high-quality medical education. The achievement reflects AU's commitment to preparing competent, globally competitive physicians, directly supporting SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by enhancing access to qualified healthcare professionals and SDG 4 (Quality Education) through internationally recognized academic excellence.

 Ajman University Ranks #477 Globally in the QS World Rankings for 2025 and Top One in UAE for Employer Reputation (June, 2024)

Ajman University has achieved a major milestone in the QS World University Rankings 2025, securing #477 globally—placing it among the top 1.6% of universities worldwide—and ranking #1 in the UAE for Employer Reputation at #221 globally, a 58-position leap from last year. Over the past five years, AU has advanced from the top 800 to its current standing, earning the QS award for "Most Developed University in the Arab Region." The University also ranks #3 worldwide for International Students, #6 for International Faculty, and #5

in the UAE for International Research Network, reflecting its strong global engagement and research impact. These achievements, aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), underscore AU's commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and preparing graduates for success in the global job market.

 Ajman University Tops UAE Rankings in Art & Design and Pharmacy & Pharmacology

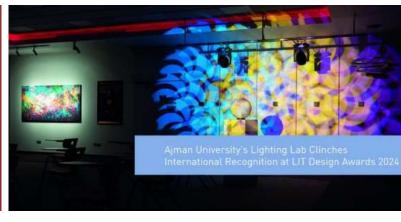
Ajman University secured the top position in the UAE for Art & Design and Pharmacy & Pharmacology in the 2024 QS World University Rankings by Subject, while also excelling in Computer Science (2nd), Mathematics (3rd), and ranking among the nation's leaders in Engineering and Medicine. These accomplishments reflect the dedication of AU's faculty and students and reinforce its mission to deliver globally competitive education, impactful research, and innovative programs aligned with workforce needs. Aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), these achievements highlight AU's commitment to academic excellence, preparing graduates to thrive in a dynamic global landscape.

<u>Dr. Huda Abutayyem Appointed as Ambassador for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh</u> (Oct. 2024)

Dr. Huda Abutayyem, Assistant Professor and Consultant Orthodontist at AU's College of Dentistry and alumna of the Class of 2002, has been appointed as the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh Ambassador in the







UAE. This prestigious role recognizes her contributions to dentistry and will strengthen knowledge exchange, research collaboration, and international opportunities for AU students and faculty, further enhancing the University's global reputation (SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

 Prof. Fares Howari Appointed Global Ambassador for Gii (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University announced the appointment of Prof. Fares M. Howari as a Global Ambassador for the Global Impact Initiative (Gii), a role that honors his leadership and dedication to advancing social change, sustainability, and academic excellence. In this capacity, he will champion Gii's mission to address global challenges through innovation, education, and development by fostering partnerships, supporting impactful projects, and promoting initiatives that empower communities and build a more resilient future (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 Aviation Club at Ajman University Gains First-Hand Experience at Aviation Academy in Dubai

The Aviation Club at Ajman University organized a visit to the Aviation Academy at Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai, where around 20 students from different majors gained first-hand exposure to the aviation profession. Guided by Pilot Rizwan, students toured the academy, explored aircraft components, and experienced an emergency situation simulation, enhancing their understanding of piloting, take-offs, landings, and safety procedures. The visit aimed to inspire interest in aviation careers, provide practical insights into the field, and foster teamwork, professional skills, and community engagement among students (SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities).

 Ajman University's Lighting Lab Clinches International Recognition at LIT Design Awards 2024 (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University's Lighting Lab at the College of Architecture, Art, and Design received an Honorable Mention at the 2024 LIT Lighting Design Awards, marking international recognition for its innovation in lighting design







and education. Led by Dr. Naglaa Mahmoud and Ms. Omnia Ahmed, the lab is the first of its kind in the Arab world and integrates advanced simulation technologies, luminaire systems, and interactive design environments to transform student learning. It also paves the way for future academic programs, including a specialized Interior Lighting track, a Master's in Interior Lighting Design, and advanced research in lighting and acoustics. This achievement reinforces AU's commitment to advancing design education, research, and sustainable innovation (SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production).

<u>Distinguished Alumnus Architect Jamal</u>
 <u>Hamsho Shines at Dubai Design Week 2024</u>
 (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University proudly announced that Distinguished Alumnus Architect Jamal Hamsho from the College of Architecture, Art, and Design was selected to showcase his innovative furniture designs at the UAE Designer Exhibition 5.0 during Dubai Design Week 2024. Currently practicing at P&T Architects, Jamal has earned recognition for his sustainable and creative design approach, blending Brutalist-inspired aesthetics with functionality. His achievement underscores the impact of AU's alumni in shaping the region's design landscape and highlights the University's role in nurturing talent and innovation (SDG 4 -Quality Education, SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities).

• Scientific Forum at the College of Mass Communication Explores the Future of Media

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University organized a scientific forum under the theme "The Future of Media Between Theory and Practice: Student Perspectives." Undergraduate students presented innovative proposals to enhance media content and services, balancing engagement with scientific rigor and adapting to the preferences of new generations. Presentations explored cultural and scientific digital content, professional training for media students, and comparative studies on media consumption trends. The event, supervised by Prof. Maha Abdel Majeed



and attended by college leadership and faculty, reinforced AU's commitment to developing students' research, analysis, and critical thinking skills while providing practical experience in media innovation (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Participates in the Media Content Industry Conference (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's College of Mass Communication participated in the Media Content Industry Conference hosted by Al Qasimia University in Sharjah, where Dr. Nasruddin Ali and Dr. Amal Badr presented a joint paper on "The Reality of Teaching Public Relations Curricula in Light of Artificial Intelligence Developments." The conference fostered collaboration between academic and media institutions, explored the integration of social and institutional media, and addressed challenges in producing meaningful digital content (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).







The College of Mass Communication hosted a seminar on experimental research led by Prof. Sang Lee, Master's Program Coordinator, and organized by the College's Research Committee. The session addressed key challenges in research design, including participant recruitment, data analysis, and use of online platforms, while also providing strategies to align studies with journal expectations for successful publication. This initiative reflects the College's commitment to strengthening research capacity and fostering innovation in media studies (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Students on an Educational Visit to the Gulf University in Bahrain

Ajman University's College of Mass Communication students undertook an educational visit to Gulf University in Bahrain, supervised by Dr. Safa Othman, to explore modern media practices and expand international collaboration. The program featured training workshops







in digital photography and media skills, participation in an international conference on digital communication and artificial intelligence, and field visits to leading Bahraini media institutions such as Al-Ayam newspaper and Bahrain Radio and Television. The visit enhanced students' practical exposure, supported their research and academic development, and strengthened cross-border exchange of best practices in media and communication (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 Academic cooperation between the College of Mass Communication and the College of Humanities and Sciences

Ajman University strengthened inter-college academic cooperation through a joint initiative between the College of Mass Communication and the College of Humanities and Sciences. Dr. Amal Badr, Associate Professor at the College of Mass Communication, delivered a lecture on "Effective Communication in the Workplace" to students of the Industrial Psychology course under the supervision of Dr. Dalia Bedawi. The session emphasized strategies for improving workplace communication, including active listening, empathy, use of positive language,

dialogue, and leveraging technology for better interaction. The lecture, attended by a large number of students, enhanced their professional communication skills and encouraged them to apply these practices in real work environments (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 College of Mass Communication Hosts a <u>Seminar on Advanced NVivo 15 for Research Analysis</u>

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University hosted a seminar on Advanced NVivo 15 for Research Analysis, organized by the College's Research Committee and presented by Dr. Samar, Assistant Professor. Attended by faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and guests from the College of Humanities and Sciences, the session introduced the advanced features of NVivo 15, including handling diverse data types, data visualization, querying, and integration with reference management tools. The seminar enhanced participants' ability to apply qualitative and mixed-methods research techniques and reflected the College's commitment to



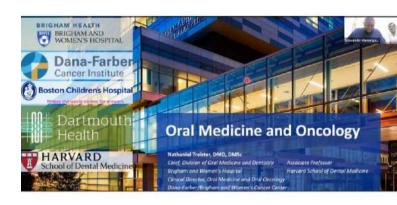












supporting academic development through advanced research tools and methodologies (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

<u>"Student Life Forum – Fall 2024" Organized by</u>
 <u>the Office of Student Life</u>

Ajman University's Office of Student Life organized the "Student Life Forum Fall 2024", attended by Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services, and Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of Student Life. The forum emphasized the importance of extracurricular activities in fostering leadership, innovation, and social engagement, while strengthening students' sense of belonging and community. Student representatives from clubs, arts, sports, and leadership programs shared insights on enhancing activities and campus engagement. The event highlighted AU's commitment to nurturing well-rounded graduates by supporting academic excellence, personal growth, and active participation in campus life (SDG 3 - Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities, SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals).

 The College of Dentistry and Harvard School of Dental Medicine Conduct a Specialized Workshop in Oral Medicine and Oncology

On February 16, 2024, the College of Dentistry at Ajman University, in collaboration with the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, held a specialized workshop on oral medicine and oncology led by Dr. Nathaniel S. Treister. The program provided advanced training for students and graduates, focusing on early detection and treatment of oral mucosal diseases, including oral cancer, and underscoring the importance of a multidisciplinary

approach to patient care. The workshop also highlighted dentists' role in promoting oral hygiene, healthy lifestyles, and nutrition to reduce cancer risks, aligning with AU's commitment to practical clinical education. This initiative supports SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being by advancing healthcare skills and cancer prevention, and SDG 4: Quality Education through specialized training and knowledge transfer in dental medicine.

 AU Hosts National Workshop on Professional Development for QA Leaders in Higher Education (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University hosted the "Professional Development for Quality Assurance Leaders in Higher Education" workshop, organized by the Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) from October 28-30, 2024, at the Sheikh Zaved Center for Conferences and Exhibitions. The event brought together over 80 participants from UAE universities and focused on key areas including updates to the QFEmirates framework, strategic planning, sustainability initiatives, and risk-based assessment. In his opening remarks, Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of AU, highlighted the University's role in supporting the UAE's National Strategy for Higher Education 2030 and commitment to quality and innovation. The workshop enhanced the skills of quality assurance leaders, promoted the sharing of best practices, and reinforced collaboration among higher education insti-



tutions to meet international standards (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

Ajman University's Partnership with Advance
HE to Enhance Professional Growth Opportunities for Faculty Members (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University has partnered with Advance HE, a leading international body for higher education development, to expand professional growth opportunities for faculty members. Through this collaboration, AU faculty gain access to specialized workshops, webinars, exclusive resources, networking platforms, and pathways to achieve Advance HE Fellowships, which provide international recognition for teaching and leadership excellence. This partnership strengthens AU's commitment to



continuous improvement in teaching, learning, and academic leadership, aligning with global standards and the evolving needs of students (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 Prof. Mohammed Al-Betar: Expanding the Frontiers of Artificial Intelligence Research at Ajman University (Oct. 2024)

Prof. Mohammed Al-Betar, Coordinator of the Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (MSAI) program and Head of the Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC) at Ajman University, is driving impactful AI



research across healthcare, agriculture, and sustainability. Recently named among the top 2% of global scientists by Stanford University, his work includes developing Al-powered stroke recovery devices, non-invasive glucose monitoring, and early crop disease detection, alongside theoretical research that strengthens AI applications. Under his leadership, the AIRC has produced around 600 Scopus-indexed publications in fields such as cybersecurity, medical diagnoses, smart cities, and nanofluidics. Prof. Betar's vision emphasizes blending theory and practice to prepare students for real-world innovation, while positioning AU as a hub for industry-academia collaboration that advances solutions for global challenges (SDG 3 - Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

<u>Dr. Salah Gad and Dr. Saeed Nasef Win Rashid</u>
 <u>Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award</u>

Ajman University faculty members Dr. Saeed Nasef and Dr. Salah Gad from the College of Humanities and Sciences won the Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award (41st edition), securing second place in the research category for their study on "The Role of Media Culture in Promoting Sustainable Development Among University Youth." Their research, based on a field study of 356 students, highlighted the influence of digital media platforms on shaping sustainable development awareness and recommended tailoring programs for youth through modern media channels. This achievement underscores AU's commitment to fostering impactful research, supporting cultural and social development, and creating an enabling environment for innovation (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University's Impressive Rise Continues with a Climb to #17 in QS Arab Region Rankings 2025 (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University achieved a remarkable milestone in the QS Arab Region Rankings 2025, climbing to #17 overall, up from #22 last year and 53 places since 2017. The University also ranked 6th in Employer Reputation, 2nd in International Student Ratio, and 7th in International Faculty Ratio, highlighting its strong



graduate outcomes and global diversity. Additional improvements included higher standings in Academic Reputation, Papers per Faculty, and International Research Network, reflecting AU's growing academic and research impact. This accomplishment underscores the University's commitment to excellence, innovation, and internationalization (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

Ajman University Ranks in Top 401-500 Institutions in Times Higher Education 2025 World University Rankings (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University has been ranked among the top 401–500 universities globally in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2025, affirming its growing reputation as a regional and international leader in higher education. With participation from over 2,000 institutions worldwide, AU stood out with an impressive 99.3 score in International Outlook—the highest in the UAE—and strong performance in Research Quality (78.9), reflecting its expanding global engagement and research impact. This achievement demonstrates AU's commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and societal advancement as a dynamic non-profit institution (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals).

 College of Mass Communication Students at Al-Sharg Channel

Students from Ajman University's College of Mass Communication, specializing in Radio and Television Production, visited Al-Sharg Channel in Dubai Media City under the supervision of Dr. Alya Anter. The visit included an introduction to the channel's operations, training opportunities, and a guided tour of its advanced news production studios. Students observed a live directing session of a cross-border broadcast between Saudi Arabia and the UAE, gaining practical insights into professional media production. The experience enhanced their academic learning with real-world exposure to media practices (SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 - Industry, Innova-



tion and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

 Obaya Bezeid Achieves a Milestone by Joining the European Network for Academic Integrity (Oct. 2024)



Obaya Bezeid, a third-year student in the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and Projects Coordinator at AU's Student Success Center, has been selected as a Student Board Member of the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI WG) at the University of Wollongong in Dubai for 2023–2024. This milestone marks the first time an AU student has joined the ENAI WG, highlighting the University's commitment to fostering leadership, academic integrity, and student empowerment. The achievement reflects AU's efforts to nurture a culture of excellence, innovation, and active student participation through mentorship and development programs (SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities, SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals).









Ajman University's College of Dentistry Celebrates White Coat Ceremony

Ajman University's College of Dentistry celebrated its White Coat Ceremony on October 1, 2024, marking a pivotal milestone for first-year dental students as they transition from learners to future healthcare professionals. Sponsored by Meridol, the event brought together AU leadership, faculty, staff, parents, and students to highlight the white coat as a symbol of knowledge, ethics, and humanitarian values in patient care. Through inspiring speeches, student reflections, and the recitation of the

professional oath, the ceremony reinforced AU's commitment to cultivating compassionate, skilled, and ethical dentists. This aligns with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by preparing students to contribute to improved healthcare outcomes, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by fostering academic and professional excellence in dentistry.

 Nursing Students Receive Rousing Initiation into the Profession at the Annual White Coat Ceremony (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences hosted its annual White Coat Ceremony on October 2, 2024, welcoming Nursing students into the healthcare profession. The event, attended by Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir, Dean Dr. Abeer Al Ghananeem, and Dr. Sumaya Al Blooshi, President of the Emirates Nursing Association, highlighted the compassion, integrity, and excellence required in nursing. Students received their white coats, took the professional oath, and expressed their pride in joining a field vital to society's well-being. The ceremony symbolized their transition into future roles as skilled, compassionate healthcare professionals, reinforcing AU's commitment to preparing graduates who make meaningful societal contributions (SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 8 – Decent Work





































and Economic Growth, SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities).

 Parents Applauded as True Heroes at Ajman University's White Coat Ceremony for Pharmacy Students (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences held its annual White Coat Ceremony on October 1, 2024, celebrating pharmacy students' transition into the healthcare profession while honoring parents as "true heroes" for their unwavering support. The ceremony, attended by AU leadership, faculty, and alumni, highlighted the white coat as a symbol of trust, knowledge, and responsibility, inspiring students to embrace compassion, innovation, and excellence as future healthcare leaders. This milestone aligns with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by preparing skilled and compassionate healthcare professionals, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) through fostering academic excellence and lifelong learning.

Ajman University College of Medicine Celebrates Global Simulation Week

Ajman University's College of Medicine, through its Healthcare Simulation and Clinical Competence Centre (HSCCC), celebrated Healthcare Simulation Week 2024 under the global theme "Launchpad to Legacy: What's Your Next?". The event featured interdisciplinary competitions and activities such as CPR challenges, moulage simulations, clinical escape rooms, laparoscopic training, and biomedical engineering projects, enabling students from medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and engineering to apply academic knowledge in realistic scenarios. These hands-on experiences enhanced teamwork, innovation, and patient-centered care while showcasing the role of advanced technologies like AI and VR in healthcare training. The initiative reflects AU's commitment to preparing future-ready healthcare professionals, contributing to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by improving healthcare delivery and













SDG 4 (Quality Education) through innovative, experiential learning methods.

 Centre for Medical and Bio-Allied Health <u>Sciences Research in collaboration with College</u> of Pharmacy and Health Sciences organized a <u>Workshop on Structure-Based Drug Design</u> and Discovery

On February 29, 2024, the Centre for Medical and Bio-Allied Health Sciences Research at Ajman University, in collaboration with the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, organized a workshop on Structure-Based Drug Design and Discovery led by Dr. Mohammad Anas Shamsi. The session introduced participants to the principles of protein-ligand binding, virtual screening technology, and computer-aided methodologies for effective drug discovery, using a user-friendly GUI program accessible to non-specialists. The workshop aimed to strengthen research capacity, provide practical skills in modern drug development, and promote interdisciplinary collaboration. This initiative supports SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being by advancing healthcare research, SDG 4: Quality Education through specialized training, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure by fostering innovation in pharmaceutical sciences.

Ajman University Hosts IFEMH'24, a Seminal Event on Inclusive Education and Mental Health (February 2024)

Ajman University hosted the 3rd International Forum on Education and Mental Health (IFEMH 2024) on February 28–29, 2024, under













the theme "Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education" (SDG 4), bringing together representatives from over 20 universities from the UAE, MENA, India, USA, UK, and Australia (SDG 17). The two-day forum featured keynote speeches and discussions on inclusive education practices (SDG 4, SDG 10), women in STEM (SDG 5), learner diversity and special education (SDG 4, SDG 10), and the role of educational leadership in fostering wellness and mental health (SDG 3, SDG 4). The event

























underscored AU's commitment to advancing inclusive education, promoting gender equality, reducing inequalities in learning, safeguarding well-being, and strengthening global academic partnerships (SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 10, SDG 17).

- <u>Deanship of Student Services Newsletters</u> –
   The <u>Deanship of Student Services</u>, along with its reporting offices and centers, organized various co-curricular and extracurricular activities to support the holistic development of AU students. Samples are provided below.
- o Counseling Unit Events Past Activities

The Counseling Unit at Ajman University organized a variety of events in the 2023-2024 academic year to support students' well-being, personal development, and academic success. The events attracted active participation and fostered an environment of learning, self-improvement, and awareness. The workshops relevant SDG 4 are as follows:

#### **Fall 2023**

- 1. Adjusting to University Life: Tips for First-Year Students (Aug. 21, 2023)
- 2. Good Study Habits (Aug. 21, 2023)
- 3. Transitioning from High School to University Learning (Sep. 11, 2023)
- 4. The Power of Growth Mindset: Cultivating a Positive and Motivated Learning Attitude (Oct. 25, 2023)
- 5. Ajman University's "Reaching for the Stars" Series (Oct. 31, 2023)

#### Spring 2024

- 6. Preparing for a Successful Semester: Class Planning and Organizing (Jan. 8, 2024)
- 7. Effective Study Techniques with Mind Maps (Jan. 8, 2024)

- 8. Collaborative Thinking Skills: Driving Teams Toward Better Results (Jan. 10, 2024)
- 9. Enhancing Your Skills and Managing Your Time (Jan. 10, 2024)
- 10. Setting Up Smart Goals for Personal Growth (Feb. 21, 2024)
- 11.Enhancing Problem-Solving Skills (Mar. 21, 2024)
- 12. Developing Powerful Presentation Skills (Apr. 15, 2024)
- <u>Teaching and Learning Center (TLC)</u>

AU's TLC supports faculty and teaching staff through professional development in pedagogy, instructional design, and educational technology. It delivers training in curriculum innovation, blended and online learning, course management, and effective communication. The Center's mission is to foster excellence in teaching, maximize the use of technology, and support AU's transition to blended learning in line with international standards and accreditation requirements.

The Teaching and Learning Center Hosts a Workshop on Interactive Presentations On February 21, 2024, Ajman University's Teaching and Learning Center organized a workshop on interactive presentations led by Instructional Designer Mr. Mustafa Abdelwahab. The session focused on effective presentation design, communication strategies, and the integration of technology to enhance teaching quality, with participants applying their skills through practical exercises using Microsoft PowerPoint. By equipping faculty with innovative pedagogical tools and promoting technology-assisted learning, the workshop supports SDG 4: Quality Education through capacity-building for educators and aligns with SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure by fostering the use of modern educational technologies.









Number of Full-time Faculty Hired from Top 200 Universities: THE, QS, and Shanghai Rankings

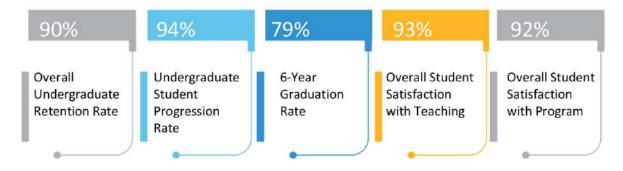
Academic Year	Total No. of New Faculty Hired	No. of Faculty Hired from Top 200 Universities: THE, QS, and Shanghai Ranking	Percentage of Faculty Hired from Top 200 Universities: THE, QS, and Shanghai Rank- ing
2019-20	21	3	14%
2020-21	21	6	29%
2021-22	40	17	43%
2022-23	25	14	56%
2023-24	11	8	73%
Fall 2024	21	16	76%

Faculty Academic Ranks Five-Year-Trend (2020-2021 to 2024-2025)

<b>Academic Year</b>	Faculty Ranks				
	Professor	<b>Associate Professor</b>	<b>Assistant Professor</b>	Lecturer	
Fall 2020-21	15%	33%	29%	23%	255
Fall 2021-22	17%	29%	33%	21%	263
Fall 2022-23	19%	33%	31%	17%	255
Fall 2023-24	19%	36%	28%	18%	245
Fall 2024-25	19%	40%	25%	16%	245

### **AU's Student Success Indicators**

### STUDENT SUCCESS INDICATORS



#### LIFELONG LEARNING:

- <u>Lifelong Learning Policy</u> AU recognizes the importance of lifelong learning in a competitive job market, where formal education is not the sole indicator of talent. AU is committed to providing and supporting lifelong learning opportunities through various offices, including the Continuing Education Center, Office of Career Services, Office of Community Engagement, Teaching and Learning Center, and Office of Human Resources. In line with AU's lifelong learning access policy, these services are accessible to all students, alumni, employees, and external community members, without discrimination based on ethnicity, religion. disability, immigration status, gender, or other factors.
- Policy This policy promotes lifelong learning and improve students' skills by providing accessible learning opportunities for diverse groups, including people of determination, the elderly, minorities, low-skilled workers, and those in remote areas. The approach is flexible and short-term, aimed at upskilling and reskilling to address evolving job market demands. The policy focuses on the design, development, delivery, and awarding of credit-bearing micro-credentials (CbMc) and does not cover not-for-credit micro-credentials (NcMc).
- Sustainability Lifelong Learning AU is dedicated to sustainability education, ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff gain the knowledge and skills needed for a sustainable future. While sustainability education is mandatory for the AU community, it is available as an optional offering to the general public.
- Over <u>8,000 e-learning certificated courses</u> are available to all AU employees through LinkedIn Learning.
- AU has 90 subscribed online databases and 64 has open-access for the external community and available in AU online library.
- <u>Self Help Resources</u> AU's Counseling Unit website is accessible to all users.
- <u>Career focused events and workshops</u> Career Services of by Masar Career Excellence
- Student Development Sessions and Events
   AU provides free certificated sessions and organized events to educate the internal

and external community on topics related 21st-century skills and UN SDGs:

- o <a href="https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/engineering/student-development-sessions-events">https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/engineering/student-development-sessions-events</a>
- o <a href="https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/cad/stu-dent-development-sessions-and-events">https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/cad/stu-dent-development-sessions-and-events</a>
- o <a href="https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/chs/stu-dent-development-sessions-events">https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/chs/stu-dent-development-sessions-events</a>
- o <a href="https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/student-life/student-success-center/student-sup-port-resources">https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/student-life/student-success-center/student-sup-port-resources</a>

#### **GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS:**

- AU actively supports SDG 4 by promoting quality education and inclusivity through various initiatives.
- Ajman University Educational Objectives:
  - Offer a broad range of high quality and relevant undergraduate and graduate academic programs that are in line with international standards and market requirements.
  - 2. Equip students with broad knowledge as well as discipline-specific in-depth knowledge and skills to adequately prepare them for the job market.
  - Provide student-centric quality education, with appropriate hands-on and experiential learning experience, to develop well-rounded and career-ready graduates who are life-long learners, professionally competent, socially responsible, and active contributors to the society.
  - Provide sufficient resources, including research resources, and various support services to facilitate all students in making timely progress toward the completion of their degrees.
- AU, in its operations ensure a conducive, inclusive and sustainable campus for teaching, learning and ultimately student success:
  - AU Campus
  - Virtual Campus Tour
  - Sustainable Campus
  - College Facilities
  - Facilities for People of Determination



- Social Rooms
- Student Life
- Student Success Center
- Center For Inclusive Learning
- Library
- AU Innovation Center
- Ammar Al Nuaimi Chairs Meeting of Ajman University Board of Trustees (Nov. 2024)

Aiman University's Board of Trustees meeting was chaired by H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman and Chairman of the Executive Council, in the presence of Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi and other distinguished members. His Highness praised AU's progress in international rankings, attainment of prestigious accreditations, and its transition to a non-profit institution aligned with We the UAE 2031 and Aiman Vision 2030. The meeting approved the 2024-2025 budget, the University's Fundraising Policy and Guidelines, and the list of graduates, while also reviewing updates from subcommittees on community engagement, financial audit, and sustainability.

Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir presented AU's major achievements, including ranking #17 in QS Arab Region Rankings 2025, advancement to Group 2 in the MOHESR classification, new international accreditations, and record student enrollment. These developments reinforce AU's commitment to academic excellence, financial sustainability, and community impact (SDG 4 — Quality Education, SDG 8

- Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9
  Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG
  17 Partnerships for the Goals).
- Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi Inaugurates
   Ajman University's new Center for Inclusive
   Learning for Students of Determination

On November 19, 2024, H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman and Chairman of the Executive Council, inaugurated Ajman University's new Center for Inclusive Learning for Students of Determination. The center, supported by the Al Rostamani family, provides state-of-the-art facilities, specialised tools, and tailored services such as proctored exams, assistive technologies, and accessible learning resources to ensure equal opportunities for students of determination. The initiative reflects Ajman University's commitment as a non-profit institution to inclusivity, quality education, and UAE Vision 2031, empowering students of determination to excel academically, socially, and professionally (SDG 4: Quality Education; SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities).

### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIPS:**

 Ajman University Vice Chancellor Participates as Guest Speaker at Inaugural Times Higher Education MENA Reputation Forum

On February 13, 2024, Ajman University's Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Prof. Khaled Assaleh, participated as a guest speaker at the inaugural Times Higher Education (THE) MENA Reputation Forum in Al Ain, UAE. Speaking



on the panel "Institutional Case Studies on Building and Maintaining Reputation," he highlighted AU's achievements in research and internationalization, sharing strategies for strengthening institutional reputation. The forum, moderated by THE's Head of Reputation, brought together universities from across the region and beyond, fostering dialogue on collaboration, reputation-building, and global engagement. This initiative supports SDG 4: Quality Education by promoting knowledge exchange and academic excellence, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through international collaboration and partnerships.

The IT Club Organizes Coding Battle Competition (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's IT Club, in collaboration with the Office of Student Life and partners including Dubai Police, hosted the "Coding Battle 2024" competition, featuring 25 teams of male and female students showcasing their

programming and problem-solving skills. Conducted over two rounds, the event tested coding efficiency, logic, and teamwork under high-pressure conditions, with the top three teams awarded for their achievements. The competition enhanced students' technical abilities, encouraged innovation, and fostered collaboration, reflecting AU's commitment to equipping students with essential skills for the digital era (SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 5 – Gender Equality, SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals).

<u>Student Clubs Organize Tuberculosis</u>
 <u>Awareness Events for Sharjah International</u>
 <u>Private School Students</u> (March 2024)

On March 7, 2024, Ajman University's White Hearts Club and Internal Medicine Club, under the Office of Student Life, organized tuberculosis awareness initiatives for Sharjah International Private School students to mark World Tuberculosis Day. The program featured interactive sessions, competitions, and discussions on causes, symptoms, prevention, and treatment of tuberculosis, stressing early detection and proper care. Visiting students also joined a campus orientation with the Student Recruitment Unit, exploring AU's facilities and academic programs to support their future study choices. This initiative supports SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being by raising disease awareness and promoting preventive health education, and SDG 4: Quality Education by guiding students toward higher education opportunities.





 Athletics Unit Hosts National Charity School Students for Their Exams

From June 5-14, 2024, Ajman University's Athletics Unit, in collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement, hosted exams for students of the National Charity School - Ajman after their school facilities were damaged and placed under maintenance. Conducted in AU's multi-purpose sports complex, the initiative ensured students had a supportive environment to complete their assessments without disruption. Aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), this effort highlights AU's commitment to fostering community well-being, social responsibility, and meaningful partnerships that contribute to positive societal change.

 The College of Dentistry Hosts Event to Showcase Cutting-Edge Dental Technology by Zeiss

Ajman University's College of Dentistry hosted a collaborative event with Zeiss to showcase the advanced Stereomicroscope Stemi 508 (SDG 9). The session, led by Mr. Mamerto Ardivilla Saracho from Zeiss, engaged over 100 participants including 4th- and 5th-year students, interns, master's students, and faculty members, offering first-hand insights into the device's features and applications in dental research (SDG 4). The event is part of the College's ongoing efforts to strengthen academia-industry linkages and promote

innovation in dental education and research (SDG 4, SDG 9, SDG 17).

 Ajman University Professor Visits Jamia Millia Islamia University on Research Travel Grant (March, 2024)

Ajman University's Prof. Moayad Shahwan, Head of the Centre of Medical and Bio-Allied Health Sciences Research (CMBHSR), visited Jamia Millia Islamia University in India on a research travel grant. The visit focused on advancing research in protein expression, purification, and biophysics, fostering collaboration between the two institutions. This partnership enabled the exchange of expertise, methodologies, and resources, with the potential to drive breakthroughs in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and medicine. The initiative highlights Ajman University's dedication to global academic collaboration, high-impact research, and faculty development, aiming for joint publications in top-tier Scopus-indexed journals.















#### International Day of Education Celebration

On January 24, 2024, the Office of Community Engagement and the University Library marked the International Day of Education with storytelling sessions at Al Ahlia Charity School. Thirteen volunteers participated, sharing stories with children to foster a love for reading and learning, while 300 books were distributed. The initiative recorded 39 volunteer hours and highlighted education's role as a fundamental human right and cornerstone of sustainable societies. Aligned with UNESCO's theme "Learning for Lasting Peace," the event emphasized collaboration, community engagement, and the power of education in building future leaders and promoting peace across cultures.

This initiative directly supports SDG 4: Quality Education by promoting inclusive and equitable access to learning resources, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions by fostering mutual understanding, collaboration, and lasting peace through education.

### • <u>Faculty Exchange Program with Dr. Che</u> <u>Abdullah</u>

On February 15, 2024, Ajman University welcomed Dr. Che Azurahanim Che Abdullah, Associate Professor at Universiti Putra Malaysia and a leading expert in Nanobiophysics, as part of its Faculty Exchange



Program. She described her experience as transformative, highlighting AU's cultural and linguistic diversity, which enriched her teaching methods and fostered cross-cultural dialogue. Alongside mentoring students, Dr. Che advanced her nanomaterial synthesis research with applications in nanodentistry and nanomedicine, aiming for sustainable, minimally invasive healthcare solutions. This initiative contributes to SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals by





















combining innovative pedagogy, healthcare research, and international collaboration.

 Masar Career Excellence and the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Organize Workshop on Business and Communication

On February 15, 2024, Masar Career Excellence, in collaboration with the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and the AIM Congress Group, organized a workshop titled "The World of Business and Communication: Your Paved Path to Success." Led by AU faculty, industry experts, and student contributors, the session emphasized the role of effective communication in building relationships, resolving conflicts, and enhancing productivity. Discussions highlighted cultural diversity,

adaptability, and learning from failure as key professional skills, while also encouraging interdisciplinary exchange to better prepare students for the job market.

This initiative supports SDG 4: Quality Education by equipping students with essential soft skills, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth by preparing them for employability, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through collaboration with external organizations.

 Ajman University Hosts a Delegation of International Students in the Winter Study Tour 2024

On February 1, 2024, Ajman University's Office of International Academic Affairs hosted































the Winter Study Tour 2024, welcoming 64 students from 10 partner universities across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Organized with the Colleges of Engineering and IT, Architecture, Art and Design, and Business Administration, the week-long program combined cultural immersion with academic and industrial visits to leading companies and institutions, highlighting innovation, artificial intelligence, and sustainability practices in the UAE. The tour promoted cross-cultural exchange, research collaboration, and global learning experiences while showcasing the nation's commitment to environmental stewardship. This initiative supports SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, and SDG 13: Climate Action by fostering international collaboration, advancing global competencies, and highlighting sustainability efforts.

### Masar Career Excellence Hosts Ajman Academy School Students

On May 15, 2024, Masar Career Excellence hosted students from Ajman Academy School to help them explore future career paths through expert guidance and counseling. The session, led by Maryam Alsuwaidi, Career Services Officer, introduced students to Masar's opportunities while covering goal-setting, career exploration, resume development, and aligning majors with personal strengths. Director Mohsin Aboobaker emphasized the role of academic counseling in preparing students for the job market and the need to align education with evolving workforce demands.

This initiative, aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), highlights Masar's commitment to supporting students' academic and professional development through training, guidance, and collaboration between schools and higher education institutions.

 Mr. Ouazir Salem's Academic Visit to College of Lake County



Mr. Ouazir Salem, Instructor of Mathematics at Ajman University, conducted an academic visit to the College of Lake County in Chicago, USA, on May 16, 2024, to explore experimental devices in the Physics laboratory and learn about their suppliers. Supported by AU leadership, he engaged with faculty and staff from the College of Lake County, gaining valuable insights into advanced laboratory practices and fostering connections for future collaboration. This visit, aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), reflects AU's commitment to academic exchange, global engagement, and the continuous enhancement of teaching and learning practices.

### Ajman University Signs an MoU with GEMS Education (June, 2024)

Ajman University has signed an MoU with GEMS Education to enhance educational opportunities through scholarships and academic collaboration for students and staff. The partnership reflects a shared commitment to academic excellence and broadening access to quality higher education, reinforcing AU's role as a leading institution dedicated to student growth and community engagement. Aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), this collaboration highlights AU's dedication to fostering inclusive learning opportunities and building





impactful partnerships that benefit students and the wider community.

 Ajman Bank to Support Ajman University's Scholarship Endowment Fund (June, 2024)

Ajman University and Ajman Bank have signed an MoU to launch the Ajman Bank Endowed Scholarship Fund, aimed at supporting talented UAE National students in pursuing higher education at AU. Witnessed by Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, this initiative reflects the vision of Aiman's leadership to expand access to quality education and empower the next generation of leaders. The fund will provide scholarships to UAE Nationals maintaining a GPA of 2.5 or higher, ensuring they have the financial support needed from the start of their studies. This strategic partnership, aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), highlights a shared commitment to education, community development, and the UAE's long-term prosperity.

Ajman University and Emirates Health Services
 Sign MoU to Advance Healthcare Education

On March 25, 2024, Ajman University and Emirates Health Services (EHS) signed an MoU to strengthen collaboration between academia and the healthcare sector. The agreement focuses on aligning AU's academic programs with healthcare workforce needs, offering students hands-on clinical training at EHS facilities, and promoting joint research, training, and knowledge exchange. This partnership, aligned with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), underscores both institutions' commitment to advancing healthcare education, equipping graduates





with practical skills, and supporting the UAE's healthcare sector through innovation and collaboration.

 Ajman University Partners with First Academy School to Enhance Education Opportunities

On May 10, 2024, Ajman University signed an MoU with First Academy School in Ajman to foster academic cooperation and expand educational opportunities. The agreement, signed by Dr. Abdulhaq Al Nuaimi on behalf of Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir, and Mr. Rizwan Jawaid, Principal of The First Academy School, provides discounts and partial scholarships for teachers and eligible students, easing financial barriers to higher education. This collabora-

tion, aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), reflects AU's commitment to promoting inclusive access to education, empowering students to pursue their academic and professional aspirations, and strengthening community partnerships that support lifelong learning.

 AU maintains ongoing partnerships with external organizations through MoUs and joint initiatives, supporting a wide range of community service activities. These collaborations provide sustained benefits and enable the continuation of impactful programs, including:

AWS Academy	AU is an authorized institution member of AWS Academy network to deliver AWS Courses.			
Cisco Academy	AU delivers online CISCO courses for students for free.			
SAP Dual Study Program	SAP delivers online courses to students on SAP lates products to enable them to pass the exam and be SAP certified.			
Direct Trading Technologies	This Agreement provides students with latest skills in online trading stock markets and equip them with required skills to enter trading industry.			
PwC Academy	These agreements enable AU Community to get 20% on PwC Courses and support students to be more industry conscious.			
Al Ansari Exchange	This Agreement delivers 2 internships per year for our students.			
<u>Huawei</u>	Huawei donated equipment to deliver AI technology Huawei provided access to our student for MOOC platform to deliver their latest technology courses.			
<u>Fazaa Program</u>	This Program enabled AU community to be enrolled in their discount program in the UAE.			

• In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University partnered with government entities, cultural institutions, and professional associations to strengthen quality education (SDG 4). These collaborations created opportunities for student internships, specialized training, public lectures, and academic research initiatives. They also reinforced AU's mission to provide inclusive, relevant, and globally connected learning experiences that equip students with practical skills and lifelong learning opportunities.

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024			
Department of Economic Development – Ajman	<ul> <li>Participated in AU Innovation Center Demo Day (14 Feb 2023).</li> <li>Attended Startup License Program follow-up meeting (5 Aug 2023).</li> <li>Hosted at least one College of Business student internship each semester.</li> </ul>			
Ajman Free Zone	<ul> <li>Provided student discounts (1 student at 20% in Fall 2023).</li> <li>Requested AU graduate CVs to fill trainee roles in Digital Marketing, PR &amp; Communications, and Graphic Design.</li> </ul>			
Department of Land & Real Estate Regulation – Ajman	Hosted at least one College of Business student internship each semester.  Offered internships and public engagement opportunities for College of Architecture, Art & Design students.			
Ajman Police	Delivered Future Foresight Strategy training program in collaboration with AU's Center for Continuing Education.  College of Engineering field trip to Ajman Police GHQ (40 students) on 14 March 2024 for hands-on exposure to law enforcement technologies.			
Dubai Courts	<ul> <li>Organized multiple lectures and orientation sessions for AU Law students, including Practical Aspects of Civil Litigation Procedures (15 Nov 2023).</li> <li>Strengthened integration of theory with judicial practice.</li> </ul>			
Statistics and Competitive- ness Center	<ul> <li>AU delivered a statistics and analysis course for SCC employees College of Humanities collaborated on research, providing students with statistical data for graduation projects.</li> </ul>			
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	<ul> <li>Co-organized International Museum Day Forum at AU (18 May 2024).</li> <li>Ongoing collaboration with College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design on training programs, symposiums, and proposal development for museum projects.</li> </ul>			
Ministry of Education – UAE	Supported AU students with discounts (8 students, 100% each, Fall & Spring).  Organized workshops with AU students Engaged in GSRC evaluation, UAE Research Map, and training sessions.			
Society of Engineers – UAE	<ul> <li>Partnered in student competitions.</li> <li>Served on College of Architecture &amp; Design advisory board.</li> <li>Conducted joint public activities to enhance student professional exposure.</li> </ul>			
Architectural Heritage Society – Dubai	<ul> <li>A College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design management representative served on the advisory board, jury panel, and participated in public activities.</li> </ul>			



Sustainable Development Goal Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.





AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 5, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTER:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these is the <u>Humanities and Social Sciences</u> Research Center (HSSRC), which aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally. HSSRC will provide a distinct climate of comprehensive research opportunities as well as an ability to attract high-quality scientific researchers through partnerships and collaborations.

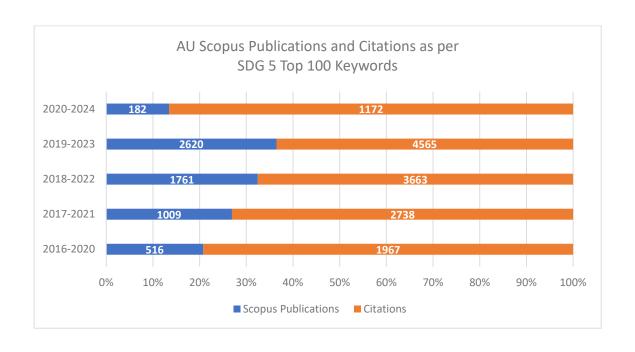
#### **RESEARCH:**

- AU's Scopus publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 5 is shown below:
- Inclusive Education At the <u>Third International Forum on Education and Mental Health (IFEMH 2024)</u>, hosted by Ajman University, the theme *Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education* underscored the essential role of gender equity in creating meaningful learning opportunities for all. In her opening message, Dr. Nahla Al

Qassimi, Dean of Student Services and Chair of the Forum, highlighted that "embracing inclusivity today isn't just essential; it's the cornerstone of shaping the better future of education, ensuring every student, regardless of their background or individual abilities, has their seat at the table." The forum gathered participants from more than 20 higher education institutions across the UAE, MENA region, India, the U.S., U.K., and Australia (SDG 17) and featured keynote addresses such as Women in STEM, directly emphasizing gender equality and empowerment. Key focus areas included:

- Teaching Experiences, Pedagogy, Practice & Praxis (SDG 4, SDG 5)
- Education & Difference: Gifted Education,
   Special Education, Learning Difficulties,
   Disability (SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 10)
- Mind, Brain & Psychology: Emotional and Cognitive Development (SDG 3, SDG 4)
- Counselling, Guidance & Adjustment in Education (SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5)
- Nurturing Creativity & Innovation (SDG 4, SDG 9)
- Learning Experiences, Student Learning & Learner Diversity (SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 10)

Building on this momentum, the <u>Second</u> IFEMH 2023 had earlier focused on *Women* 



# **GENDER EQUALITY**



in Research, featuring eight sessions and five workshops with 32 speakers from 17 universities (SDG 17), covering women's leadership, healthcare, education, and mental health (SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5). By advancing from a concentrated focus on women's research in 2023 to a broader agenda of inclusivity and equity in 2024, Ajman University demonstrates its sustained commitment to **SDG 5**, ensuring gender equality remains central to education, research, and institutional practice.

 Ajman University's Humanities and Social Sciences Research Centre Launches Excellence in Research Award for Female University Students Across UAE

Ajman University advanced SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 4: Quality Education, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure through the launch of the Excellence in Research Award for UAE University Female Students, initiated by the Humanities and Social Sciences Research Centre. Sponsored by the Deanship of Research & Graduate Studies and organized in collaboration with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, the award seeks to empower female researchers and strengthen their leadership in advancing knowledge across Education, Sociology, and Psychology.

By promoting innovation in digital transformation and sustainability research, the initiative provides a platform for women to lead meaningful academic contributions and engage in research addressing contemporary global challenges. This reflects Ajman University's commitment to fostering an inclusive, equitable, and research-driven academic

environment that aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Innovation), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

#### **INNOVATION:**

 Ajman University Supports Women in Data Science: Student Showcases Al Job Connect at GITEX

On December 31, 2024, Ajman University Data Analytics student Maryam Hesham presented her innovative project Ajman Job Connect at the GITEX Dubai exhibition under the Ajman Government Pavilion. Developed during her internship at the Department of Digital Ajman (DDA), the platform uses machine learning algorithms to analyze job market data and generate personalized job recommendations for seekers, while helping employers find qualified candidates. This achievement demonstrates the power of quality education (SDG 4) in equipping students with advanced skills and also highlights gender equality (SDG 5) by showcasing the leadership of a female student in AI and STEM innovation.

 Advancing Gender Equality: Shahd Omar Fadil Elbshari as a Role Model for SDG 5 at Ajman University



Shahd Omar Fadil Elbshari's achievements at Ajman University illustrate tangible progress toward SDG 5: Gender Equality by showcasing how women are excelling in dentistry, research, and leadership. Through academic honors, pioneering research on children's oral health, and global conference participation, she breaks gender stereotypes in STEM fields while serving as a mentor and cultural ambassador. Her volunteer work with refugee communities further amplifies women's role in advancing health equity and education, reflecting AU's commitment to empowering

female students and strengthening women's representation in science, healthcare, and community development.

 Breaking Barriers in Science: Fatima Adnan Almadani Advances SDG 5 in Biomedical Research

Ajman University alumna Eng. Fatima Adnan Almadani represents progress toward SDG 5: Gender Equality by excelling in fields where women remain underrepresented—biomedical



engineering and molecular medicine. After graduating with honors from AU, she pursued her master's degree at Imperial College London, where she pioneered a diagnostic technique for von Willebrand disease, becoming the first Emirati to specialize in this field, and is now advancing to a PhD in Clinical Medicine. Her research on "Organs on Chips" demonstrates innovation aligned with SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, while her leadership as president of AU's Emirati Club and her extensive volunteer work reflect SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. Fatima's achievements showcase how empowering women in STEM not only breaks gender barriers but also drives scientific discovery, healthcare innovation, and community impact.

Women Innovators Driving Climate Solutions:
 Doaa Al Alimi Advances SDG 5 at COP29

Ajman University student Doaa Al Alimi embodies progress toward SDG 5: Gender Equality by leading an all-female team whose innovation won the prestigious <u>Green Campus</u>

Competition and was showcased at COP29. Together with Shaima Hussein and Bibi Hashimi, she developed the award-winning Electric Green Pot, a sustainable air quality improvement solution that captures carbon, purifies the air, and supports agricultural resilience. Their success highlights women's leadership in science, technology, and climate action while advancing SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG 13: Climate Action. Supported by AU's Office of Sustainability and ICARDA mentorship, Doaa's achievement demonstrates how empowering female students in research and innovation drives meaningful contributions to global sustainability.

Empowering Women in Engineering: AU
 Students Advance SDG 5 through Al-Driven TB
 Diagnosis

Ajman University students from the College of Engineering and Information Technology, including female innovator Sidra Zuleikha, exemplify progress toward SDG 5: Gender Equality by leading research in biomedical engineering traditionally dominated by men. Their Chest X-Ray Screening Software for Pulmonary Tuberculosis (TB) uses advanced machine learning to distinguish TB from other lung diseases, enabling faster, more accurate diagnoses and improving patient care. The award-winning project, recognized at the Arab Health Exhibition and AU's Student Research Day, directly contributes to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being by strengthening early detection and treatment of TB, while also advancing SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure through the development of cutting-edge medical technologies. Supported by AU's collaborative research environment, the





# **GENDER EQUALITY**

















students' success underscores the vital role of women in driving innovation in healthcare and engineering.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> <u>courses</u>, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.

- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 10 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 5: Gender Equality. These courses emphasize critical themes such as women, female participation, gender gaps, stereotypes, decision-making, representation, opportunities, board membership, technology inclusion, leadership, and women's health (including issues such as chlamydia and reproductive health). Collectively, these courses reflect Ajman University's commitment to advancing gender equality by integrating women-focused perspectives into education, promoting leadership opportunities, and addressing barriers that limit women's participation across sectors.





 Ajman University Women Empowerment <u>Council's 'Pink October' Campaign (Nov.</u> 2024)

Ajman University's Women Empowerment Council organized the month-long 'Pink October' campaign featuring breast cancer screenings, survivor talks, student outreach, and the symbolic Tree of Hope event, raising awareness and solidarity in the fight against breast cancer (SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Women Empowerment Council Celebrates International Day for Tolerance with Inspiring Campus Journey

Ajman University advanced SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 4: Quality Education, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions through the "Tolerance Pass" campus journey organized by the Women Empowerment Council in celebration of the International Day for Tolerance. The interactive event guided participants through themed venues—the Inclusivity Venue (Best Buddy), Kindness Venue (Art Section), Unity Venue (Students' Station), Diversity Venue (Tolerance Round Table), and Eco-Responsibility Venue (Tree of Hope and Sustainability)—promoting empathy, inclusion, and environmental awareness. The initiative fostered a culture of tolerance, equality, and sustainability within the university community, aligning with SDG 13: Climate Action and reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to nurturing a compassionate and inclusive learning environment.

 Mass Communication Students Showcase Creative Radio & TV Projects Promoting Gender Equality (December 2024)



The Mass Communication students' graduation projects align with gender equality (SDG 5) by amplifying the role of Emirati women and advancing inclusive representation in media. These works also addressed significant social themes such as entrepreneurship success stories, the Emirati Genome Program, mental health, and psychological support for sick children, demonstrating the students' commitment to producing creative media content that raises awareness and supports sustainable development.

 Ajman University Celebrates International Women in Engineering Day

Ajman University, through its Women Empowerment Council in collaboration with the Women Engineers Committee at the UAE Society of Engineers, celebrated *International Women in Engineering Day* on July 5, 2024, under the theme "The Power of She: Celebrating Women in Engineering." The event featured an inspiring panel discussion where female engineers shared their personal journeys, addressed challenges faced in the engineering field, and highlighted emerging opportunities for women in STEM. They



### **GENDER EQUALITY**



offered valuable insights and mentorship to Ajman University students, encouraging them to pursue careers in engineering with confidence and determination. The celebration emphasized the resilience, innovation, and leadership of women in shaping the future of engineering, reinforcing the importance of gender equity and empowerment in technical professions. This initiative supports SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 4: Quality Education, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

 Ajman University's Asma Al Shamsi Honored in the First Batch of the National Leadership Academy for Higher Education Program (Jul. 2024)

Ajman University proudly recognized Ms. Asma Al Shamsi, Manager of the Athletics Unit, for being honored among the first graduates of the National Leadership Academy for Higher Education program, organized by the Ministry of Education to cultivate Emirati leaders in the academic sector. The graduation ceremony, attended by H.E. Dr. Muhammad Ibrahim Al Mualla, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Academic Affairs, and other senior officials, celebrated the achievements of participants who presented innovative projects aimed at advancing the UAE's higher education system. Ms. Al Shamsi's accomplishment reflects Ajman University's commitment to fostering leadership excellence, national development, and institutional innovation in alignment with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

The Office of Medical Services Hosts Breast
Cancer Awareness Workshop on Early
Detection and Self-Examination

The Office of Medical Services, under the auspices of the Ajman University Women Empowerment Council, organized a Breast Cancer Awareness Workshop focused on early detection and the importance of Breast Self-Examination (BSE). The workshop equipped participants with practical knowledge and hands-on techniques to identify early signs of breast cancer, emphasizing the critical role of awareness and prevention in saving lives. Through this initiative, Ajman University reinforced its commitment to promoting community health, preventive education, and women's empowerment. The event directly supports SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being and SDG 5: Gender Equality.

 Five Year Trend of New Registered Students by Gender (AY 2023-2024)



• Graduates Statistics by Gender (AY 2019-2020 to 2023-2024)

lemic Year	Gender		Total	Total					
iemic rear	Female	Male	Graduates		Trend				
2019-2020	823	500	1323	■ Female ■ Male					
2020-2021	937	537	1474	38%	36%	36%	40%	40%	
2021-2022	880	492	1372						
2022-2023	840	550	1390	62%	64%	64%	60%	60%	
2023-2024	708	469	1177	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-202	

#### **OPERATIONS:**

- AU is a dedicated advocate for advancing essential agendas, including gender equality and women's empowerment, in alignment with SDG 5 (Key initiatives and practices of AU towards SDG 5).
- AU in line with <u>Diversity</u>, <u>Equity and Inclusion Policy</u>, "adopts an environment that fosters diversity, equity and inclusion in accordance with its principles, mission and core values. (...) This is also in accordance with the laws of the UAE that ban discrimination and hostility based on cast, religion, or ethnic background. In addition, there are rules protecting the rights of self-reliant individuals (those with special needs) and legislation requiring equal rights for women."
- AU also has a <u>Non-Discrimination Policy</u> that protect individuals or group of individuals (internal and external community) from discrimination based on nationality, sex, age, religious belief, race, color, or marital status; in matters of educational programs, recruitment, promotion, or access to institutional services.

- AU has a <u>Women Empowerment Council</u> (AUWEC) with the mission "...to support and mentor women to make a significant impact both socially and professionally. The Council acts as a hub of resources to equip women with the tools to fulfill and promote their unique skills. The Council seeks to empower women by expanding opportunities for advancement." This Council is the first of its kind in the UAE and shall serve as a role model for other universities in UAE and GCC.
  - The Importance of Ajman University Women Empowerment Council:
- 1- The Council will be the first of its kind in the UAE. AU will serve as a role model for other universities in UAE and GCC.
- 2- The initiative will increase AU's visibility as a leader in the region, positively impacting student admissions, international reputation, and QS rankings results.
- 3- The Council will strengthen relationships and improve trust with students and their families.



### **GENDER EQUALITY**

- 4- The Council will provide unique opportunities for women to network and make industry connections.
- 5- The Council will attract sponsors in support of AU scholarships and initiatives.
- 6- The Council will contribute to an inclusive campus environment in which women represent 60% of the student demographic.
- Dr. Raja Al Gurg: Inspiring Women's Leadership and Advancing SDG 5



Ajman University Board of Trustees member Dr. Raja Al Gurg has been named among The World's Most Powerful Women 2024 by Forbes, exemplifying progress toward SDG 5: Gender Equality through her leadership and global influence. Her recognition also advances SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure and SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, reinforcing AU's commitment to empowering women leaders and driving sustainable impact.

- AU Scholarships and Financial Aid AU has an ongoing array of scholarships and discounts to help as many students continue their study and make their dreams happen. These also include financial aid that supports women:
  - Discounts for AU Employees: A permanent faculty member as well as the administrative/technical staff will be given a discount for his/her family) wife/Husband, Sons, Brothers/Sisters) as per the scholarship & discount regulations.
  - 2. Discounts for AU Alumni & their families: These discounts are only for Ajman University Alumni. These shall only apply to the students enrolled in the first semester of the academic year 2018/2019 and onward, and as below details:

- Husband/Spouse Discount: Students of PhD and MA degrees, all majors - 20% discount
- o Husband/**Wife** & Children Discount: Bachelor's student of all majors – 10% discount
- 3. Discounts for first-degree relatives:
  All registered Siblings and first-degree relatives (father, mother, and children) in any bachelor program are eligible for a discount from 5%-20% according to their serial numbers
- Mental Health Services The Women Empowerment Council, in collaboration with the Counseling Unit, is delighted to announce that Friday is fully dedicated to the AU community females and their families and friends. Also, these services are extended to any female outside the campus (inside UAE) to visit the Counseling Unit for a free consultation.
- Women's Reproductive and Sexual Health Care

   Ajman University Women Empowerment
   Council (AUWEC) partnered with the Office of Medical Services, Student Counselling unit, College of Medicine, and other medical partners to organize events, forums, and one-to-one discussions on sensitive topics relating to female sexual health, reproductive health issues, etc.
  - Maternity Leave at AU Ajman University's maternity leave policy supports female employees with 60 days of leave (45 days with full pay and 15 days with half pay), along with the option of an additional 45 days of unpaid leave if health issues related to pregnancy or childbirth arise, verified by a medical certificate. The policy applies to births after six months of pregnancy, regardless of the outcome, and provides an extra 30-day paid leave for mothers of children needing special care, with the possibility of an additional 30 days of unpaid leave. This policy, aligning with SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) by supporting maternal and child health, SDG 5 (Gender Equality) by ensuring employment security for women, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through fair workplace policies, and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by accommodating special needs, can be requested from the month prior to the expected birth date with proper medical documentation. Any extension requires approval and may be treated as annual or unpaid leave if the annual



leave balance is insufficient. Maternity leave cannot be accumulated or compensated, and overlaps with annual leave are integrated into the latter.

### **OUTREACH, PARTNERSHIP & ACTIVITIES:**

 The Office of Human Resources and the AU Women Empowerment Council Celebrate Emirati Women's Day

On August 29, 2024, the Office of Human Resources and the AU Women Empowerment Council jointly celebrated Emirati Women's Day at Ajman University, honoring the leadership, achievements, and contributions of Emirati women through inspiring sessions titled "Her Story, Her Strength" and "Inspiring Journeys of AU Emirati Women." The event, graced by distinguished guests from the Emirates Business Women Council and AU community members, featured success stories from alumnae, faculty,

and students, highlighting the University's strong commitment to advancing women's empowerment, leadership, and professional growth. This initiative supports SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

- Female Hostel Activities The AU hostel regularly organized events and community engagement activities that promote the culture of social responsibility, voluntarism and learning around the UN SDGs.
- Empowering Women Through Nature: A
   Day of Exploration and Connection at Wadi
   Raafisa (Nov. 2024)

The Office of Student Housing, in collaboration with the Hostel Creative Team, organized an empowering trip for female residents from Sharjah to explore the hidden beauty of Wadi Raafisa. Surrounded by desert landscapes

















#### **GENDER EQUALITY**



and lush valleys, the day featured scenic drives, a peaceful hike, and moments of connection with nature. The activity supported Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3) by promoting physical fitness, stress relief, and mental wellness, while also advancing Life on Land (SDG 15) through appreciation of biodiversity and environmental conservation.

The trip was a perfect blend of exploration, communication, and teamwork, strengthening bonds among participants and inspiring them to discover more of the UAE's natural wonders. By encouraging environmental awareness, social connection, and empowerment, the experience contributed to a

deeper understanding of sustainability and collective well-being.

#### 2. World Diabetes Day Celebration at AU Female Dormitory (Nov. 2024)

The Office of Student Housing (Female Hostel), in collaboration with the Office of Medical Services and Thumbay University Hospital, celebrated World Diabetes Day under the theme "For a Better Life with Diabetes." The event aimed to raise awareness about diabetes, promote early detection, and strengthen the well-being of the AU community, aligning with SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being. Emphasizing "Empowering Global Health," it highlighted education, empowerment, and support for









individuals living with diabetes—encouraging female residents to adopt healthier lifestyles and engage in proactive health management in line with SDG 5: Gender Equality. Through knowledge sharing and open discussions, the event created a safe and inclusive space that promoted self-care, confidence, and community well-being.

Throughout November, participants benefited from comprehensive health assessments including blood pressure, oxygen saturation, BMI measurement, and blood sugar testing, along with personalized health counseling. These activities promoted preventive care and health education in support of SDG 4: Quality Education by enhancing understanding of diabetes management and overall wellness. The collaboration between the Student Housing Office, the Office of Medical Services, and Thumbay University Hospital reflected strong institutional cooperation, contributing to SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. The initiative strengthened health awareness, inclusivity, and well-being among AU's female community members, fostering a healthier and more empowered campus environment.

3. A Journey of Learning and Growth at the Sharjah International Book Fair (Nov. 2024)

Aligned with Ajman University's mission of promoting literacy, creativity, and intellectual

development, the Office of Student Housing organized an enriching educational visit to the Sharjah International Book Fair (SIBF). The initiative provided female residents with the opportunity to engage with diverse literary works, interact with renowned authors, and explore cultural exhibits that broaden their global perspective. By nurturing curiosity and analytical thinking, the visit supported the development of essential 21st-century skills such as creativity, critical thinking, and effective communication, directly contributing to SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 5: Gender Equality by empowering women through access to knowledge and cultural engagement.

The experience inspired creativity, fostered a passion for lifelong learning, and encouraged participants to become active contributors to society. By cultivating intellectual curiosity and intercultural understanding, the activity also reinforced SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities by promoting inclusive access to educational and cultural opportunities. Moreover, the collaboration between Ajman University and the Sharjah International Book Fair exemplified SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, showcasing how educational institutions and cultural organizations can work together to advance literacy, empowerment, and sustainable development.

















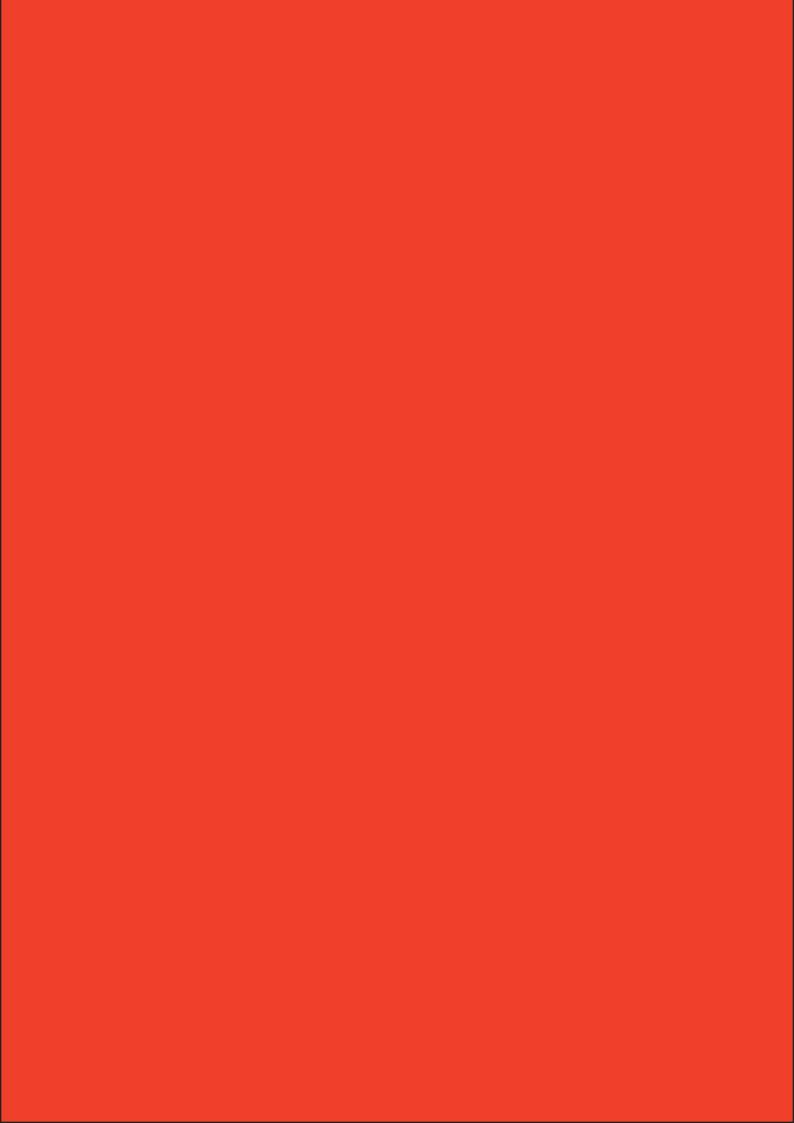
#### 4. Empowering Health & Fun: Female Hostel's Sports Games 2025

The Student Housing Office, in collaboration with the Office of Student Life and the Office of Medical Services, organized the Female Hostel's Sports Fun Games 2025 on February 12, 2025. The event aimed to promote physical activity, teamwork, and wellness among students through a series of fun and inclusive sports games open to all skill levels. Participants enjoyed engaging activities, received free BMI screenings and healthy refreshments, and were rewarded with prizes and appreciation tokens to encourage continued involvement in health and fitness. Through this collaborative initiative, the university reinforced its commitment to promoting a culture of well-being, inclusion, and student engagement. The event directly supported SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 5: Gender Equality, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

#### Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 5 (Gender Equality)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University worked with partner organizations to advance gender equality by empowering women, celebrating their achievements, and creating platforms for economic participation and leadership. These initiatives aligned with SDG 5 by fostering inclusive opportunities for female students, staff, and community members through training, exhibitions, and awareness events.

<b>Partner Organization</b>	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024	
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU Women's Empowerment Council to celebrate International Women's Day with panel discussions and recognition of Emirati women leaders (March 2024).</li> <li>Featured Major Dr. Fatima Al Shamsi as guest speaker in the opening session "Emirati Women Who Made a Difference."</li> <li>Supported by HR and the Community Service Unit, with 23 AU volunteers participating.</li> </ul>	
Ajman Business Wom- en Council	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU Women's Empowerment Council to organize the 4x1 Exhibition (22 Feb 2024), showcasing Emirati women's products and supporting home-based businesses.</li> </ul>	
AU Women's Empow- erment Council (Inter- nal & Partners)	<ul> <li>Organized initiatives with external partners to highlight women's roles in leadership, entrepreneurship, and community develop- ment Facilitated platforms for AU female students and gradu- ates to showcase projects and innovations.</li> </ul>	





Sustainable Development Goal Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.





AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 6, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these is the Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center (HSSRC), which aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally. HSSRC will provide a distinct climate of comprehensive research opportunities as well as an ability to attract high-quality scientific researchers partnerships and collaborations. In addition, AU has the Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health Sciences Research (CMBHSR), which research covers Medical and Bio-allied Health Sciences is contributing to the development of life-changing technologies with significant impact on individuals and communities.

#### **RESEARCH:**

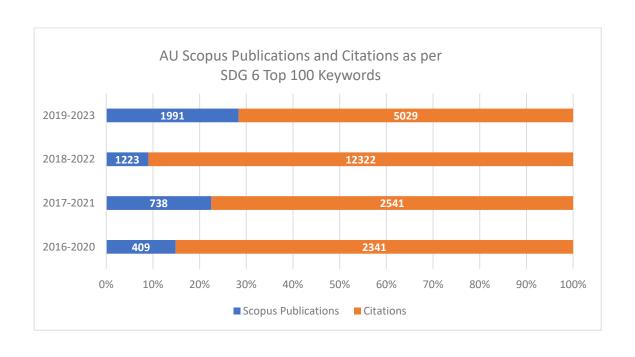
 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 6 is shown below:

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.



#### **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**

















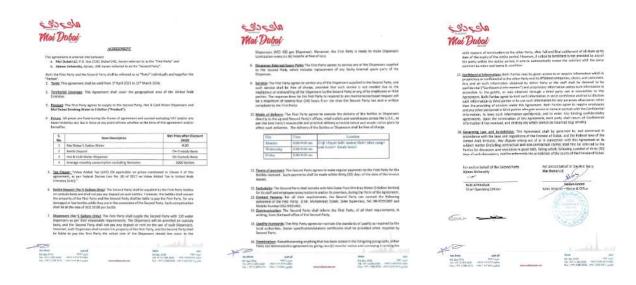
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 19 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation. These courses emphasize critical themes such as water quality, desalination, wastewater management and reuse, water pollution and control, water resources management, integrated water resources management, water treatment, groundwater and aquifer management, water supply and distribution systems, potable and drinking water quality, hygiene, environmental engineering, sustainable water resources, constructed wetlands, restoration, rehabilitation, and contamination control. Collectively, these courses highlight Ajman University's commitment to advancing sustainable water and sanitation solutions through research, innovation, and education that address both local and global water challenges.
- AU Climate Change Learning Program SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation Workshop
- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs Ajman University is committed to tackling climate change by offering comprehensive training courses that equip individuals and communities with the skills needed to drive positive change. In collaboration with Coursera, the United Nations Climate Change Learning Partnership, and the UN Institute for Training and Research, we provide diverse programs on essential topics like Climate Change, Sustainable Finance, Green and Circular Economy,

Gender Equality, Human Rights in Climate Action, Renewable Energy, E-waste and Food Waste Prevention, Human Health, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, empowering participants to make a sustainable impact.

- Sustainability Lifelong Learning Ajman University prioritizes sustainability education through mandatory programs for its community, covering topics such as climate change, water and resource conservation, sustainable business practices, energy efficiency, and biodiversity. The training aims to equip students, faculty, and staff with skills to promote a sustainable future, with optional courses available to the general public.
- Ajman University's Office of Sustainability
   Hosts Workshop on Clean Water and Sanitation (Feb. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation through a workshop organized by the Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with the Office of Student Housing, titled "Clean Water and Sanitation." Presented by Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager, the session highlighted the importance of access to safe water, proper sanitation, and sustainable water resource management. Participants explored practical solutions to water conservation and pollution prevention while deepening their understanding of the environmental and health impacts of responsible water use.

The workshop also strengthened awareness of interlinked global challenges, connecting SDG 6 with SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 4: Quality Education, and SDG 13: Climate Action. Through interactive discussions and



engaging activities, the event fostered a culture of sustainability on campus—empowering students to apply sustainable water and sanitation practices in their daily lives and future professional fields.

#### **OPERATION:**

- AU strongly aligns with the principles of SDG 6, focusing on water-related challenges and sustainability (Key initiatives).
- Ajman University Agreement with Mai Dubai

   This agreement ensures that the AU campus
   is adequately supplied with drinking water
   through hot & cold dispensers, delivered in a
   timely manner.
- Water Conservation AU is conserving and repurposing water to keep the campus clean as well as green. AU has sewage treatment plant, reverse osmosis plant and uses sink sensors.



#### o Reverse Osmosis Plant

The Reverse Osmosis Plant at Ajman University is supplied by salted water from an aquifer on which the university is located. The plant is used to supply purified non-drinking water to campus buildings. The plant has a daily production capacity up to 35,000 gallons. There is a single treatment line with a total of 30 membranes.

#### Sewage Treatment Plant

A sewage treatment plant has been set up on campus to treat and recycle sewage waste and used water from the toilets and bathrooms. Treated water is used to maintain and irrigate the campus 40,000-square-meter outdoor green areas. AU's sewage treatment plant complies with the Pollution Control Board and has a daily production capacity of 25,000 gallons.

#### o Drip Irrigation System

AU's campus boasts a state-of-the-art drip irrigation system, delivering a host of benefits to the landscape. This custom irrigation solution prioritizes water efficiency, which ensures minimal water wastage, offering environmental and financial advantages.

In addition to its remarkable water-saving capabilities, the drip irrigation system is known for its user-friendliness and cost-effectiveness. It is not only easy to install but also budget-friendly. Furthermore, it greatly enhances the health of the campus's greenery, particularly in cases where plants

#### **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**



are susceptible to diseases due to excessive moisture above their root systems. Ajman University's adoption of this drip irrigation system embodies its commitment to sustainable practices, as highlighted in SDG 12, which advocates for responsible consumption and production. By minimizing water wastage and maximizing efficiency, the university actively participates in environmental sustainability. This system stands as a testament to Ajman University's proactive stance on efficient resource management and its dedication to creating a more eco-conscious and environmentally friendly campus.

#### o Sink Sensors

All washrooms inside the new student community center have been built with sinks that only dispense water when activated by hand sensors.

#### **Water Sanitation**

AU ensures regular cleaning and disinfection of water storage tank, and as well as the swimming pool to ensure the health and safety of the AU internal and external community.



#### Water Tank Cleaning Report - Excerpts





Certification



#### **Sample Cleaning Reports**



B Emirates





2 Emirates







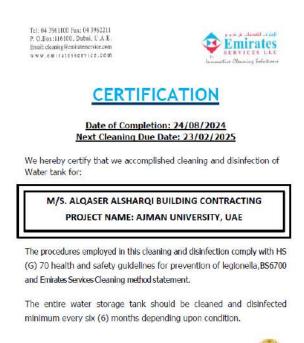


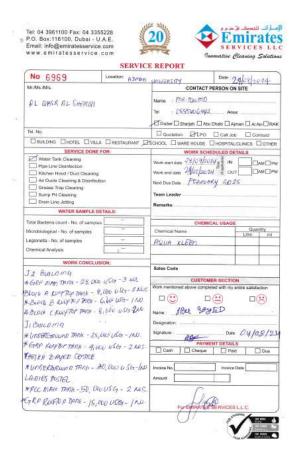
3 Emirates





#### **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**





#### **Water Tank Microbiological and Legionella Reports**

بلدية دبي

All water tank test results complied with the standard limits set by the Dubai Municipality Public Health and Safety Department, following the Technical Guidelines for Legionella Control in Water Systems (V2-DM-HSD-GU44-LCWS2) and GSO 149:2021 – GCC Standardization Organization: Unbottled Drinking Water. The results confirm that the water quality meets all microbiological and Legionella safety requirements, with parameters tested and accredited by EIAC in accordance with ISO/IEC 17025:2017. These findings demonstrate Ajman University's commitment to maintaining safe and sustainable water systems in line with UN SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, ensuring access to clean, hygienic, and well-monitored water across campus facilities.



Signed

**Emirates Services LLC** 







#### **Swimming Pool**

Summary (Scope of Work – Swimming Pool Maintenance)

The swimming pool maintenance contract ensures consistent monitoring and management of water quality to maintain hygiene, safety, and sustainability standards in alignment with UN SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). The scope of work includes regular testing and adjustment of

pH and chlorine levels, supply and application of necessary treatment chemicals, inspection and backwashing of filtration systems, and cleaning of pool surfaces and debris. Routine microbiological and Legionella tests are conducted throughout the year to ensure compliance with public health standards. These activities collectively safeguard water quality, promote responsible chemical use, and uphold environmental and sanitation objectives.

#### **Swimming Pool Maintenance Contract**



#### **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**

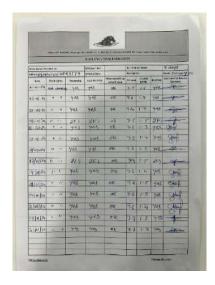
#### **Swimming Pool Sanitation Contract**

#### **Summary (Scope of Work – Swimming Pool Sanitation Contract)**

The Swimming Pool Sanitation Contract ensures consistent maintenance of water quality and hygiene in alignment with UN SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). The scope includes regular monitoring and adjustment of pH and chlorine levels, proper application of sanitation chemicals, inspection of pumps and filtration systems, and thorough cleaning of pool surfaces and surrounding areas. To maintain public health standards, the contract mandates Legionella testing four times a year, microbiological testing six times a year, and comprehensive water quality testing twenty-four times a year. These measures collectively ensure the pool remains safe, hygienic, and environmentally compliant through sustainable sanitation practices.



#### **Swimming Pool Water - Sample Maintenance Logs**







#### **Swimming Pool - Sample Water Analyses Reports**

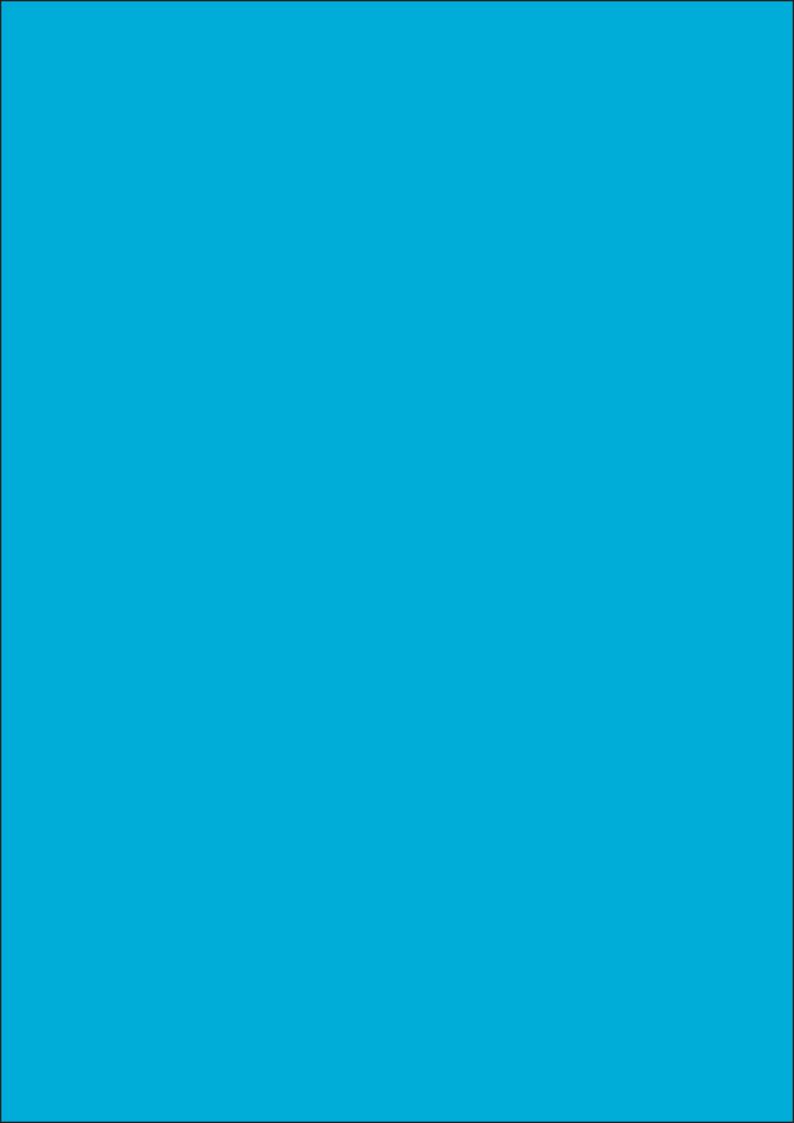


#### Microbiological and Legionella Reports

All swimming pool water test results complied with the standard limits established by the Dubai Municipality Public Health and Safety Department, in accordance with the Guidelines for Swimming Pool Safety (DM-PH & SD-P7-TG01). The findings confirm that the water quality meets all microbiological and Legionella safety requirements, demonstrating Ajman University's commitment to UN SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation. The following reports provide comprehensive evidence of compliance.

#### **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**







Sustainable Development Goal Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

## AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 7, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes.

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these, the <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Center (HSBERC)</u>, <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center (HSSRC)</u> and <u>Digital Transformation Research Center (DTRC)</u>. These research centers focussed on the areas associated with sustainable and healthy building plan, design and construction; addressing societal issues in the UAE and important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally; and in the areas of digital transformation, respectively.

#### **RESEARCH:**

 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 7

Ajman University Students Secure Second Place in the Undergraduate Research and Innovation Competition (Jun. 2024)

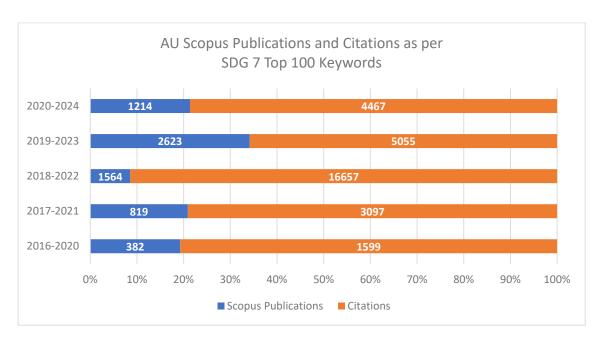
Ajman University contributed to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through its students'

achievement at the 11th Undergraduate Research and Innovation Competition held at Abu Dhabi University. The Electrical Engineering team—Bayan Alradi, Farah Thugan, Rand Agha, Bashayer Al-Maamari, and Ahmed Hegazi—secured second place for their innovative project, "Enhanced Metal Semiconductor Metal UV Light Photodetector Based on ZnSe Thin Film by LACBG," under the supervision of Dr. Samer Zyoud. The project focused on developing an energy-efficient photodetector capable of enhancing light sensitivity while minimizing power consumption, contributing to the advancement of sustainable and clean energy technologies.

This success highlights Ajman University's commitment to promoting renewable energy innovation, technological efficiency, and sustainable engineering solutions through research-driven learning. It also supports related UN goals, including SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 13: Climate Action, by empowering students to create impactful solutions for a cleaner and more energy-efficient future.

 <u>Dr. Muna Salameh Earns Recognition for</u> Research Excellence by Taylor & Francis

Ajman University contributed to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through the research excellence of Dr. Muna Salameh,



#### AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



who was recognized by Taylor & Francis with a Certificate of Appreciation for her outstanding contributions to innovation and sustainable design research. Her Q1 A\* Scopus-indexed publications provide valuable insights into energy-efficient architecture, sustainable urban design, and the integration of green technologies in the built environment.

As a distinguished author, Dr. Salameh was invited to participate in a Taylor & Francis seminar and standalone event, engaging with global experts on how technological innovation shapes the future of academic research. Her achievements exemplify Ajman University's commitment to advancing clean energy innovation, sustainable development, and research excellence that drive real-world impact aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



#### **INNOVATION:**

 Ajman University Student Showcases Groundbreaking Air Quality Improvement Project at COP29 (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through an innovative student project showcased at COP29. Undergraduate Doaa Al Alimi, together with Shaima Hussein and Bibi Hashimi, presented the award-winning Electric Green Pot—an energy-efficient solution designed to purify air, capture carbon, and promote plant growth through sustainable technology. The project emphasizes clean and efficient energy use in addressing air pollution and agricultural sustainability challenges.

Supported by the Office of Sustainability and mentored by ICARDA, the initiative reflects Ajman University's commitment to fostering clean-energy innovation and climate-smart solutions. It also contributes to multiple related goals, including SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, and SDG 13: Climate Action.

 Ajman University Students Excel at Pathway to Net-Zero Competition by BEEAH (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 13: Climate Action and SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through the Pathway to Net Zero: Innovating for a Sustainable Future competition, organized in collaboration with the BEEAH Group. The initiative engaged students from the College of Business Administration in developing practical, energy-efficient, and sustainable solutions to reduce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, directly supporting global net-zero goals. Among 20 participating teams, three Ajman University teams won the top prizes for projects that enhanced air-conditioning efficiency (SDG 7, SDG 9), designed artificial trees to absorb carbon emissions (SDG 13, SDG 11), and utilized algae to purify air in high-density spaces (SDG 11, SDG 15).

By applying design thinking principles and aligning their work with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, students strengthened their competencies in innovation (SDG 9), responsible production (SDG 12), and climate resilience (SDG 13). The competition exemplifies Ajman University's com-

## Ajman University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report



mitment to empowering students to become sustainability innovators who drive impactful solutions for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

 The Office of Sustainability Launches Air Quality Monitoring System in Collaboration with Al Athaab and Aeron Systems (Jan. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through the launch of an Air Quality Monitoring System by the Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Al Athaab Environment and Safety Solutions LLC and Aeron Systems. The system integrates energy-efficient and smart sensor technologies to continuously monitor air pollutants such as carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and ozone, ensuring the campus environment meets local and international air-quality standards. This sustainable innovation reflects the university's commitment to applying clean-energy solutions for environmental management and improved community well-being.

The initiative also supports SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 13: Climate Action by leveraging renewable technologies and da-

PILOT PROJECT
AQM & DATA ANALYTICS

ta-driven systems to promote healthier, more sustainable learning environments. Through such projects, Ajman University continues to demonstrate leadership in advancing clean-energy innovation and environmental stewardship.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's <u>38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 10 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy. These courses emphasize critical themes such as renewable energy, solar and wind power, hydropower, biomass, hydrogen energy, smart grids, microgrids, and power systems. They also explore topics including energy efficiency, wireless and smart technologies, battery storage, turbines, diodes, and sustainable energy management. Collectively, these courses highlight Ajman

#### AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

University's commitment to advancing clean and renewable energy solutions through research, innovation, and education that contribute to global energy transition and climate resilience.

#### • AU Climate Change Learning Program

Training Courses - An example related to SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) within the Climate Change Training Courses at Ajman University is the inclusion of courses focused on Renewable Energy. These courses cover topics such as solar, wind, and hydro energy, teaching participants about the technologies behind clean energy production, the benefits of shifting to renewable sources, and strategies for integrating renewable energy into existing infrastructure.

By equipping participants with practical knowledge and skills in renewable energy, the courses promote energy efficiency and support the transition towards affordable and sustainable energy solutions. This aligns with SDG 7's goals of increasing the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix and ensuring access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services for all.

- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs
- Students and Staff of Ajman University Visit GITEX Dubai 2024 to Explore the Latest Tech-

nological Innovations in Sustainability (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 13: Climate Action through a visit organized by the Office of Sustainability to GITEX Dubai 2024. The event provided students and staff with firsthand exposure to cutting-edge technological innovations in sustainability, including green data centers powered by renewable energy, Al-driven energy management systems, smart grids with storage solutions, and IoT-based environmental monitoring technologies. These innovations showcased how digital transformation can drive energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and enhance environmental resource management, directly contributing to the UAE's green economy agenda.

Participants attended specialized sessions and workshops on clean technologies, carbon capture systems, and intelligent solutions for air and water quality management, fostering knowledge exchange and environmental literacy. The visit strengthened AU's commitment to integrating technology, sustainability, and education to support multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 7 (Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consump-













tion and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

 Dr. Muna Salameh Speaks at Big 5 Global Expo's "Everything Architecture" Program



Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through the participation of Dr. Muna Salameh in the "Everything Architecture" program at the Big 5 Global Expo held at the Dubai World Trade Centre. Her presentation, titled "Designing for the Needs of Modern Society: Climate Resiliency, Sustainability, and Mobility," emphasized the integration of energy-efficient design, climate-resilient infrastructure, and sustainable mobility solutions in shaping future urban environments.

Dr. Salameh's session addressed the transformation of architectural practices to reduce energy consumption, promote the use of renewable materials, and adapt existing structures to meet evolving sustainability goals. Her contribution underscores Ajman University's commitment to advancing clean-energy innovation, sustainable urban design, and cli-

mate-responsive architecture that align with global sustainable development priorities.

<u>First-Year Architecture Students Showcase</u>
 <u>Exceptional Projects at the "From Point to</u>
 Sustainable Pavilion" Exhibition

Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through the "From Point to Sustainable Pavilion" exhibition organized by the College of Architecture, Art, and Design. Guided by Dr. Muna Salameh, with support from Ayat and Eng. Omar, first-year architecture students showcased innovative pavilion designs emphasizing eco-friendly materials, energy efficiency, and sustainable construction practices.

The exhibition, attended by Arch. Lana from the Emirates Green Building Council (EGBC) and AU alumna Farah, reflected the University's commitment to integrating sustainability into architectural education. By encouraging creative solutions that reduce environmental impact and promote renewable design approaches, Ajman University continues to nurture future architects who contribute to clean energy transitions, sustainable urban development, and climate-resilient design aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The College of Architecture, Art and Design
 Hosts Third Engineering Forum on Sustainable
 Mosque Architecture

Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through the Third



#### AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Engineering Forum on "Towards the Future of Sustainable Mosque Architecture," hosted by the College of Architecture, Art, and Design in collaboration with the Society of Engineering UAE and Al Turath Al Omrani Engineering Consultants. The forum explored sustainable mosque design principles, examining energy-efficient technologies, renewable energy integration, and environmentally responsive construction methods through local and international case studies.

The event provided a platform for architects, engineers, and sustainability experts to exchange insights on green building design, climate-resilient architecture, and smart energy solutions, reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to fostering innovation in the built environment. By promoting research and dialogue on sustainable urban development, the University contributes to achieving SDG 7, SDG 9, SDG 11, and SDG 13: Climate Action

D. Structure of the str

through education, collaboration, and applied architectural practice.

#### • The Architecture Department Hosts Presentation on Al Rendering

Ajman University contributed to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through a presentation organized by the Department of Architecture titled "Revolutionizing Architectural Visualization with D5 Render & AI." Delivered by Mr. Mohammed Mahmood, Design Manager at Khatib & Alami, and hosted by Mr. Firas Noori and Dr. Raghad Mourad, the session explored how artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced rendering technologies are transforming architectural design and visualization processes.

The event showcased innovative applications of Al-driven visualization tools that support energy-efficient and sustainable architectural design, enabling architects to optimize material use, lighting, and environmental performance. By integrating cutting-edge technology into architectural education and practice, Ajman University continues to promote innovation, digital transformation, and sustainable design thinking aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

#### Ajman University Hosts Session on Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future (Jun. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 13: Climate Action and SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through its session titled "Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future," hosted by the College of Business Administration in collaboration with BEEAH Education, IEMS Academy, Middle East. Led by Ms. Almas Muhammad Shafiq, the session explored the impact of greenhouse gas emissions, innovative pathways to achieve net-zero targets, and the vital role of youth engagement in advancing sustainability goals.

The event strengthened environmental literacy and inspired students to develop practical, clean-energy-driven solutions for reducing carbon emissions. It also contributed to broader sustainability objectives, including SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, reflecting Ajman University's commitment to



fostering a culture of climate awareness, innovation, and environmental responsibility.

#### **OPERATION:**

#### 1- <u>Summary of Ajman University's Solar</u> <u>Decathlon Initiative</u>

Ajman University demonstrates a strong commitment to renewable energy and community engagement through its on-campus solar panels, which serve as both an energy source and an educational tool for the community. This initiative builds upon the success of the "AquaGreen" team, who participated in the 2018 Solar Decathlon in Dubai, emphasizing the themes of inspiration and education in sustainability. This effort aligns with SDG 4: Quality Education by promoting sustainable practices and raising awareness among students and the broader community.

The AU Solar Decathlon serves as a global platform for sustainable design, focusing on creating solar-powered, zero-CO2 emission smart houses. The project involved constructing an energy-efficient solar home designed for the local environment, particularly addressing the UAE's challenge of high air conditioning energy consumption. By utilizing regional materials and technology, the initiative achieved a remarkable 40-60% reduction in cooling energy usage for cement homes, showcasing technical expertise and providing practical solutions tailored to the region's needs. This aligns with SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy by providing clean energy solutions and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Through the implementation of solar panels and the Solar Decathlon project, Ajman University not only exemplifies its commitment to sustainability but also promotes environmental awareness and innovation in sustainable energy practices. This effort is open to students, scholars, and the public, further reinforcing the university's role as a leader in sustainable initiatives. Additionally, the initiative supports SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by focusing on eco-friendly construction and sustainable practices, as well as SDG 13: Climate Action by addressing climate change through energy efficiency and carbon emissions reduction.

Ajman University's solar initiative and participation in the Solar Decathlon not only reflect a commitment to sustainability but also serve as a model for integrating renewable energy solutions into educational frameworks and community engagement.



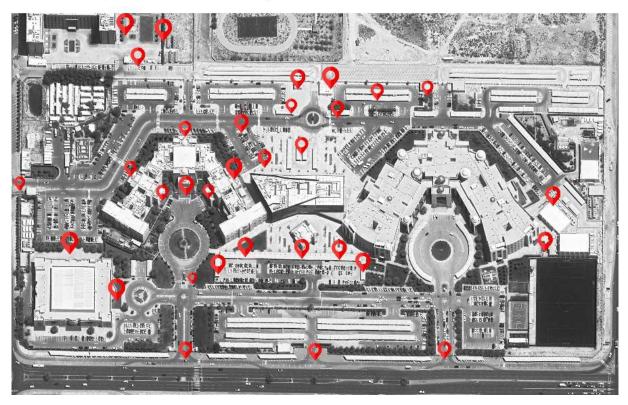






#### AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY





#### 2- AU Campus Solar Powered Lighting

Ajman University has transitioned its entire parking area to solar-powered lighting as part of its AU Climate and Sustainability Strategy, aligning with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This initiative supports SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) by promoting the use of renewable energy, SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by enhancing campus safety and reducing environmental impact, and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by lowering carbon emissions and decreasing reliance on non-renewable energy sources. It also aligns with SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by utilizing innovative solar technology for sustainable development, and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by reducing electricity consumption and improving operational efficiency.

This move not only decreases the university's carbon footprint but also demonstrates a commitment to renewable energy solutions and optimizing energy consumption. It serves as a model for sustainable campus development and sets an example for other educational institutions in the region. The project delivers multiple benefits, including lower electricity costs, enhanced safety, a stronger reputation

as a sustainability leader, and a contribution to a healthier environment. Ajman University's solar-powered lighting initiative embodies its forward-thinking approach and dedication to a sustainable future for students and the community.

#### 3- Energy Conservation Initiatives at Ajman University

Ajman University (AU) is committed to reducing energy consumption through various initiatives aimed at raising awareness and promoting best practices within the campus community. Efforts include educating stakeholders on the importance of conserving energy and water, adjusting expectations regarding building temperatures and lighting, and implementing energy and water conservation strategies. AU invests in energy-efficient technologies, constructs sustainable buildings, replaces conventional lighting with LED bulbs, and installs building management systems to enhance energy efficiency.

To further support these initiatives, AU's Energy Conservation Policy encourages all campus members to actively participate in reducing energy use. Actions include turning off unnecessary lights and equipment, utilizing power management settings, unplugging chargers,

- and adjusting thermostats appropriately. Facilities and dining staff are also instructed to minimize energy use by turning off equipment when not needed and operating on a "just in time" basis. Together, these measures contribute to AU's sustainable campus goals and commitment to environmental responsibility.
- **4- Energy Efficient Building** As part of AU's sustainability initiative, new buildings are designed to utilize natural lighting, reducing carbon footprints and improving energy efficiency.
- 5- <u>Digitalization</u> AU has adopted digitalization since 2018 to improve the quality of business operations, to reduce cost and to reduce its carbon footprint.
- 6- Energy and Water Utilization Efficiency AU promotes efficiency in the utilization of energy and water. AU has installed the building management system (BMS) in its new buildings and its effort to install the same system to the old buildings is ongoing.

#### **Student Hub Building**



#### **Student Hostel**





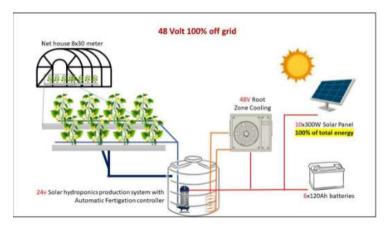
#### AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

#### **OUTREACH, PARTNERSHIP & ACTIVITIES:**

 Ajman University's Solar-Powered Hydroponic Net House: Advancing Sustainable Agriculture and Innovation in the UAE

Ajman University, in partnership with the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), has an ongoing Solar-Powered Hydroponic Net project-House, advancing sustainable agriculture in the UAE and aligning with several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The project promotes SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) by increasing food security through sustainable farming techniques that boost crop productivity during dry months. It supports SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) by using solar panels to provide clean, renewable energy for agricultural activities, while the smart irrigation system addresses SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) by optimizing water use and minimizing waste.

Serving as a research hub and community engagement platform, the Solar-Powered Hydroponic Net House allows volunteers to



participate in sustainable farming practices and supports the development of drought-resistant crops. This project exemplifies Ajman University's dedication to sustainable development, technological innovation, and creating a more resilient future for the UAE.

 Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi Participates in Celebration of World Engineering Day in Lisbon

Ajman University advanced SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 13: Climate



### Ajman University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report



Action through the participation of Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services and Professor at the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, in the World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development celebrations organized by the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) in Lisbon. Themed "Engineering Solutions for a Sustainable World," the conference focused on energy transition, clean technologies, and sustainability innovation, highlighting engineering's critical role in tackling global climate challenges.

As a WFEO Executive Council member representing the Middle East and North Africa, Dr. Al Qassimi contributed to high-level dis-

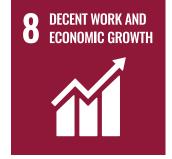
cussions on renewable energy systems, sustainable infrastructure, and environmentally responsible engineering. Her engagement reinforced Ajman University's commitment to promoting sustainable engineering education and knowledge exchange aligned with SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 7, SDG 9, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, and SDG 13, fostering innovation and academic collaboration toward a more resilient and sustainable future.

#### Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 7

#### • (Affordable and Clean Energy)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University collaborated with government and cultural organizations to raise awareness about sustainability, energy efficiency, and climate change. Through academic courses, workshops, and community outreach, AU students engaged in initiatives that promote renewable energy, resource conservation, and the responsible use of natural resources. These partnerships contribute to SDG 7 by fostering knowledge, practices, and innovation toward affordable and clean energy solutions.

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Municipality & Planning Department – Ajman	<ul> <li>In collaboration with the Community Engagement Office, AU Law students distributed 50 Ghaf trees at Flag Park (31 Oct 2023) as part of the <i>Environment Protection Law</i> course.</li> <li>Students educated visitors on COP28, climate change, and the impact of greenhouse gas emissions, linking the importance of planting to environmental sustainability and clean energy transitions.</li> </ul>
City Space Architecture (with Ajman Municipality & Italian Cultural Institute)	<ul> <li>Organized the <i>Visual Architecture Workshop</i> with AU to train students in visual storytelling of urban environments.</li> <li>Themes connected to sustainable cities, environmental awareness, and responsible energy/resource use.</li> </ul>



Sustainable Development Goal Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

# DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 8, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

The aim of AU Research Centers is to provide real world solutions and educational training in new emerging fields that would contribute to new developments in these fields and creation of new talent. The AU Research Centers act as a vital link to other regional/international centers, apart from providing unique training opportunities for next-gen researchers and serving as a valuable information source for the community at large. The following six state-of-the-art research centers covers key areas of national and international strategic importance:

- 1. <u>Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health</u> Sciences Research (CMBHSR)
- 2. Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC)
- 3. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> <u>Research Center (HSBERC)</u>
- 4. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)

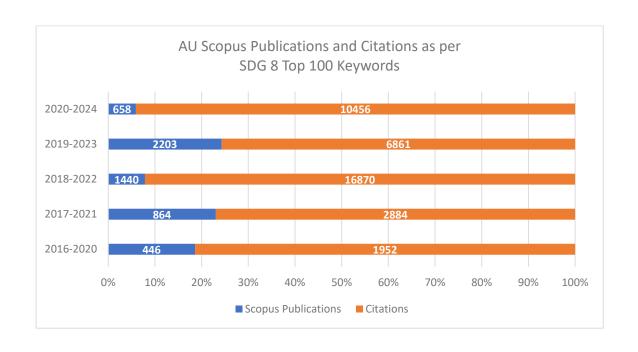
- 5. Nonlinear Dynamics Research Center (NDRC)
- 6. <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research</u> <u>Center (HSSRC)</u>

#### **RESEARCH:**

 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 8 is shown below:

#### **INNOVATION:**

- The Ajman University Innovation Center (AUIC) has helped build startups, provide mentorship and obtained support from its partners to its innovation projects. The activities of AUIC contributes to poverty reduction and promotes economic opportunities for the poor. AUIC, since its inception in 2016 has launched 133 startups. In AY 2023-24 AUIC has achieved the following:
  - 50 mentoring hours delivered
  - 12 workshops held, attended by 200 students, faculty, and staff
  - Incubated 44 startups, with 2 spin-offs valued at USD 30,000
  - Secured USD 50,000 in soft funding commitments
  - Awarded AED 25,000 in competition prizes



#### **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**



<u>Data Analytics Student at Ajman University</u>
 <u>Pioneers Al Solution to Revolutionize Job</u>
 <u>Search (December 2024)</u>

AU's Data Analytics student Maryam Hesham is making waves in the tech world through her ground-breaking contributions to the 'Ajman Job Connect' project, developed during her internship at the Department of Digital Ajman (DDA). This experiential learning opportunity demonstrates AU's commitment to SDG 4 (Quality Education) by integrating classroom knowledge with real-world application, while also advancing SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through innovative solutions that improve job matching and expand employment opportunities. At the recent GITEX Dubai exhibition, Maryam represented the Ajman Government Pavilion under the theme 'Ajman Data Community: Made by Students,' presenting her project to an audience of global technology leaders and innovators.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements

of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's <u>38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 58 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. These courses emphasize critical themes such as labor markets, employment, productivity, and sustainable economic development, while exploring broader topics including microeconomics, labor relations, occupational health and safety, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. They also examine the environmental and regional impacts of economic growth, as well as key concepts in finance, capital formation, and strategies to reduce unemployment. Collectively, these courses highlight Ajman University's commitment to fostering inclusive. sustainable, and innovation-driven economic growth through education, research, and capacity-building that empower individuals and communities to contribute meaningfully to the global economy.



#### Ajman University Accounting Graduates Gain Global Edge with Eight ACCA Exam Exemptions (Sep. 2024)

Ajman University's Bachelor of Science in Accounting program has earned international academic accreditation from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), positioning AU graduates for global career success. With this recognition, AU accounting graduates are now eligible for exemptions from eight out of nine ACCA exams, significantly accelerating their path toward becoming chartered accountants. This milestone reflects AU's strategic commitment to equipping students with internationally recognized qualifications that enhance employability and competitiveness in the global market. It also underscores the University's ongoing pursuit of excellence through internationally accredited programs and professional partnerships. This achievement supports UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by fostering skilled professionals ready for the global workforce, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by aligning curricula with international standards, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening collaboration with global professional accreditation bodies.

#### University-Wide Graduation Rate - Cohorts Analysis

Across all undergraduate programs, Ajman University's five-year trend (Fall 2014–Fall 2018 cohorts) shows steady improvement in student completion rates within 1.5 times the standard program length, increasing from 71.3% (Fall 2014) to 78.8% (Fall 2018).

This upward trend reflects the University's continued efforts to enhance academic support, advising, and student engagement strategies that contribute to improved graduation outcomes.

Cohort	<b>Graduation Rate (%)</b>
Fall 2014	71.3%
Fall 2015	74.0%
Fall 2016	71.5%
Fall 2017	75.6%
Fall 2018	78.8%

Source: AU Factbook AY 2023-2024

#### • Employment Rate:

#### Graduate Destinations Survey – Analysis of Cohorts 2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24

The Graduate Destinations Survey (GDS), conducted by the Ministry of Education – Higher Education Affairs, tracks graduates' employment and further study outcomes nine months after graduation. Data from the 2021/22 to 2023/24 cohorts (excluding BDS and MBBS programs) were analyzed based on surveys administered between Q4 2022 and Q1 2025.

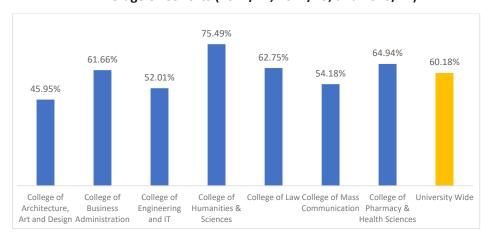
#### **Key Findings:**

Total graduates surveyed: **2,403** 

Overall employment rate: 60.18%

These results represent the average employment outcomes across all colleges within nine months of graduation, reflecting Ajman University's ongoing efforts to enhance graduate employability and labor market alignment.

Graduate Employment Rate (within 9 months of graduation) College Breakdown Average of Cohorts (2021/22, 2022/23, and 2023/24)



#### **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**









 The Aviation Club at Ajman University Visits the Aviation Academy in Dubai (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth through an educational visit organized by the Aviation Club to the Aviation Academy at Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai. The activity introduced students from various majors to the aviation industry, promoting SDG 4: Quality Education by providing experiential learning opportunities that bridge academic knowledge with real-world practice. Guided by Pilot Rizwan, Head of Airways Aviation Academy, students explored aviation operations, systems, and safety procedures, gaining practical insights into workforce demands and career pathways in the aviation sector. The visit also supported SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure by exposing students to advanced aviation technologies and operational standards. Overall, the initiative enhanced students' career readiness, technical awareness, and professional growth, reflecting Ajman University's commitment to equipping learners with the skills and competencies needed for a dynamic and sustainable global economy.

Scientific Forum at the College of Mass
Communication Explores the Future of
Media (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure through the Scientific Forum organized by the College of Mass Communication under the theme "The Future of Media Between Theory and Practice: Student Perspectives." The forum provided a platform for undergraduate students to present innovative proposals for developing media content grounded in research, creativity, and technology. Guided by Prof. Maha Abdel Majeed, students explored strategies for creating engaging digital content, enhancing professional training, and analyzing global media trends, bridging the gap between academic theory and practical application. The event strengthened students' research, critical thinking, and communication skills, promoting innovation in media education and preparing graduates for success in the evolving digital economy, in alignment with Ajman University's commitment to advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals.































<u>Exploring Experimental Research at the</u>
 College of Mass Communication (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure through a seminar titled "Exploring Experimental Research," hosted by the College of Mass Communication and presented by Prof. Sang Lee, Professor and Master's Program Coordinator. Organized by the College's Research Committee, the seminar focused on enhancing research quality by addressing key challenges in participant recruitment, data analysis, and online research methodologies. Prof. Lee provided practical guidance on aligning experimental studies with journal standards and improving research design for successful publication. The event strengthened the College's commitment to fostering academic excellence, innovation, and research capacity-building, supporting Ajman University's broader mission of advancing sustainable development through education and knowledge creation.

 Ajman University Introduces Cutting-Edge Generative AI Courses to Boost Student Employability (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure through the launch of cutting-edge Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) courses offered via the Coursera platform. This university-wide initiative provides all AU students with free access to specialized courses in machine learning, AI ethics, data analytics, marketing, and auto-

mation, empowering them with future-ready digital skills demanded by global industries. Spearheaded under the leadership of Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor, and Dr. Khaled Assaleh, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, the initiative aligns with Ajman University's mission to enhance student employability, innovation capacity, and technological proficiency. By integrating Al education into academic programs, AU prepares graduates to lead in Al-driven economies, fostering sustainable growth and innovation aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

 Academic cooperation between the College of Mass Communication and the College of Humanities and Sciences (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through a collaborative academic initiative between the College of Mass Communication and the College of Humanities and Sciences. As part of this cooperation, Dr. Amal Badr, Associate Professor at the College of Mass Communication, delivered a lecture titled "Effective Communication in the Workplace" for students enrolled in the Industrial Psychology course under the supervision of Dr. Dalia Bedawi. The session focused on developing professional communication competencies, including active listening, empathy, positive language, conflict resolution, and the effective use of technology to enhance workplace interaction. The lecture provided students with essential soft skills that strengthen employability, teamwork, and leadership, reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to fostering

#### **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**



collaborative learning, professional development, and workplace readiness aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

 The College of Mass Communication Hosts a Seminar on the Role of Influencer Marketing in Shaping Youth Purchasing Decisions in the UAE (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's College of Mass Communication hosted a seminar titled "The Impact of Social Media Influencer Marketing on Youth Purchase Intentions: A Case Study in the UAE," presented by Dr. Mervat Medhat, Associate Professor in the Graphic Design for Media program. The seminar explored how influencer-driven marketing affects youth purchasing behavior, highlighting varying levels of trust, engagement, and brand perception among young consumers. Dr. Medhat emphasized the growing role of social media as a vital tool for understanding and influencing youth decision-making, urging businesses to adopt innovative and interactive marketing approaches. The event reflects Ajman University's

commitment to advancing applied research and fostering industry-relevant insights that prepare students for evolving market trends. This initiative aligns with UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by promoting skills and knowledge related to emerging digital industries, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through research-driven learning, and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by encouraging innovation in media and communication practices.

 College of Mass Communication Students at Al-Sharg Channel (Oct. 2024)

Students from Ajman University's College of Mass Communication, majoring in Radio and Television Production, visited Al-Sharq Channel in Dubai Media City under the supervision of Dr. Alya Anter, Associate Professor at the College. The educational visit introduced students to the channel's operations, training opportunities, and state-of-the-art news production facilities. They engaged with the channel's chief director and studio











manager, observed live broadcast production between Saudi Arabia and the UAE, and gained hands-on insights into professional studio workflows. This experiential learning opportunity reinforces AU's commitment to bridging academic knowledge with real-world media industry practices, supporting UN SDG 4 (Quality Education) by enhancing practical learning, SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by preparing students for media-related careers, and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting innovation and technological understanding in the communication field.

#### **OPERATION:**

- <u>Career Services</u> AU alumnus/alumna who is looking to hire graduates from Ajman University or take interns can register as an employer in the career portal and post the opportunity.
- AU is dedicated to promoting the principles of SDG 8, which focuses on sustainable economic growth, productive employment, and decent work for all (AU initiatives and practices).
- Center for Continuing Education and Enterprises (CCEE) - is a leading provider of testing, training and professional development programs for individuals and corporate groups in UAE and the wider Gulf region.
- <u>Policies</u> AU has established policies that support UN SDG 8:

- Staff Members AU strictly comply with the U.A.E. Labor law and its amendments, and has an established Compensation Policy, and Non-Discrimination Policy. AU's Non-Discrimination Policy explicitly states that "Ajman University does not discriminate on the basis of nationality, sex, age, religious belief, race, color, or marital status.
- o Student Teaching and Administrative Assistants Policy This policy ensure that the process of recruiting Student Assistants for the administrative or teaching assistance is conducted in a manner that is consistent with the principles, standards and expectations of the University, appropriate to its educational mission and academic programs, and operates with necessary integrity, fairness, consistency, and effectiveness.
- Credit-bearing Micro-credentials Certification Policy This policy to promote lifelong learning and enhance students' skills by offering learning opportunities that are accessible to all types of learners including, but not limited to, people of determination, elderly, minorities, low-qualified/skilled workers, and geographically remote through a flexible and short-term approach that leads to upskilling and reskilling to meet the needs of everchanging employment markets.
- Career and Placement Services Policy This policy ensure that all our students will develop an understanding of how changing local and global trends impact the current

#### **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

and future world of work. The focus is on the deep exploration of the advancing job market, as well as each student's evolving entrepreneurial and/or career journey.

- Staff Recognition Program Policy The purpose of this policy is to recognize the extraordinary achievements and positive contributions of eligible full-time staff members at Ajman University.
- Lifelong Learning Access Policy This policy ensures that lifelong learning opportunities are provided without any discrimination and irrespective of ethnicity, religion, disability, immigration status, gender or other such considerations.



 Ajman University Partners with Studiosity to Enhance Students' Employability (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure through a strategic partnership with Studiosity, a global leader in online academic support services. This collaboration provides AU students with 24/7 access to personalized academic assistance, particularly in academic writing, research, and communication skills, empowering them to enhance their academic performance and employability. By integrating Studiosity into General Education writing courses, as well as thesis, graduation, and capstone projects, the initiative strengthens students' readiness for professional success by fostering critical thinking, digital literacy, and effective communication. This partnership reflects Aiman University's commitment to innovation in education and to



equipping graduates with the essential skills and confidence needed to thrive in a competitive, knowledge-based economy—aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Ajman University's Partnership with Advance
HE to Enhance Professional Growth Opportunities for Faculty Members (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University has partnered with Advance HE, a leading international learning service provider, to enhance professional growth opportunities for faculty members through access to professional development programs, accreditation pathways, and global networking platforms. This collaboration supports UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by investing in faculty capacity-building and career advancement, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by fostering teaching excellence and innovative pedagogical practices, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening global collaboration in higher education through knowledge exchange and shared professional standards.







 Ajman University Signs MoU with Greenpeace MENA to Launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award" (Sep. 2024)

Ajman University strengthened its contribution to SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Greenpeace Middle East and North Africa (Greenpeace MENA) to launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award." The initiative aims to promote sustainable development, environmental stewardship, and social equity by encouraging students and researchers to propose innovative models for a wellbeing-centered economy that balances prosperity with environmental and societal wellbeing.

The award focuses on reimagining economic systems to support sustainable energy transitions (SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy), alternative indicators to GDP, and inclusive approaches to national growth that align with the UAE's long-term sustainability vision. This collaboration reflects Ajman University's commitment to corporate social responsibility, research-driven innovation, and cross-sector partnerships that drive environmental and social transformation, contributing to multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals including SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Students' Participation in the 3rd Edition of the University Challenge 2024

Ajman University students participated in the 3rd Edition of the University Challenge 2024, held during the International Government Communication Forum at Sharjah Expo in partnership with the United Arab Emirates University, demonstrating AU's commitment to fostering innovation and employability among youth. Two student teams showcased forward-thinking projects designed to address societal needs and enhance governmentcommunity engagement. The College of Medicine team developed "Sihha 360," an Aland AR-powered healthcare communication platform that leverages real-time data, blockchain, and IoT for secure and dynamic health content, while the College of Engineering and IT team created "عونكم" (support) a platform that facilitates communication between people of determination and government entities, promoting inclusivity and accessibility. Through participation in this regional competition, AU empowers students with the skills, creativity, and practical experience needed to contribute to the innovation-driven economy, supporting UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), while also contributing to SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

#### **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**







Ajman University Faculty Member Visits
 Glasgow University to Boost Collaboration in
 Al-Enhanced Dental Radiology (Sep. 2024)

Ajman University strengthened its international research collaboration through a faculty visit by Dr. Alexander M. Luke from the College of Dentistry to the University of Glasgow, aimed at advancing joint initiatives in Al-enhanced dental radiology. The visit deepened academic and research cooperation between the two universities, focusing on developing next-generation diagnostic imaging technologies that integrate artificial intelligence to improve accuracy, efficiency, and early disease detection. Discussions also explored new projects, including the use of virtual reality applications in radiology. This collaboration exemplifies Ajman University's commitment to fostering innovation, research excellence, and global partnerships that advance medical technology and healthcare outcomes. The initiative supports UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by promoting research-driven innovation and professional expertise, SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) through advancements in diagnostic healthcare, SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) via technological development, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through sustained international collaboration.

 Masar Career Excellence Hosts a Workshop <u>Titled "Career Success with Masar"</u> (Sep. 2024)

Masar Career Excellence at Ajman University organized an introductory workshop titled "Career Success with Masar" to familiarize new students with the comprehensive services designed to enhance their employability and career readiness. Led by Mr. Mohammed Ismail, Manager of Masar Career Excellence, and Ms. Maryam Alsuwaidi, Career Services Officer, the session highlighted key offerings such as career counseling, CV writing support, training programs, and the use of the newly launched career portal. Students were also encouraged to participate in Masar's annual career fair, which connects them with industry professionals and potential employers. This initiative reflects Ajman University's commitment to preparing students for successful transitions into the workforce by providing essential tools, guidance, and professional development opportunities. The workshop directly supports UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by promoting youth employment and skill development, and contributes to SDG 4 (Quality Education) through career-focused learning experiences.







#### Strategic Industry Partnerships to Enhance Employability and Professional Growth

Ajman University has established and continues to expand a number of active partnerships with external organizations through MoUs and strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing the future employment competitiveness of AU graduates. These collaborations provide students and faculty with access to industry-recognized certifications, hands-on training, professional development programs, and internship opportunities that bridge academic learning with real-world applications. Collectively, these partnerships advance UN SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by strengthening employability and career readiness, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by integrating innovative and industry-relevant learning opportunities, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through sustained collaboration with global and regional industry leaders.

AWS Academy	AU is an authorized institution member of AWS Academy network to deliver AWS Courses.
Cisco Academy	AU delivers online CISCO courses for students for free.
SAP Dual Study Program	SAP delivers online courses to students on SAP latest products to enable them to pass the exam and be SAP certified.
Oracle Academy	This Agreement enable faculty and students to use Oracle latest technology through their online platform.
Direct Trading Tech- nologies	This Agreement provides students with latest skills in online trading stock markets and equip them with required skills to enter trading industry.
PwC Academy	These agreements enable AU Community to get 20% on PwC Courses and support students to be more industry conscious.
<u>Huawei</u>	Huawei offered 10 AU students who complete the Huawei ICT Academy Course, internship opportunities at their office. These students will be given the opportunity to join Huawei office and learn from their experts in technology.
<u>Fazaa Program</u>	This Program enabled AU community to be enrolled in their discount program in the UAE.
Dubai Gold & Com- modities Exchange	This MoU enables our students to intern and learn latest skills related to commodities exchange rules and regulation and trading.

# **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

#### • Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University partnered with banks, government entities, and business councils to enhance student employability, entrepreneurship, and economic participation. These collaborations provided internships, endowment funds, and platforms for showcasing innovation and women-led enterprises. Together, they contributed to SDG 8 by fostering inclusive economic opportunities, supporting youth employment, and encouraging sustainable growth.

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Department of Economic Development – Ajman	<ul> <li>Participated in AU Innovation Center Demo Day (14 Feb 2023).</li> <li>Engaged in a Startup License Program follow-up meeting (5 Aug 2023).</li> <li>Hosted at least one College of Business student internship each semester.</li> </ul>
Ajman Bank	<ul> <li>Secured AED 600K for the Ajman Bank Scholarship Endowment.</li> <li>Hosted 1–2 College of Business students for internships in AY 2023–2024.</li> </ul>
Ajman Free Zone	<ul> <li>Provided student discounts (1 student at 20% in Fall 2023).</li> <li>Requested AU graduate CVs for trainee roles in Digital Marketing, PR &amp; Communications, and Graphic Design.</li> </ul>
Department of Land & Real Estate Regulation – Ajman	<ul> <li>Hosted at least one College of Business student internship each semester.</li> <li>Provided internships and public engagement opportunities for College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design students.</li> </ul>
Ajman Chamber	<ul> <li>Provided student discounts (1 student at 20% in Fall &amp; Spring 2023–2024).</li> <li>Hosted at least one College of Business student internship each semester.</li> <li>Collaborated in activities promoting social responsibility and environmental awareness, including Career Day and World Social Work Day.</li> </ul>
Talal Abu Ghazalah Group	<ul> <li>Hosted at least one College of Business student internship each semester, ensuring consistent experiential learning opportunities.</li> </ul>
Ajman Business Women Council	<ul> <li>Co-organized the 4x1 Exhibition (22 Feb 2024) with AU Women's Empowerment Council, supporting Emirati women entrepreneurs and home-based projects.</li> <li>Workshops with the College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design and College of Humanities to celebrate International Women's Day and Emirati Women's Day.</li> <li>Directly aligned with SDG 5 and SDG 8 by empowering women and promoting economic growth.</li> </ul>





Sustainable Development Goal Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.





AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 9, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

The aim of AU Research Centers is to provide real world solutions and educational training in new emerging fields that would contribute to new developments in these fields and creation of new talent. The AU Research Centers act as a vital link to other regional/international centers, apart from providing unique training opportunities for next-gen researchers and serving as a valuable information source for the community at large. The following six state-of-the-art research centers covers key areas of national and international strategic importance:

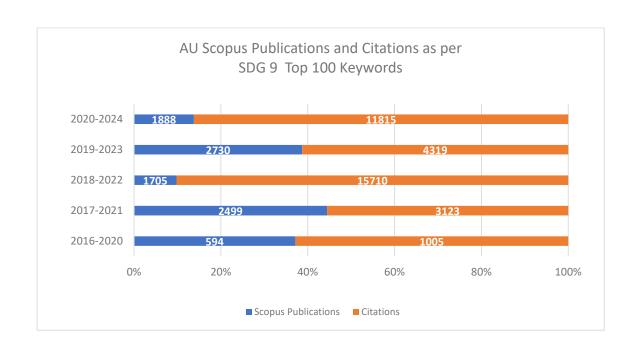
- 1. <u>Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health</u> Sciences Research (CMBHSR)
- 2. Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC)
- 3. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> Research Center (HSBERC)
- 4. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)
- 5. Nonlinear Dynamics Research Center (NDRC)

6. <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research</u> Center (HSSRC)

#### **RESEARCH:**

- AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 9 is shown below.
- Ajman University Students Secure Second Place in the Undergraduate Research and Innovation Competition (Jun. 2024)

Ajman University students achieved second place in the Electrical Engineering category at the 11th Undergraduate Research and Innovation Competition hosted by Abu Dhabi University, showcasing the University's strong emphasis on applied research and technological innovation. The winning team—Bayan Alradi, Farah Thugan, Rand Agha, Bashayer Al-Maamari, and Ahmed Hegazi—presented their project titled "Enhanced Metal Semiconductor Metal UV Light Photodetector Based on ZnSe Thin Film by LACBG," under the supervision of Dr. Samer Zyoud. This recognition reflects AU's commitment to nurturing a culture of creativity, research excellence, and problem-solving among students in engineering and technology fields. By encouraging students to engage in high-impact research that advances industrial applications, Ajman University actively contributes to UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation,



# INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



and Infrastructure) through innovation-driven education and research, while also supporting SDG 4 (Quality Education) by promoting experiential learning and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by developing skilled, future-ready graduates equipped for knowledge-based industries.

#### **INNOVATION:**

 Ajman University's Lighting Lab Clinches International Recognition at LIT Design Awards 2024

Ajman University's Lighting Lab at the College of Architecture, Art, and Design (CAAD) earned an Honorable Mention at the 2024 LIT Lighting Design Awards, marking a milestone achievement in design innovation and education. Led by Dr. Naglaa Mahmoud and Ms. Omnia Ahmed, the lab—the first specialized lighting facility in the Arab world—redefines design learning through hands-on engagement with advanced lighting simulations, luminaire

systems, and material interaction. Equipped with cutting-edge technologies such as the Dali System and rotating panel mechanisms, the lab provides an immersive learning environment that bridges creativity, research, and industry application. This international recognition underscores Ajman University's leadership in fostering innovation-driven education and research excellence. The initiative contributes to UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by advancing design technology and applied research, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through experiential and specialized learning, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by preparing students for leadership roles in the creative and architectural industries.

 Ajman University Student Showcases Groundbreaking Air Quality Improvement Project at COP29 (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University undergraduate Doaa Al Alimi, along with her colleagues Shaima Hussein and Bibi Hashimi, showcased their award-winning project, the Electric Green Pot, at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, representing the UAE Pavilion as part of the Universities Climate Network (UCN). The innovative solution focuses on purifying air, capturing carbon, and promoting plant growth through an energy-efficient and sustainable design that supports agricultural resilience and environmental health. The team earned their place at COP29 after winning first place among 70 projects from 15 universities in the Green Campus Competition hosted by Khalifa University. Supported by Ajman University's Office of Sustainability and mentored





by ICARDA, the project exemplifies how student-led innovation can address pressing environmental challenges through research and technology. This achievement highlights AU's commitment to empowering youth as changemakers and innovators, contributing directly to UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through technological advancement, SDG 13 (Climate Action) by

addressing air pollution and carbon reduction, SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by promoting healthier environments, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by fostering green innovation and entrepreneurship.

 Graphic Design Graduation Project Exhibition: "Out of Mandoos" (Dec. 2024)

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University hosted the Graphic Design Graduation Project Exhibition under the theme "Out of Mandoos," showcasing the creative achievements of graduating students. Supervised by Dr. Mervat Medhat, the exhibition celebrated innovative design projects that bridged the UAE's cultural heritage with modern visual communication trends. Attended by university leaders, faculty, and guests, the event highlighted the students' creativity, critical thinking, and readiness to contribute to the professional design industry through meaningful and culturally relevant work. This initiative reflects Ajman University's commitment to fostering innovation, creativity, and practical application of design knowledge, supporting UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through design-driven innovation and technological creativity, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by promoting experiential learning, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by preparing students for successful



# INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

and impactful careers in the creative industries.

 <u>Distinguished Alumnus Architect Jamal</u> <u>Hamsho Shines at Dubai Design Week 2024</u> (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University proudly celebrates Architect Jamal Hamsho, an accomplished alumnus of the College of Architecture, Art, and Design (CAAD), for his selection to showcase his innovative furniture designs at the UAE Designer Exhibition 5.0 during Dubai Design Week 2024. Currently practicing at P&T Architects, Jamal's work embodies creativity, sustainability, and material innovation, drawing inspiration from the Brutalist school of architecture to highlight the expressive potential of raw materials like concrete and steel. His participation among 30 emerging UAE creatives underscores AU's success in nurturing design talent that merges artistic expression with sustainable and functional design principles. This achievement aligns with UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting design innovation and sustainable practices, SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through the creative reuse of materials, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by supporting the growth of the creative and design industries in the UAE.

 Prof. Mohammed Al-Betar: Expanding the Frontiers of Artificial Intelligence Research at Ajman University (Oct. 2024)

At the forefront of Aiman University's research excellence, Prof. Mohammed Al-Betar, Coordinator of the Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (MSAI) program and Head of the Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC), is pioneering studies that push the boundaries of what AI can achieve across healthcare, agriculture, and sustainability. Recognized among the top 2% of global scientists by Stanford University (2024), Prof. Al-Betar's groundbreaking projects include developing Al-driven systems for non-invasive blood sugar monitoring and stroke rehabilitation, alongside machine learning applications that detect crop diseases invisible to the human eye—advancing sustainable agriculture and food security. His research blends theoretical rigor with real-world innovation, establishing a strong foundation for AI models that drive intelligent automation and enhance decision-making across industries.

Under his leadership, the AIRC has produced 600 Scopus-indexed publications, advancing knowledge in cybersecurity, medical diagnostics, smart cities, signal processing, nanofluidics, and renewable energy. The center continues to serve as a hub for innovation, integrating academic research with industry collaboration to develop AI solutions that address critical societal and technological challenges. Prof. Al-Betar's work exemplifies Ajman University's strategic vision to position itself as a leader in research-driven innovation, contributing directly to UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through the advancement of intelligent systems and technological development, while also supporting SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) through applied research that promotes sustainable progress.

<u>Fatima Adnan Almadani: An Inspiring</u>
 <u>Success Story in Biomedical Engineering and</u>
 <u>Molecular Medicine</u> (Oct. 2024)

Eng. Fatima Adnan Almadani, an Ajman University alumna in Biomedical Engineering (Class of 2022), represents an inspiring example of Emirati excellence in science, research, and innovation. After graduating with honors, she pursued a Master's degree in Molecular Medicine at Imperial College London, where she conducted pioneering research on von Willebrand disease, becoming the first Emirati to specialize in this field. Her exceptional performance earned her a place in the university's PhD program in Clinical Medicine, where she is now advancing research on "Organs on Chips"—a breakthrough biomedical technology that simulates human organ functions for drug testing and disease modeling, offering sustainable alternatives to animal testing.

Beyond her academic achievements, Fatima's journey reflects Ajman University's success in empowering women in STEM through quality education, mentorship, and innovation-driven learning. Her leadership as President of the Emirati Club and active participation in major national events such as Expo 2020 Dubai

















and the Global Government Summit 2022 showcase her commitment to community engagement and knowledge exchange. Fatima's accomplishments exemplify UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by advancing biomedical innovation and technological research, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through academic excellence and applied learning, and SDG 5 (Gender Equality) by inspiring young Emirati women to pursue careers in science and engineering.

 Ajman University Students Innovate an Advanced X-Ray Technology for Diagnosing Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Oct. 2024)

Three students from Ajman University's College of Engineering and Information Technology have developed an innovative Chest X-Ray Screening Software for Pulmonary Tuberculosis (TB) under the supervision of Dr. Mujeeb Rahman and Eng. Sharaz Ali. Utilizing advanced machine learning algorithms, the system distinguishes probable TB cases from other lung diseases with similar symptoms, enabling faster and more accurate diagnoses. The Computer-Aided Detection (CAD) system enhances the efficiency of radiologists by streamlining workflows, reducing reporting delays, and improving overall healthcare outcomes. Designed for use across hospitals and clinics, this breakthrough technology demonstrates how engineering and AI can directly improve public health systems through innovation.

The project has received multiple recognitions, including First Runner-Up at the Arab Health Exhibition, Best Biomedical

Engineering Graduation Project at AU's 7th Student Research Day, and Third Best Graduation Project overall, as well as the Best BME Graduation Project Award during Healthcare Simulation Week 2024. This achievement highlights Ajman University's commitment to fostering applied research and innovation in biomedical technology. The initiative directly supports UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by advancing healthcare innovation through Al-driven diagnostic tools and contributes to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by enhancing early detection and treatment of infectious diseases.

The IT Club Organizes Coding Battle 2024:
Fostering Innovation and Technological
Excellence (Oct. 2024)

The IT Club at Ajman University's College of Engineering and Information Technology, in collaboration with the Office of Student Life, hosted the annual "Coding Battle 2024" competition, bringing together 25 teams and over 70 students from Computer Science and related majors. Organized in partnership with Dubai Police, the Council College and University of Dubai Police, Zaka Ambassadors, and INTECH ART, the event challenged participants to solve real-world programming problems under time constraints while adhering to professional coding standards. Through two competitive rounds, students demonstrated exceptional programming, problem-solving, and teamwork skills, with the top three teams recognized for their outstanding performance.

## INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The competition served as a platform for cultivating innovation, critical thinking, and collaboration among students, aligning with Ajman University's goal of equipping graduates with advanced technological competencies. By engaging in hands-on challenges and industry collaborations, participants enhanced their readiness for careers in the fast-evolving digital sector. The event directly supports UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting innovation and digital skill development, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through experiential and practical learning, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by preparing students for future roles in technology and software engineering.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> <u>courses</u>, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing

- innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the <u>UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
  - A total of 63 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure. These courses emphasize critical themes such as industrial development, technological innovation, sustainable infrastructure, and entrepreneurship, while exploring areas including manufacturing, prototyping, industrial automation, fabrication, and CAD design. They also integrate contemporary advancements in robotics, artificial intelligence, 3D printing technology, renewable energy systems, and digital innovation, alongside topics related to research and development, financing, and investment for industrial growth. Furthermore, several courses address urban development, transportation systems, and energy conservation, promoting environmentally responsible and inclusive economic progress. Collectively, these courses highlight Ajman University's commitment to fostering innovation-driven education and sustainable industrial transformation, equipping students with the knowledge and practical skills needed to contribute to technological advancement, resilient infrastructure, and sustainable economic growth.







- AU Climate Change Learning Program
- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs
- Graphic Design Students Visit Dubai Design Week 2024

Graphic Design students from Ajman University's College of Mass Communication, led by Prof. Tarek Ismail. Professor of Product Design, participated in Dubai Design Week 2024, the largest creative festival in the Middle East. The event showcased innovation across multiple design disciplines, including architecture, product design, furniture, typography, packaging, and graphic design, offering students exposure to global trends and emerging technologies. Through interactive exhibitions such as Downtown Design, the Global Grad Show, and Abwab, students engaged with industry leaders and explored cutting-edge concepts in design thinking and sustainable creativity. This educational visit reflects Ajman University's commitment to experiential learning and to fostering innovation and creativity within the design curriculum. The initiative supports UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting innovation-driven learning and design-led problem-solving, as well as SDG 4 (Quality Education) through hands-on exposure to global creative practices.

Ajman University Students and Staff Visit
 GITEX Dubai 2024 to Explore Technological
 Innovations in Sustainability (Oct. 2024)

As part of Ajman University's Office of Sustainability initiatives to promote awareness of emerging green technologies, students and

staff visited GITEX Dubai 2024 at the Dubai World Trade Centre from October 14–18, 2024. The visit provided participants with valuable exposure to the latest advancements in environmental technology, digital innovation, and sustainable resource management, aligning with AU's commitment to integrating sustainability and innovation into education. Attendees explored cutting-edge solutions designed to reduce carbon emissions, improve energy efficiency, and enhance environmental monitoring, while engaging in expert-led presentations and workshops that broadened their technical and professional insights.

The exhibition highlighted key innovations such as Al-driven energy management systems, smart grids with renewable energy storage, IoT-based environmental sensors, and carbon capture technologies that transform emissions into usable materials. By participating in this global technology event, Ajman University students and staff strengthened their understanding of how digital transformation can drive environmental progress and sustainable economic growth. This initiative directly supports UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through the promotion of sustainable technological development, SDG 13 (Climate Action) by encouraging climate-resilient innovation, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by providing experiential learning opportunities in the field of sustainability and green technology.













## INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Join us for Urban October!

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability
 Celebrates "Urban October" with a Campaign
 on Youth and Sustainable Cities

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University celebrated "Urban October" by launching a campaign titled "Youth and Sustainable Cities," aimed at empowering students to play an active role in shaping sustainable urban futures. The campaign emphasized the importance of youth-driven innovation, climate action, and inclusive urban development, highlighting how education and community engagement can drive meaningful change. Supported by the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, the initiative showcased student and faculty contributions to sustainable design and architecture through social media features, awareness videos, and virtual seminars.

In addition to promoting key messages on climate resilience and social equity, the campaign hosted discussions and virtual sessions on the role of education and youth leadership in advancing sustainable cities. These activities strengthened Ajman University's position as a hub for sustainability education and innovation, inspiring students to contribute actively to urban resilience and sustainable development. The initiative directly supports UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting innovation in sustainable urban design, SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) through awareness of inclusive urban planning, and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by engaging youth in environmental advocacy and community-based sustainability initiatives.

#### **OPERATIONS:**

Ammar Al Nuaimi Chairs Ajman University
 Board of Trustees Meeting: Strengthening
 Innovation and Institutional Infrastructure
 (Nov. 2024)

H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman, Chairman of the Executive Council, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Ajman University, chaired the Board's meeting held at the University's premises, in the presence of Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Vice Chairman of the Board. The meeting highlighted AU's remarkable achievements in international rankings, academic accreditations, and institutional transformation following its transition to a private, non-profit university model. His Highness emphasized that this transformation aligns with the "We the UAE 2031" and "Ajman Vision 2030" strategies by fostering innovation-driven education, strengthening partnerships with public and private sectors, and ensuring financial sustainability to support research, technology, and infrastructure development.

The Board approved the 2024–2025 annual budget, Fundraising Policy and Guidelines, and reviewed reports on community engagement, financial sustainability, and quality enhancement initiatives. Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir presented AU's milestones, including its advancement to #17 in the QS Arab Region Rankings 2025, its ABET accreditation for engineering programs, and its strategic efforts to expand innovative educational and research programs. This governance milestone exemplifies UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by reinforcing institutional systems that promote innovation, research excellence, and sustainable infrastructure development, while also contributing to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through collaborative and future-oriented educational leadership.

 AU actively advances SDG 9 by fostering innovation and inclusive industrialization (Notable contributions).



#### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 Al and Digital Transformation Take Center Stage in Mining Sector Panel (Oct.2024)

Ajman University advanced SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure and SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production through its participation in the "Innovation and Digital Transformation in the Mining Sector" panel moderated by Dr. Fares Howari, Dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences. Held in collaboration with the Fujairah Natural Resources Corporation, the Arab Industrial Development Standardization and Mining Organization, and the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, the panel explored the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technologies in sustainable mining.

Discussions focused on Al-driven mineral exploration, predictive maintenance, cybersecurity in digital mining, and environmental sustainability in resource extraction, highlighting the potential of data analytics and smart systems to enhance efficiency, reduce environmental impact, and ensure resource optimization. The event reinforced the UAE's leadership in digital innovation while supporting global efforts toward SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9, and SDG 12 by promoting responsible, technology-enabled

industrial practices that drive a more efficient and sustainable future.

 Ajman University Partners with Sharjah <u>Social Services Department to Advance</u> <u>Community Innovation and Development</u> (Nov. 2024)

Aiman University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sharjah Social Services Department (SSSD) to strengthen collaboration in education, research, and community development. The agreement, led by Dr. Jassim Mohammed Al Hammadi, Director of Knowledge Management at SSSD, and Dr. Abdulhag Al Nuaimi, Vice Chancellor for Communication and Community Affairs at Ajman University, focuses on advancing social innovation through field training, professional development, research, and creative collaboration. Under the MoU, AU students will undertake field training placements at SSSD to gain practical experience addressing real-world social challenges, while SSSD employees will benefit from continuing education opportunities to enhance professional growth. The partnership also includes joint research initiatives, innovation lab activities, and community engagement programs, fostering knowledge exchange and the co-creation of socially responsive solutions. By integrating academic expertise with social service innovation, this collaboration supports UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through the development of innovative social and educational systems,

# INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE









SDG 4 (Quality Education) by expanding experiential learning opportunities, and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by strengthening institutional collaboration that promotes inclusive and sustainable community development.

 Ajman University Students Excel at "Pathway to Net-Zero" Competition by BEEAH (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's College of Business Administration, in partnership with the BEEAH Group, hosted the second annual "Pathway to Net Zero: Innovating for a Sustainable Future" competition, where students from the Innovation and Entrepreneurship course showcased practical solutions to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and advance the global net-zero agenda. Applying design thinking principles such as empathy, lateral thinking, and prototyping, students developed creative, technology-driven innovations aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Out of twenty competing teams, Ajman University students won the top three prizes for projects focused on energy efficiency, carbon

capture, and air purification—including innovations such as AI-enhanced air-conditioning systems, artificial trees for carbon absorption, and algae-based air filtration solutions. The initiative highlights AU's commitment to experiential learning and sustainability-driven innovation, equipping students with the skills needed to tackle environmental and industrial challenges. This achievement directly contributes to UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting applied innovation and technological development, SDG 13 (Climate Action) by advancing carbon-reduction solutions, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) through hands-on, challenge-based learning that prepares students for future green industries.

 Ajman University: Educational Partner in the 2024 IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP) (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University participated as an educational partner in the 2024 IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), organized by the Signal Processing Society



(SPS) and held at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre. This prestigious international event brought together global experts to discuss cutting-edge developments in artificial intelligence, computer vision, and digital technology. Representing Ajman University, Prof. Khaled Assaleh, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, contributed to the PROGRESS workshop panel titled "Democratizing AI and RISING with Limited Resources," emphasizing the equitable and accessible use of AI in resource-constrained contexts. Additionally, students and alumni from the College of Mass Communication, supervised by Dr. Dina El-Khattat, played a key role in providing media coverage, gaining valuable professional and technical experience. Ajman University's participation underscores its commitment to advancing scientific innovation, technological development, and experiential learning, reinforcing its position as a leader in higher education and research. This initiative aligns with UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by promoting digital innovation and applied research in technology, and supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) by equipping students with the skills and global exposure necessary to thrive in emerging industries.

Community Heroes: How Dentistry
 Students at Ajman University are Redefining
 Community Oral Care (Oct. 2024)

Students from Ajman University's College of Dentistry are redefining oral healthcare delivery through compassionate, high-quality, and accessible treatment offered at the AU Dental Clinic and the innovative Mobile Dental Clinic initiative. Treating over 150–200 patients daily, the clinic provides equitable care to individuals from diverse nationalities and financial backgrounds, combining advanced technologies such as Clinicsoft with evidence-based treatment under faculty supervision. These experiences help students develop both clinical expertise and empathy, ensuring that every patient—especially children and individuals with special needsreceives professional, patient-centered care.

The Mobile Dental Clinic, a state-of-the-art facility equipped with advanced dental tech-

nologies, extends services to underprivileged communities, elderly homes, and people of determination across the UAE. This innovative outreach model integrates education, technology, and social responsibility, preparing students to become skilled healthcare professionals committed to community well-being. The initiative exemplifies UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by advancing mobile healthcare solutions and expanding service access, while also contributing to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through inclusive and sustainable community engagement.

Ajman University Signs MoU with Greenpeace MENA to Launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award" (Sep. 2024)

Ajman University strengthened its contribution to SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Greenpeace Middle East and North Africa (Greenpeace MENA) to launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award." The initiative aims to promote sustainable development, environmental stewardship, and social equity by encouraging students and researchers to propose innovative models for a wellbeing-centered economy that balances prosperity with environmental and societal wellbeing.

The award focuses on reimagining economic systems to support sustainable energy transitions (SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy), alternative indicators to GDP, and inclusive approaches to national growth that align with the UAE's long-term sustainability vision. This collaboration reflects Ajman University's commitment to corporate social responsibility, research-driven innovation, and cross-sector partnerships that drive environmental and social transformation, contributing to multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals including SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

# INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

#### • Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University collaborated with government entities, professional associations, and industry partners to strengthen innovation ecosystems, support entrepreneurship, and provide hands-on opportunities for students in engineering, architecture, business, and technology. These partnerships contributed to SDG 9 by advancing sustainable industrial development, promoting innovation, and enhancing infrastructure for research and learning.

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Department of Economic Development – Ajman	<ul> <li>Participated in AU Innovation Center Demo Day (14 Feb 2023).</li> <li>Attended Startup License Program follow-up meeting (5 Aug 2023).</li> <li>Supported AU students with entrepreneurship and innovation opportunities.</li> </ul>
Ajman Free Zone	<ul> <li>Requested AU graduate CVs to fill trainee positions in Digital Marketing, PR &amp; Communications, and Graphic Design.</li> <li>Promoted opportunities connecting graduates to creative industries and innovation-driven roles.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>Hosted AU Engineering students for a field trip (14 Mar 2024) to explore the Innovation Center, camera networks, and data center operations.</li> <li>Provided exposure to advanced technologies integrating innovation into law enforcement practices.</li> </ul>
Statistics and Competitive- ness Center	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU on providing statistical data to graduation projects.</li> <li>Strengthened research infrastructure and data access for innovation in social studies.</li> </ul>
Society of Engineers – UAE	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU on engineering competitions.</li> <li>Served on the advisory board of the College of Architecture &amp; Design.</li> <li>Organized joint public activities enhancing engineering innovation and practice.</li> </ul>
Architectural Heritage Society – Dubai	<ul> <li>A College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design representative served as advisory board member and jury panelist.</li> <li>Supported innovation and knowledge-sharing in architecture and heritage infrastructure.</li> </ul>
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	<ul> <li>Co-organized the International Museum Day Forum at AU (18 May 2024).</li> <li>Worked with the College of Architecture &amp; Design on training, proposals, and development of museum projects, strengthening cultural infrastructure.</li> </ul>





Sustainable Development Goal Reduce inequality within and among countries.

# REDUCED INEQUALITIES



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 10, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

The aim of AU Research Centers is to provide real world solutions and educational training in new emerging fields that would contribute to new developments in these fields and creation of new talent. The AU Research Centers act as a vital link to other regional/international centers, apart from providing unique training opportunities for next-gen researchers and serving as a valuable information source for the community at large. The following six state-of-the-art research centers covers key areas of national and international strategic importance:

- 1. <u>Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health</u> Sciences Research (CMBHSR)
- 2. Artificial Intelligence Research Center (AIRC)
- 3. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> <u>Research Center (HSBERC)</u>
- 4. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)

- 5. Nonlinear Dynamics Research Center (NDRC)
- 6. <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research</u> <u>Center (HSSRC)</u>

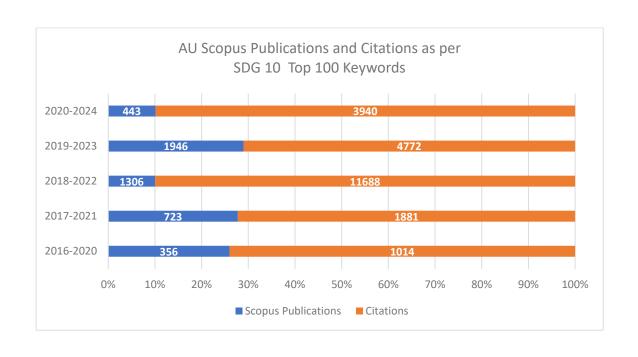
#### **RESEARCH:**

 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 10 is shown below:

#### **INNOVATION:**

The Ajman University Innovation Center (AUIC) has helped build startups, provide mentorship and obtained support from its partners to its innovation projects. The activities of AUIC contributes to poverty reduction and promotes economic opportunities for the poor. AUIC, since its inception in 2016 has launched 133 startups. In AY 2023-24 AUIC has achieved the following:

- 50 mentoring hours delivered
- 12 workshops held, attended by 200 students, faculty, and staff
- Incubated 44 startups, with 2 spin-offs valued at USD 30,000
- Secured USD 50,000 in soft funding commitments
- Awarded AED 25,000 in competition prizes



# **REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the <u>UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of <u>73 courses</u> have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. hese courses emphasize critical themes such as human rights, social justice, and equality, while exploring broader topics related to cultural diversity, social responsibility, sustainable development, and economic integration. They also address essential aspects of financial inclusion, international trade, health equity, and social welfare systems, focusing on reducing disparities in access to education, healthcare, and economic opportunities. Additionally, several courses highlight the importance of ethical leadership, crisis management, and equitable policy frameworks that promote inclusion and social cohesion across communities. Collectively,

these courses demonstrate Ajman University's commitment to advancing inclusive and equitable growth, equipping students with the knowledge and competencies to foster fairness, accessibility, and social sustainability in alignment with global development priorities.

#### **OPERATION:**

- Policies AU has established the following policies that ensures equality, inclusiveness, and promotes diversity.
  - Non-Discrimination Policy (excerpt) "Ajman University does not discriminate
     on the basis of nationality, sex, age,
     religious belief, race, color, or marital
     status".
  - Policy on Diversity and Inclusivity (excerpt)

     "Ajman University embraces shared governance and tolerance, promotes diversity and recognizes its responsibility to foster an open, welcoming environment where multicultural students, faculty and staff can collaboratively learn, work, serve and engage with the external community".
  - <u>AU Fundraising Policy and Guidelines</u> This Policy sets out to guarantee that all AU fundraising activities are executed in an appropriate and sustainable manner based on consultation with, and authorization from the right AU constituencies. The Policy, as such, supports AU's mission and serves AU's strategic goals.
- 2. AU has a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee that directly support SDG 8-Reduced Inequalities. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee mandate includes, but not limited to, the following:
- Explicitly define AU goals for diversity, equity and inclusion and present to the Chancellor for approval.
- In coordination with OIPE, develop policies and procedures to promote diversity, equity and inclusion at AU.
- Identify the role of different units at AU to implement these policies and procedures and define their specific KPIs for assessment and continuous improvement.



- Periodically monitor the implementation of these policies and procedures to ensure that the specified AU goals are met.
- Submit an annual report on the achievement of the DEI Committee that also includes recommendations for further improvement.
- Perform any other tasks that would enhance the effectiveness of the DEI Committee in achieving the specified goals.
- 3. Student Clubs and Organizations Student clubs and organizations aim to refine students' talents, develop their skills and achieve effective communication with each other, by organizing many cultural, social and recreational activities. They provide students with the opportunity to develop their leadership personality, acquire time management skills, take responsibilities, and work in a team spirit.
- 4. Ajman University Launches the 2024 Student Club Fair, Showcasing More Than 100 Student Clubs (Sep. 2024)

Ajman University (AU) hosted the 2024 Student Club Fair, organized by the Office of Student Life, featuring 107 student-led clubs that celebrate cultural diversity, creativity, and inclusion. Inaugurated by Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, and Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services, the event showcased clubs representing a wide range of academic, cultural, and social interests. Through active participation, students were encouraged to engage in collaborative projects that promote cross-cultural understanding,

equality, and community cohesion. The fair served as a dynamic platform for developing leadership, communication, and social responsibility, empowering students to connect beyond academic boundaries and contribute to a more inclusive campus environment.

This initiative underscores Ajman University's commitment to creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive educational ecosystem where every student can thrive. By fostering belonging and active participation, the Student Club Fair directly supports UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equal opportunities and social integration, while also advancing SDG 4 (Quality Education) through experiential learning and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by cultivating civic engagement and mutual respect among a diverse student community.

#### 5. <u>Mental Health: Key to Superior Academic</u> Performance at Universities

Mental health plays a pivotal role in students' academic achievement and overall well-being. Global and UAE-based studies have consistently shown that high levels of anxiety and depression correlate with lower academic performance due to diminished focus, motivation, and cognitive function. At Ajman University, the Counseling Unit, led by Dr. Dalia Bedewy, addresses these challenges through individualized and group counseling sessions, mental health awareness campaigns, and creative student-led initiatives such as VOICES, a bilingual magazine that empowers students to

# **REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

share personal stories and promote emotional resilience. These initiatives reflect AU's commitment to fostering a compassionate and inclusive learning environment that supports both emotional and academic growth.

By prioritizing mental health as a cornerstone of academic excellence, Ajman University advances UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through equitable access to psychological support, SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by promoting mental wellness and resilience, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by ensuring that students can thrive intellectually and emotionally within a supportive academic ecosystem.

#### 6. <u>The Department of Education Organizes a</u> <u>Field Trip to Mastercard EMEA</u>

The Department of Education at Aiman University's College of Humanities and Sciences, led by Dr. Nissrin Shaya, organized a field trip to Mastercard EMEA for students of the Leadership and Team Building course. The visit offered valuable insights into modern leadership themes, including adaptability, authenticity, digital transformation, and sustainable leadership. By providing equal access to experiential learning and exposure to global industry practices, this initiative reinforces Ajman University's commitment to inclusive education and professional empowerment advancing UN SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).



# 7. The Management Department Hosts 'Career Success' Workshop

The Management Department at Ajman University's College of Business Administration, in collaboration with Injaz, hosted a "Career Success" workshop led by Abhishek Shukla, an international speaker, author, and global management trainer. Conducted as part of the Business English course by Hanaa Mansour, the session guided students on job hunting. interview preparation, résumé writing, professionalism, and building an effective online presence. The workshop emphasized aligning careers with purpose and enhancing employability, reflecting Ajman University's commitment to preparing students for the evolving job market—supporting UN SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through career readiness and inclusive skill development.





# 8. The College of Mass Communication Participates in the Global Media Congress 2024

Students from Ajman University's College of Mass Communication, supervised by Dr. Amal Badr, Associate Professor, participated in the Global Media Congress 2024 in Abu Dhabi. The event provided students with an exceptional opportunity to engage with global media professionals, explore emerging industry trends, and gain valuable hands-on exposure in a dynamic learning environment. This participation underscores Ajman University's commitment to inclusive and experiential learning that enhances students' professional growth and global readiness—supporting UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through equal access to international opportunities, alongside SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth).

- 9. AU provides holistic support to its students Student life
- 10.AU advances SDG 10 through <u>various initiatives</u>.
- 11.Students Scholarship and Financial Aid Trend Analysis Fall 2019-20 to Fall 2023-24

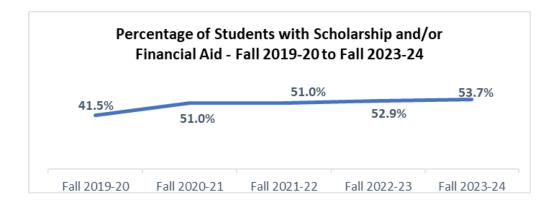
#### **OUTREACH, PARTNERSHIP & ACTIVITIES:**

 Inauguration of the Center for Inclusive Learning: Promoting Equity and Accessibility in Higher Education

Ajman University's newly inaugurated Center for Inclusive Learning for Students of Determination, opened by H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman and Chairman of the Executive Council, marks a transformative milestone in advancing equity, accessibility, and inclusion in higher education. The Center is equipped with stateof-the-art assistive technologies, including screen readers, Braille printers, specialised keyboards, and adaptive digital tools, ensuring that students of determination have equitable access to learning opportunities and academic resources. By fostering an environment that promotes empowerment, participation, and academic success for all learners, the Center reflects Ajman University's steadfast commitment to removing barriers and building an inclusive academic community. Supported by the Abdul Wahid Al Rostamani family, this initiative directly advances UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equal access and inclusive infrastructure, while also reinforcing SDG 4 (Quality Education) through inclusive learning design and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) through the integration of innovative educational technologies that enhance accessibility.

 The Counseling Unit Celebrates Friendship and Tolerance in the "Best Buddy" Event

As part of Ajman University's celebration of the International Day for Tolerance, the Counseling Unit organized the "Best Buddy" event to promote values of friendship, appreciation,



# **REDUCED INEQUALITIES**



and cultural understanding among students. The event created a warm and inclusive environment where students honored their peers as "Best Buddies," expressing gratitude and appreciation through heartfelt video messages and personalized gifts that celebrated kindness and mutual respect. The initiative encouraged students to embrace diversity, empathy, and coexistence, reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to building a supportive and respectful campus culture.

By fostering positive relationships and cross-cultural understanding, the event exemplifies Ajman University's dedication to advancing inclusivity and social harmony. It directly supports UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equality, acceptance, and social inclusion, while also aligning with SDG 4 (Quality Education) through values-based learning and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by nurturing tolerance, emotional well-being, and peaceful coexistence within the university community.

 Ajman University Partners with Sharjah Social Services Department to Promote Inclusion and Community Empowerment

Ajman University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Sharjah Social Services Department (SSSD) to strengthen collaboration in education, research, and community development. The partnership, led by Dr. Jassim Mohammed Al Hammadi, Director of Knowledge Management at SSSD, and Dr. Abdulhag Al Nuaimi, Vice Chancellor for Communication and Community Affairs, aims to enhance educational access, social inclusion, and lifelong learning. Through field training placements, AU students will gain hands-on experience in social service environments, while SSSD employees will benefit from continuing education discounts to advance their professional skills. The agreement also promotes joint research, innovation labs, and community outreach programs that address pressing social issues and foster creativity in developing inclusive solutions.





















This strategic collaboration reflects Ajman University's commitment to empowering individuals and strengthening community networks through education and innovation. By aligning academic expertise with real-world social impact, the partnership supports UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting social equity and integration, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through experiential and continuing learning opportunities, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering cross-sector collaboration to advance community well-being and sustainable social development.

 Ajman University Celebrates the Success of the Actualizing Youth Mobility Program

Ajman University celebrated the success of the Actualizing Youth Mobility (AYM) Program, marking two years of transformative impact in expanding global learning opportunities for students. Funded by the Stevens Initiative, the program's first phase engaged 480 students across 10 courses, while the second phase saw remarkable growth with 1,059 students enrolled in 18 courses, jointly delivered by Ajman University and three U.S. partner universities. The initiative reflects AU's commitment to inclusive education, cross-cultural collaboration, and equitable access to international learning experiences. By fostering global competence and mobility for students from diverse backgrounds, the AYM Program directly advances UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through inclusive academic exchange, while also supporting SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University's Counseling Unit Launches "Ataa" Initiative to Promote Giving and Volunteerism (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's Counseling Unit launched the "Ataa" initiative, a community-centered program designed to nurture the values of generosity, volunteerism, and social responsibility among students. The initiative empowers students to share their skills and creativity through volunteer activities that support local communities, bridging education with civic engagement. Its first activity—a painting workshop at Shola American School led by Psychology student Abdul Razzaq Ali Al-Hadheer—encouraged young learners to explore self-expression and creativity, highlighting the power of student-led social contribution.

Through "Ataa," the Counseling Unit reinforces Ajman University's commitment to fostering empathy, inclusion, and active citizenship. By encouraging students to participate in community-building initiatives and cultivate a culture of giving, the program directly advances UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting social inclusion and equal participation, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through creative and experiential learning, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening university-community collaboration for social good.

 Ajman University Partners with Studiosity to Enhance Students' Employability (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University (AU) has partnered with Studiosity, a global leader in online academic

# **REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

support services, to strengthen student learning and employability through 24/7 personalized academic assistance. This collaboration provides AU students—especially those in General Education writing courses, theses, and capstone projects—with tailored writing feedback and academic guidance aimed at improving clarity, structure, and overall communication skills. By fostering writing excellence, the initiative equips students with essential competencies that enhance both academic achievement and workplace readiness.

This partnership reflects Ajman University's commitment to inclusive and innovative education, ensuring equitable access to high-quality learning support for all students regardless of schedule or location. It directly contributes to UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equal academic opportunities through digital accessibility, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by improving learning outcomes and skill development, and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by preparing students with critical professional skills that enhance employability in a competitive global job market.















• The Counseling Unit Celebrates Friendship and Tolerance in the "Best Buddy" Event

As part of Ajman University's celebration of the International Day for Tolerance, the Counseling Unit organized the "Best Buddy" event to promote the values of friendship, empathy, and inclusion among students. The initiative fostered a welcoming and respectful campus culture, where students nominated peers to be honored as "Best Buddies," celebrating meaningful connections and mutual appreciation. Emotional video tributes and personalized gifts created a warm atmosphere of gratitude, reinforcing AU's message of respect for cultural and intellectual diversity.

Through this initiative, Ajman University strengthened its commitment to cultivating an inclusive educational environment that celebrates differences and promotes peaceful coexistence. By encouraging understanding, emotional connection, and social inclusion, the event directly supports UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equality and inclusion within the student community, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through values-based and social learning, and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by fostering tolerance, mutual respect, and harmony among students.

 The College of Mass Communication Participates in a Seminar on "The Role of Media Psychology in Shaping Youth Values and Attitudes"

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University participated in a seminar titled "The Role of Media Psychology in Shaping Youth Values and Attitudes", held as part of the cultural program of the Sociological Association during the 2024 Sharjah International Book Fair. Delivered by Dr. Amal Badr, Associate Professor at the College, and moderated by Dr. Ruqayya Al Raisi, President of the Association, the seminar explored how media



psychology influences the development of youth values, beliefs, and behaviors. Dr. Badr highlighted the importance of using media as a platform for dialogue, critical thinking, and ethical communication, emphasizing its power to promote positive social values and cultural understanding.

This participation underscores Ajman University's commitment to fostering social awareness, inclusion, and youth empowerment through media education and research. By addressing the psychological dimensions of communication, the seminar contributes to UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by encouraging balanced media representation and social inclusion, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through knowledge dissemination and intellectual development, and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by promoting responsible media practices that support social cohesion and ethical dialogue.

#### The Volunteer Journey of Ajman University Students: Positive Impacts on Students and Community

At Ajman University (AU), volunteering is deeply embedded in the institution's culture, shaping students' sense of empathy, responsibility, and community engagement. Through a wide range of service-oriented initiatives, AU empowers students to contribute meaningfully to society while developing essential life skills. From distributing Iftar meals during Ramadan to participating in community awareness campaigns and humanitarian projects, AU students are continuously engaged in acts of compassion that foster gratitude, teamwork,

and social awareness. These initiatives not only strengthen social bonds but also nurture a spirit of giving that extends far beyond the classroom. By integrating volunteerism into its educational framework, Ajman University advances UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through inclusive participation and empowerment, SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) by promoting empathy and community welfare, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by fostering experiential learning and civic responsibility. As a non-profit institution, AU's dedication to volunteerism reflects its long-term vision of developing socially conscious graduates who contribute to a more equitable, compassionate, and sustainable society.

#### The College of Humanities and Sciences Explores Collaborative Initiatives with the Ministry of Community Development

The Humanities and Social Sciences Research Centre, in collaboration with the College of Humanities and Sciences, held a constructive meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Community Development to explore potential areas of partnership aimed at advancing social innovation and community well-being. The discussions centered on developing joint initiatives that promote research-driven solutions, social inclusion, and capacity-building, thereby strengthening collaboration between Ajman University and the ministry to create sustainable societal

# **REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

impact—supporting UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through education, collaboration, and community empowerment.

 The College of Dentistry Conducts Dental <u>Check-Up at British International Private</u> <u>School</u>

The College of Dentistry at Ajman University organized a community dental check-up at the British International Private School in Ajman, where students and faculty provided free dental screenings and raised awareness about oral health and hygiene. The initiative reflects the College's dedication to community service, preventive healthcare, and improving access to quality dental care—supporting UN SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equitable health education and services for all.

<u>Dr. Karim Seghir Speaks at THE Arab Universities Summit</u>

Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, participated as a panelist at the Times Higher Education (THE) Arab Universities Summit, hosted by the University of Dubai. In a session focused on quality education and accreditation in the Arab region, Dr. Seghir emphasized AU's core pillars-employability, industry engagement, inclusivity, research excellence, and faculty development—as the foundation of its mission to drive innovation and societal impact. His participation reflects AU's active contribution to shaping the regional higher education landscape, aligning with UN SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through advancing educational quality, collaboration, and access.

<u>Dr. Khaled Assaleh Participates in a Panel Discussion at THE Arab University Summit</u>

Dr. Khaled Assaleh, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Ajman University, participated in a panel discussion on "The Challenges and Successes of Industry-Supported Research" during the Times Higher Education (THE) Arab University Summit. He discussed the vital role of academia—industry collaboration in driving innovation, addressing organizational challenges, and advancing economic





and societal development. The session also explored opportunities in emerging fields such as renewable energy and biotechnology, underscoring Ajman University's commitment to research that supports sustainable progress—contributing to UN SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through inclusive, innovation-driven collaboration.

Ajman University's Center for Inclusive
Learning Celebrates International Day of
Persons with Disabilities

The Center for Inclusive Learning at Ajman University, in collaboration with the Counseling Unit, organized a special celebration marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. As the Center's first dedicated initiative honoring students of determination, the event featured inspiring performances and

personal stories that highlighted the power of inclusion, diversity, and empowerment. The celebration reflected Ajman University's strong commitment to fostering an inclusive academic environment where all students can thrive—advancing UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) through equitable access, awareness, and community engagement.

 Ajman University Marks World AIDS Day with Awareness Session

Ajman University's Office of Medical Services, in collaboration with Emirates Health Services, organized an awareness session to commemorate World AIDS Day, emphasizing prevention, education, and empowerment in combating HIV/AIDS. The session equipped students with essential knowledge to promote safe practices and supportive attitudes, fostering a health-conscious and inclusive campus environment. Through active participation from students and staff, the initiative reinforced Ajman University's dedication to health education and social awareness—advancing

UN SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equitable access to health information and fostering inclusive community engagement.

• The Office of Community Engagement Celebrates International Day of Tolerance

The Office of Community Engagement at Ajman University celebrated the International Day of Tolerance by honoring the University's dedicated support staff, including cleaners, bus drivers, security personnel, and office assistants. As part of the initiative, more than 300 self-care packages were distributed—assembled earlier in the month by 75 student volunteers—in appreciation of their hard work and service. This thoughtful gesture reflected Ajman University's strong culture of respect, inclusivity, and social responsibility, advancing UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equity and dignity for all members of the University community, and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) through fostering compassion, tolerance, and unity.



#### • Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University strengthened its role in advancing social equity and inclusion through partnerships with charitable foundations, community organizations, and government entities. These collaborations contributed to SDG 10 by supporting students from disadvantaged backgrounds, promoting equal access to education, empowering women, and engaging vulnerable groups in social and cultural initiatives.

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
International Charity Organization	<ul> <li>Supported AU students through discounts (Fall 2023: 2 at 100%, 1 at 20%; Spring 2024: 2 at 100%).</li> <li>Donated AED 500K to support students and the Thamer Fund.</li> <li>Partnered with AU's Community Engagement Office for <i>Back to School Shopping</i> (21 Aug 2024), distributing AED 250 vouchers to children.</li> </ul>
Bait Al Khair Soci- ety	<ul> <li>Provided tuition discounts for students in need (1 student at 20% in Spring 2024).</li> <li>Collaborated with AU College of Humanities on a Ramadan Iftar initiative for disadvantaged groups.</li> </ul>
Dar Al-Ber Society	<ul> <li>Supported AU students with tuition discounts (Fall 2023: 2 students at 20%; Spring 2024: 3 students at 20%).</li> <li>Partnered with AU's Development and Alumni Affairs Office to secure AED 400K in donations for the Graduate Fund.</li> </ul>
Easa Al Gurg Foundation	<ul> <li>Established two endowment funds with AU: Sir Easa Saleh Al Gurg Endowed Scholarship Fund (AED 1.8M) and Dr. Raja Al Gurg Graduate Fund.</li> <li>Committed AED 500K annually to support underprivileged students.</li> <li>Provided scholarships to more than 30 students in AY 2023–2024 at varying discount levels (100%, 20%, 30%).</li> </ul>
Ajman Business Women Council	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU Women's Empowerment Council to organize the 4x1 Exhibition (22 Feb 2024), supporting Emirati women entrepreneurs and home-based businesses.</li> <li>Conducted joint workshops with AU colleges to celebrate International Women's Day and Emirati Women's Day, promoting inclusivity and women's participation in the economy.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU Women's Empowerment Council to celebrate International Women's Day with events highlighting female leaders, including Major Dr. Fatima Al Shamsi.</li> <li>Ensured equal opportunities for AU students through internships and training initiatives.</li> </ul>
Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman	• Provided full scholarships (Fall 2023: 72 students; Spring 2024: 68 students), ensuring access to higher education for underrepresented groups.





Sustainable Development Goal Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

# SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 11, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

The aim of AU Research Centers is to provide real world solutions and educational training in new emerging fields that would contribute to new developments in these fields and creation of new talent. The AU Research Centers act as a vital link to other regional/international centers, apart from providing unique training opportunities for next-gen researchers and serving as a valuable information source for the community at large. Three of these research centers covers key areas of national and international strategic importance relevant to SDG 11:

- 1. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> Research Center (HSBERC)
- 2. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)
- 3. <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research</u> Center (HSSRC)

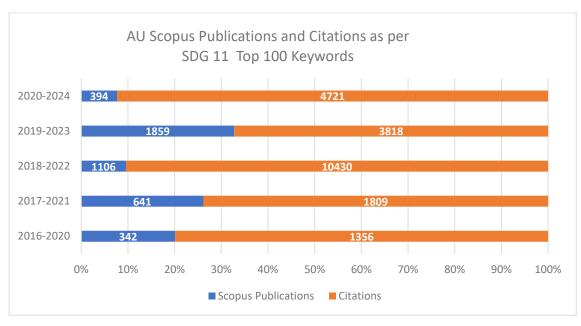
#### **RESEARCH:**

 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 11 is shown below.



 Ajman University Scholars Honored for Media <u>Research Promoting Sustainable Cities and Communities</u> (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University proudly announces that Dr. Saeed Nasef and Dr. Salah Gad from the College of Humanities and Sciences have won second place in the 41st Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award for their research titled "The Role of Media Culture in Promoting Sustainable Development Among University Youth." The study highlights how modern digital media can strengthen youth awareness and engagement in sustainability initiatives, recommending tailored programs that leverage online platforms to promote responsible citizenship and community development. This achievement reflects Ajman University's commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, emphasizing the role of media, research, and education in building informed, engaged, and sustainable communities through impactful scholarly contributions.



#### **INNOVATION:**

 Graphic Design Graduation Project Exhibition: "Out of Mandoos"

Graphic Design students from the College of Mass Communication presented their graduation projects in the exhibition titled "Out of Mandoos," celebrating creativity that bridges the UAE's cultural heritage with modern design innovation. Supervised by Dr. Mervat Medhat, the exhibition showcased projects reflecting sustainable cultural heritage preservation and contemporary urban identity, aligning with SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities. The event demonstrated Ajman University's commitment to nurturing creative talent that promotes cultural continuity, sustainable design, and community engagement.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within General Education courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.

- A total of 35 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 11: Sustainable and Communities. These courses emphasize key themes such as urban planning, urban development, sustainable architecture, and intelligent transportation, while addressing waste management, solid waste reduction, pollution control, and renewable energy integration to promote environmentally responsible urban systems. They also explore the preservation of cultural heritage and historic buildings, conservation of heritage sites, and the enhancement of public spaces, alongside topics on housing, traffic management, smart infrastructure, and mitigation strategies for environmental challenges. Collectively, these courses highlight Ajman University's commitment to advancing sustainability-oriented education and innovation-driven urban transformation, equipping students with the knowledge and practical skills to contribute to resilient, inclusive, and sustainable communities.
- AU Climate Change Learning Program
- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs
- Mass Communication Students Showcase
   Creativity in Radio & TV Graduation Projects
   (Dec. 2024)

Mass Communication students specializing in Radio and Television Production showcased their graduation projects, featuring documentaries, commercials, and a short fiction film that addressed themes such as women's









empowerment, entrepreneurship, mental health, and community well-being. The event highlighted Ajman University's commitment to fostering creative expression and practical learning that contribute to sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) through media that promotes cultural awareness, social inclusion, and public engagement.

The College of Humanities and Sciences
 Organizes a Cultural Initiative to Promote

 Emirati Heritage Among Students (Dec. 2024)

The College of Humanities and Sciences, through its Department of Sociology, organized a cultural initiative at the Al-Shohouh Association for Culture and Heritage in Ras Al Khaimah to promote Emirati heritage among students. The event, supervised by Dr. Nagwa Yousif, engaged students in traditional arts, customs, and cultural practices, deepening their understanding of national identity and values. By fostering appreciation for living heritage and encouraging youth participation in cultural preservation, the initiative supports SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through the promotion of sustainable cultural heritage conservation and community engagement.

 The Aviation Club at Ajman University Visits the Aviation Academy in Dubai (Dec. 2024)

The Aviation Club at Ajman University organized a visit to the Airways Aviation Academy at Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai, where students explored the aviation profession through interactive sessions, aircraft tours, and emergency simulations. The visit enhanced students' understanding of aviation systems, safety management, and career opportunities while fostering teamwork and community engagement. This initiative supports SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by promoting safe, inclusive, and resilient transportation systems and advancing



student awareness of sustainable mobility and urban connectivity.

 Ajman University Students Participate in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition organized by the Emirates Environmental Group, presenting innovative ideas on green innovation, sustainable cities, and ocean conservation. Representing multiple colleges, AU teams showcased creative solutions for environmental sustainability and climate awareness, engaging with experts and peers from across the MENA region. This initiative reflects Aiman University's commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, by promoting youth-led innovation, environmental responsibility, and sustainable urban development for a resilient future.

 Ajman University Students Participate in the Launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" Program (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" program, organized by Nestlé in collaboration with INJAZ UAE and under the patronage of the Ministry of















Integrated Marketing Communication
 Students Present Graduation Projects Under the Theme "Health and Safety for UAE Generations" (Nov. 2024)

Integrated Marketing Communication students showcased their graduation projects under the theme "Health and Safety for the Generations of the UAE," presenting awareness campaigns on cybersecurity, child development, and healthy living. Supervised by Dr. Dina El-Khattat and Ms. Layal Ayoub, the projects reflected students' creativity in promoting community well-being and safety. The initiative aligns with

Economy and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. Coordinated by the Office of Sustainability, the initiative empowers youth to develop innovative sustainability solutions through workshops and hands-on training. This participation reflects Ajman University's commitment to advancing SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by fostering student leadership in sustainability, promoting responsible urban development, and driving community-centered environmental action.











Ajman University participated in The Grace Preservation Second Global Conference, organized by the Emirates Red Crescent with international partners including ADNOC and the FAO, showcasing its sustainability achievements and best practices. Represented by Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager, AU presented its initiatives on sustainable projects, food waste reduction, circular economy, and water conservation. The University's active engagement underscores its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by promoting institutional leadership in sustainability, fostering community engagement, and advancing solutions for resilient and sustainable urban development.



SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by fostering awareness on digital safety, health, and youth empowerment—key elements of building resilient, inclusive, and sustainable societies.

 Ajman University Honors Winning Clubs in the 2024 Student Club Fair (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University honored the winning student clubs from the 2024 Student Club Fair, celebrating creativity, teamwork, cultural diversity, and student engagement across various categories. By recognizing active student organizations and encouraging inclusive extracurricular participation, the University continues to foster a vibrant campus community that strengthens social belonging and civic responsibility. This initiative reflects Ajman University's commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, which emphasizes building inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable communities—beginning with dynamic, engaged youth who collaborate, lead, and contribute to positive social development.

## <u>Distinguished Alumnus Architect Jamal</u> Hamsho Shines at Dubai Design Week 2024

Ajman University proudly celebrates alumnus Architect Jamal Hamsho from the College of Architecture, Art, and Design (CAAD), who was selected to showcase his innovative furniture collection at the UAE Designer Exhibition 5.0 during Dubai Design Week 2024. Currently practicing at P&T Architects, Jamal integrates sustainable materials and design principles inspired by the Brutalist school of architecture, emphasizing raw textures, structural honesty, and functional beauty. His work exemplifies the creative leadership of AU graduates in shaping resilient, inclusive, and aesthetically sustainable urban environments, contributing to UN SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.





 Graphic Design Students Visit Dubai Design Week (Nov. 2024)

As part of a field learning experience, students explored innovative design concepts that address urban sustainability, cultural preservation, and community well-being. The visit exposed them to global creative practices that inspire solutions for more sustainable and livable cities, supporting **SDG 11** (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

Ajman University Participates in "Expo 971"
 Festival (Nov. 2024)

AU took part in a national cultural festival celebrating Emirati heritage, traditions, and community identity. The event promoted













cultural preservation, social cohesion, and inclusivity, directly supporting SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by helping safeguard cultural heritage and strengthen the sense of belonging within society.

Mass Communication Students Visit
 Mohammed Bin Rashid Library (Oct. 2024)
 Media students explored rare books, manuscripts, and cultural collections at the Mohammed Bin Rashid Library, enriching their understanding of heritage, history, and cultural identity. The visit supports SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by promoting the preservation of cultural heritage and fostering appreciation for knowledge resources that connect communities with their historical roots.

 Ajman University Promotes SDG 11 Through "Youth and Sustainable Cities" Urban October Campaign (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability celebrated Urban October with a "Youth and Sustainable Cities" campaign that reinforced the University's commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by integrating sustainability themes into teaching and learning. Through seminars, student engagement activities, and the showcase of sustainability projects from the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, the campaign highlighted the vital role of youth in advancing resilient and inclusive cities while strengthening sustainability education across the curriculum.











































#### **OPERATION:**

- 1- Energy Efficient Building As part of AU's sustainability initiative, new buildings are designed to utilize natural lighting, reducing carbon footprints and improving energy efficiency.
- 2- <u>Digitalization</u> AU has adopted digitalization since 2018 to improve the quality of business operations, to reduce cost and to reduce its carbon footprint.
- 3- Energy and Water Utilization Efficiency AU promotes efficiency in the utilization of energy and water. AU has installed the building management system (BMS) in its new buildings and its effort to install the same system to the old buildings is ongoing.
- 4- Ammar Al Nuaimi Chairs Meeting of Ajman University Board of Trustees (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's Board of Trustees, chaired by His Highness Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman and Chairman of the Executive Council, convened at the University to review key achievements and strategic developments. His Highness commended AU's notable progress in international rankings, attainment of global accreditations, and transition to a private, non-profit institution—a milestone aligned with the "We the UAE 2031" and "Ajman Vision 2030" frameworks. This transformation strengthens the University's role in advancing sustainable development through academic excellence, innovation, and diversified funding that supports long-term financial stability. The meeting underscored AU's commitment to community engagement, partnership with public and private sectors, and educational initiatives that contribute to UN SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by fostering inclusive, resilient, and knowledge-driven societies.

5- Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi Inaugurates
Ajman University's New Center for Inclusive
Learning for Students of Determination (Nov. 2024)

His Highness Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman, Chairman of the Executive Council, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Ajman University, inaugurated the University's new Center for Inclusive Learning for Students of Determination, reinforcing AU's ongoing transition













to a private, non-profit institution and its dedication to academic excellence and social inclusion. The center provides state-of-the-art learning spaces and assistive technologies such as screen readers, Braille printers, and adaptive tools—to ensure equitable access to education for students with diverse needs. It also facilitates proctored exams and personalised learning support to empower students to achieve academic and professional success. This initiative reflects Ajman University's deep commitment to fostering an inclusive and barrier-free learning environment, advancing UN SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by promoting accessible education, community participation, and equal opportunities for all.

# OUTREACH, PARTNERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES:

 Ajman University Celebrates the 53rd UAE Union Day (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University celebrated the 53rd UAE Union Day under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, with vibrant cultural performances, exhibitions, and collaborations involving colleges, the Office of Sustainability, and heritage institutions. Organized by the Deanship of Student Services, the event highlighted the UAE's cultural identity and national pride through traditional arts, poetry, music, and heritage displays. This celebration supports SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by promoting cultural heritage preservation, community participation, and



























national identity as integral components of sustainable and inclusive societies.

 Ajman University Partners with Sharjah Social Services Department to Advance Community Development (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University and the Sharjah Social Services Department (SSSD) have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen collaboration in education, research, and social development. The agreement, signed by Dr. Abdulhaq Al Nuaimi, Vice Chancellor for Communication and Community Affairs, and Dr. Jassim Mohammed Al Hammadi, Director of Knowledge Management at SSSD, establishes joint initiatives that include field training opportunities, staff development programs, collaborative research, and community engagement activities. Through this partnership,

AU students will gain hands-on experience in social services, while SSSD employees will benefit from continuous learning opportunities and joint innovation projects. The collaboration reinforces Ajman University's mission to empower communities and promote inclusive, knowledge-based social development, advancing UN SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by fostering resilient partnerships and enhancing the well-being of individuals and families across the region.

 Ajman University Hosts Special Concert to Promote Love of Art, Music, and Culture among Students (Nov. 2025)

Ajman University's Office of Student Life organized a vibrant concert at the Sheikh Zayed Hall, celebrating the fusion of art, music, and culture through the creative talents of the Media Club, Music Club, and the Al Afrah

















Emirati Band. The event featured an engaging mix of Arabic, Western, and classical music performed by AU students, reflecting the University's dynamic cultural environment and its commitment to fostering artistic expression and intercultural understanding. Attended by Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Affairs, and Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of Student Life, the concert underscored AU's dedication to nurturing creativity, diversity, and community engagement, advancing UN SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by promoting inclusive cultural participation and the appreciation of heritage and contemporary art within the campus community.

# <u>AU Dentistry Students Advance SDG 11</u> Through Community Oral Care

Ajman University's College of Dentistry is advancing community well-being by providing free and accessible oral healthcare through the AU Dental Clinic and the innovative Mobile Dental Clinic, which reaches laborers, children, the elderly, and people of determination across the UAE. By fostering volunteerism, social responsibility, and inclusive outreach, dentistry students are helping build stronger, healthier, and more compassionate communities. This initiative aligns with SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, demonstrating Aiman University's commitment to creating inclusive environments where essential services are accessible to all, ultimately supporting resilient and sustainable communities through impactful, student-led service.

# • The College of Humanities and Sciences Participates in the Seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child"

The College of Humanities and Sciences participated in the seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child" at the 2024 Sharjah International Book Fair, where Dr. Nagwa Yousif moderated discussions on strategies for positive parenting, effective communication, and the emotional well-being of children. By promoting stronger family relationships and nurturing responsible, engaged youth, the seminar supports community cohesion and long-term social stability. This initiative aligns with SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, reflecting Ajman University's commitment to building inclusive, resilient communities through educational outreach and family-focused awareness programs.







# <u>Celebrating Culture for Sustainable Cities:</u> <u>Ajman University at UNESCO's Andorra Art Camp</u>

Ajman University's College of Architecture, Art, and Design demonstrated its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through its participation in UNESCO's Andorra Art Camp at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. Under the theme "Colors of the Planet," AU contributed to an international platform that promotes cultural heritage, artistic expression, and intercultural dialogue—reinforcing SDG 11 by supporting inclusive, creative, and culturally vibrant communities. This initiative reflects AU's dedication to advancing arts and culture as essential elements of sustainable



urban development, while strengthening global partnerships that enhance dialogue, creativity, and community identity.

 Fostering Sustainable Communities: AU's 2024 Student Club Fair (Sep. 2024)

Ajman University's 2024 Student Club Fair reflects its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by fostering an inclusive, vibrant, and participatory campus environment. With 107 active student clubs representing diverse cultural, academic, and social interests, the fair strengthens community engagement, encourages student participation, and supports the development of creative, collaborative, and socially responsible individuals. By promoting a sense of belonging and providing platforms for dialogue, innovation, and cultural exchange, AU enhances community well-being and con-

tributes to building sustainable and inclusive communities aligned with SDG 11.

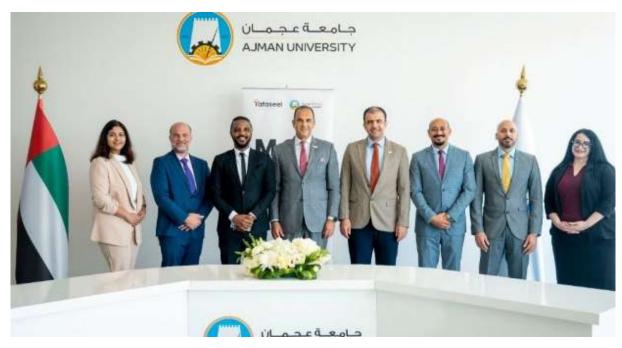
#### • Lending a Helping Hand to Orphaned Children

Ajman University demonstrated its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through a compassionate "Back to School Shopping" initiative supporting orphaned children. Organized by the Office of Community Engagement in partnership with the International Charity Organization, the event provided school supplies and personal support, fostering inclusion, dignity, and equal opportunity within the community. By empowering vulnerable children and encouraging student volunteerism, AU helps strengthen social cohesion and build caring, resilient, and sustainable communities in line with SDG 11.

#### Ajman University Supports SDG 11 Through Academia-Industry Collaboration with Tafaseel BPO

Ajman University advanced its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by partnering with Tafaseel BPO to strengthen academia-industry collaboration. Through this Memorandum of Understanding, AU creates inclusive opportunities for students to gain real-world experience, develop employability skills, and engage with industry experts, contributing to resilient and thriving communities. By supporting youth development and preparing students for the evolving job market, the partnership fosters stronger, more





sustainable social and economic systems in line with SDG 11.

 Ajman University Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir Appointed Chair of AACSB MENA Advisory Council

Ajman University's commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities is reflected in the appointment of Chancellor Dr. Karim Seghir as Chair of the AACSB MENA Advisory Council. Through this influential regional role, AU contributes to strengthening quality education systems, fostering leadership, and enhancing institutional collaboration across the Middle East and North Africa. By advancing excellence in business education and supporting capacity-building within universities, this achievement reinforces AU's role in developing resilient, inclusive, and well-governed communities aligned with SDG 11.

 Ajman University Hosts EPITA Students for Intensive Al Training Program

Ajman University contributed to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by hosting EPITA students for an intensive AI training program that promoted global collaboration, knowledge exchange, and inclusive learning environments. Through advanced academic training and multicultural activities, the initiative strengthened cross-cultural understanding and enhanced the skills of future innovators, reflecting AU's commitment to building empowered, connected, and sustainable communities through education and international partnerships.

 The Office of Sustainability Participates in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem

Ajman University advanced its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities





by participating in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, promoting environmental stewardship and community engagement. Through a volunteer initiative focused on mangrove clean-up and sapling planting, the Office of Sustainability helped protect a vital natural ecosystem that supports resilient communities, safeguards coastal areas, and contributes to a healthier urban environment. This initiative reinforces AU's dedication to sustainability, awareness, and community-driven action in support of SDG 11.

#### Ajman University Signs an MoU with the International Charity Organization

Ajman University reinforced its commitment to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by signing an MoU with the International Charity Organization to expand collaborative community initiatives and social support programs. Through joint activities, training opportunities, and educational assistance, the partnership promotes social cohesion and enhances community well-being, reflecting AU's mission to build inclusive, supportive, and sustainable communities through strategic collaboration and humanitarian engagement.

#### Ajman University Celebrates International Women in Engineering Day (Jul. 2024)

Ajman University contributed to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by celebrating International Women in Engineering Day and empowering female engineers who play a vital role in building inclusive, resilient,



and sustainable societies. Through the panel event organized by the Women Empowerment Council in collaboration with the UAE Society of Engineers, AU fostered dialogue, mentorship, and community engagement, inspiring future women engineers and strengthening their participation in shaping sustainable urban development.

#### Ajman University Supports SDG 11 Through Empowering National Educational Leaders

Ajman University supported SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by celebrating the achievement of Ms. Asma Al Shamsi, who graduated from the National Leadership Academy for Higher Education, reinforcing the role of strong educational leadership in building resilient and sustainable communities. Through her participation in this national program, AU contributes to strengthening the higher education ecosystem, empowering local leaders, and promoting community development aligned with national priorities and SDG 11.





 Ajman University Organizes Two Key Employability Focused Workshops for Students (Jul. 2024)

Ajman University supported SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by organizing employability-focused workshops that equipped students with skills needed to contribute to resilient and thriving communities. Through sessions on public relations, entrepreneurship, and combating illegal trade, the University strengthened student awareness, enhanced career readiness, and promoted responsible community engagement, reflecting AU's commitment to building empowered individuals who positively impact society in alignment with SDG 11.

 Sheikh Rashid bin Humaid Al Nuaimi Attends Ajman University Gala (Jun. 2024)

Ajman University supported SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by hosting a



high-profile Gala that celebrated the institution's academic achievements and strengthened engagement with government, industry, and community partners. By bringing together national leaders, accreditation bodies, and key stakeholders, the event highlighted AU's commitment to inclusive, high-quality education and community development, reinforcing a shared vision for building resilient, knowledge-based, and sustainable societies in alignment with SDG 11.

























#### The College of Architecture, Art, and Design Successfully Concludes Its Summer Camp 2024

Ajman University advanced SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by concluding the Summer CAAD Camp 2024, which engaged high school students in creative, sustainable urban design and community-focused innovation. Through hands-on workshops, interactive learning, and exposure to architecture, art, and design, the program fostered critical thinking, cultural appreciation, and awareness of sustainable urban environments. The initiative reflects AU's commitment to inspiring future designers and empowering youth to contribute to the development of resilient, inclusive, and sustainable communities in alignment with SDG 11.

#### Ajman University's MoU with Burjeel Hospital to Train Students in Healthcare Practice (Jun. 2024)

Ajman University supported SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by signing an MoU with Burjeel Hospital to enhance practical healthcare training and community well-being. Through this partnership, AU strengthens the link between education and healthcare services, empowering students with real-world skills while contributing to healthier, more resilient communities. The collaboration reflects the University's commitment to advancing community-focused development and fostering systems that support sustainable and inclusive societies in alignment with SDG 11.

#### Ajman University Hosts Session on Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future

Ajman University advanced SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by hosting a session on "Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future," promoting environmental awareness and responsible community engagement. Through this collaborative event with BEEAH Education, students gained deeper insights into climate challenges, greenhouse gas impacts, and sustainable solutions that support greener, more resilient communities. The initiative reflects AU's commitment to developing environmentally conscious future leaders who contribute to sustainable urban living in alignment with SDG 11.

 Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)





In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University advanced SDG 11 through collaborations with government bodies, cultural councils, and professional organizations. These partnerships promoted sustainable urban development, environmental awareness, cultural heritage preservation, and inclusive community engagement. Students gained hands-on learning opportunities in urban planning, architecture, law, engineering, and social sciences, while also contributing to the ecological and cultural resilience of the UAE.



<b>Partner Organization</b>	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Department of Land & Real Estate Regulation	Accepted at least one College of Business student for internship each
	tures and competitions.
Municipality & Planning Department	• Provided tuition discounts (Fall 2023: 1 at 20%, 5 at 50%, 51 at 100%;
	Spring 2024: 3 at 20%, 4 at 50%, 51 at 100%).
	Collaborated with AU students to distribute 50 Ghaf trees at Flag Park
	(31 Oct 2023), raising awareness on COP28, climate change, and desert
	,
	Organized the Visual Architecture Workshop with City Space Architecture and Italian Cultural Institute, organizing students with urban film.
	ture and Italian Cultural Institute, equipping students with urban film- making and design skills.
	<ul> <li>Supported hands-on learning experiences in sustainable community</li> </ul>
	and urban development.
	Partnered with AU to deliver training on Future Foresight Strategy.
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>College of Humanities initiatives on cybersecurity and social responsi-</li> </ul>
	bility.
	Organized a field trip for 40 Computer Engineering students (14 Mar)
	2024) to Ajman Police GHQ, providing exposure to innovation, camera
	networks, and data center operations.
	• Ensured internships for College of Business students each semester.
Ministry of Infrastructure Development	Served on the Advisory Board of the College of Architecture, Art & De-
	=
	Collaborated with the College of Humanities on graduation projects re-
	lated to infrastructure and community development.
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	• Co-organized the International Museum Day Forum at AU (18 May 2024).
	Engaged faculty members in symposiums, training for curators, and ad-
	visory activities.
	Proposed the establishment of a museum consulting office at AU to
	support heritage preservation and development.
	Prepared for AU's participation in the 2025 international museum
	councils meeting in Dubai.
Architectural Heritage Society in Dubai	Contributed to advisory board and jury panels of the College of Architecture. Art 8. Design.
	tecture, Art & Design.
	• Supported student engagement in cultural heritage and urban preservation initiatives.
Ajman Society of Social	<ul> <li>Provided training for College of Humanities students (Fall 2024).</li> </ul>
and Cultural Develop- ment	<ul> <li>Organized cultural events, exhibitions, and awareness initiatives in col-</li> </ul>
	laboration with AU.
Ajman Tourism Develop- ment	Hosted an internship for a College of Business student in Spring 2023.
	Supported initiatives related to sustainable cultural and tourism devel-
	opment.
Society of Engineers – UAE	Engaged AU students in competitions and joint public activities.
	Served on the College of Architecture, Art & Design advisory board to
	support professional practice and urban sustainability.





Sustainable Development Goal Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



# RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 12, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these, are the Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment Research Center (HSBERC), Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center (HSSRC) and Digital Transformation Research Center (DTRC). These research centers focussed on the areas associated with sustainable and healthy building plan, design and construction; addressing societal issues in the UAE and important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally; and in the areas of digital transformation, respectively.

#### **RESEARCH:**

 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 12 is shown below:

#### **INNOVATION:**

<u>Distinguished Alumnus Architect Jamal</u>
 <u>Hamsho Shines at Dubai Design Week 2024</u>

 Ajman University alumnus Jamal Hamsho was selected to showcase his innovative,

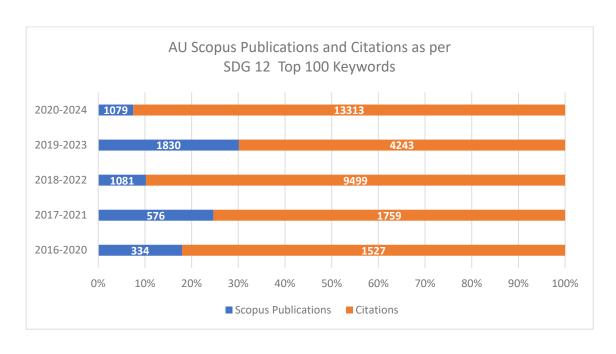
sustainably crafted furniture at the UAE Designer Exhibition 5.0 during Dubai Design Week 2024. His work highlights the creative reuse of raw materials and responsible design principles that minimize waste and promote mindful production, directly supporting SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production. Jamal's achievement reflects AU's commitment to cultivating designers who contribute to more sustainable and environmentally conscious creative industries.

 Ajman University Students Win Top Honors at BEEAH's "Pathway to Net Zero" Competition

Ajman University students excelled in the Pathway to Net Zero competition organized with BEEAH Group, where 20 teams proposed innovative solutions to reduce CO2 emissions. AU students won the top three awards for projects that improved air-conditioning efficiency, introduced an artificial carbon-absorbing tree, and used algae to purify air. The initiative supports SDG 7, SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13 and SDG 17 and reflects AU's commitment to empowering youth to drive sustainability and climate action.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.



#### RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's <u>38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 39 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production. These courses emphasize core sustainability themes such as recycling, waste and hazardous waste management, landfill reduction, and circular resource systems, while also promoting sustainable materials, sustainable buildings, and responsible tourism. They cover critical topics including natural resource conservation, lifecycle assessment, sustainability reporting, corporate responsibility, environmental impact assessment, and resource management, helping students evaluate and reduce the environmental footprint of products, systems,

and human activities. Additionally, the courses address consumer behavior change, food sustainability, and integrated waste management practices, fostering a culture of accountability and environmental stewardship. Collectively, these courses reinforce Ajman University's commitment to advancing sustainable development, environmental protection, and circular economy principles, equipping graduates with the knowledge and practical skills needed to drive resource efficiency, minimize waste, and support responsible consumption and production in alignment with SDG 12.

- AU Climate Change Learning Program
- AU Campaigns Towards the UN SDGs
- The College of Mass Communication Hosts a Seminar on the Role of Influencer Marketing in Shaping Youth Purchasing Decisions in the UAE (Oct. 2024)

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University hosted a seminar on "The Impact of Social Media Influencer Marketing on Youth Purchase Intentions: A Case Study in the UAE", presented by Dr. Mervat Medhat, Associate Professor in the Graphic Design for Media program. The research highlighted how influencer marketing significantly shapes youth purchasing behaviors, brand awareness, and trust in digital endorsements, underscoring the growing role of social media in consumer decision-making. The seminar emphasized the need for businesses to adopt innovative, youth-focused strategies to foster deeper engagement, while showcasing AU's commitment to supporting research that addresses contemporary societal and market challenges (SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals).









 <u>Dr. Muna Salameh Joins the Global Ambas-sadors of Sustainability as a Member of the</u> International Panel of Sustainability Experts

Dr. Muna Salameh, Senior Lecturer at the College of Architecture, Art and Design at Ajman University, has joined the Global Ambassadors of Sustainability (GAoS) as a certified member of the International Panel of Sustainability Experts, reflecting her strong commitment to advancing global sustainability and environmental awareness. GAoS, an international non-profit network and think tank registered in Canada, works with leading institutions worldwide to deliver impactful training programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives that support sustainable development. This prestigious membership, granted by the Global Green Chamber of Commerce, highlights Dr. Salameh's contributions to sustainability education and aligns with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action), reinforcing Ajman University's mission to empower sustainability leaders who drive positive change locally and globally.

 Ajman University Students Participate in Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University, presenting their "Sustaina" initiative, which promotes responsible practices and environmental awareness in alignment with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). Through creative activities such as the "Trash to Treasure" recycled-art competition and other SDG-themed engagements, the initiative encouraged waste



reduction, resource efficiency, and sustainable habits among the campus community. The symposium also highlighted wider contributions to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by showcasing youth-led projects, campus tree planting, and sustainability-focused collaborations, reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to empowering students as drivers of environmental responsibility and positive change.

 Ajman University Students Participate in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition organized by the Emirates Environmental Group, presenting innovative ideas that promote sustainable habits and responsible resource use in alignment with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). Through themes focused on green innovation, sustainable cities, ocean preservation, and climate awareness, AU students













#### RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



















demonstrated solutions that encourage waste reduction, mindful consumption, and environmentally responsible decision-making. The competition also contributed to broader sustainability objectives linked to SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by fostering environmental awareness, critical thinking, and youth-driven advocacy for a more sustainable future.

Integrated Marketing Communication
 Students Present Graduation Projects
 Promoting Health, Safety, and Responsible
 Lifestyles (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's Integrated Marketing Communication students presented their graduation projects under the theme "Health and Safety for the Generations of the UAE," showcasing creative awareness campaigns that encouraged responsible habits and mindful lifestyle choices in alignment with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). Through campaigns focused on healthy nutrition, well-being, youth empowerment, and community awareness, the initiative promoted informed decision-making and preventive behaviors that contribute to sustainable lifestyles. The exhibition also supported national priorities linked to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by raising awareness, fostering positive behavioral change, and empowering youth to adopt healthier and more responsible daily practices.













 Ajman University Showcases Sustainability Leadership at Global Conference (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University participated in The Grace Preservation Second Global Conference, highlighting its achievements in sustainability and reinforcing its commitment to SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through discussions on food waste reduction, circular economy principles, and sustainable resource management. Represented by the Office of Sustainability, AU shared its best practices in advancing responsible consumption and promoting sustainability education, while also contributing to broader national and global goals connected to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). The conference provided a valuable platform for fostering collaboration, exchanging knowledge, and showcasing AU's role in shaping future sustainability leaders and creating impact at institutional and community levels.

 Students and Staff of Ajman University Visit GITEX Dubai 2024 to Explore the Latest Technological Innovations in Sustainability

Students and staff from Ajman University visited GITEX Dubai 2024 at the Dubai World Trade Centre from October 14 to 18, as part of the Office of Sustainability's efforts to raise awareness about cutting-edge environmental technologies that support climate action and sustainable development. The exhibition provided participants with valuable exposure to innovations aimed at reducing carbon emissions, improving resource management, and advancing the green economy, including



renewable-powered data centers, Al-driven energy management systems, smart grids with storage solutions, carbon-capture technologies, and IoT tools for real-time air and water monitoring. Through presentations, workshops, and live demonstrations, the visit deepened students' and staff understanding of modern sustainability applications and supported Ajman University's commitment to SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action), while inspiring the AU community to explore innovative solutions that contribute to a cleaner and more sustainable future.

#### **OPERATION:**

AU fosters the development of initiatives and best practices and continuing efforts that promote sustainability on campus. In particular, the following are examples of initiatives and best practices at AU that support SDG 12:



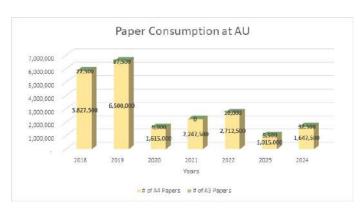
#### RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

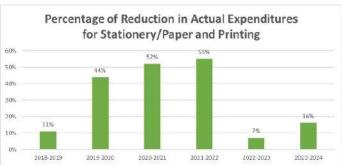
- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Campus community members are encouraged to participate in AU's recycling efforts by separating recyclable from non-recyclable materials; and, by placing recyclable materials in appropriately marked containers.
- Energy Conservation AU's has continued efforts that reduce energy use on campus.
- Water Conservation AU is conserving and repurposing water to keep the campus clean as well as green.
- <u>Digitalization</u> AU has adopted digitalization since 2018 to improve the quality of business operations, to reduce cost and to reduce its carbon footprint.
  - o Paper Consumption at AU (2018–2024)
    - From 2018 to 2024, AU's consumption of A4 and A3 paper showed notable fluctuations, reflecting the effects of digitalization and evolving operational needs. Overall, the trend demonstrates the university's commitment to reducing paper usage, optimizing resources, and advancing sustainable practices in line with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).
  - Reduction in Expenditures for Stationery and Printing (2018–2024)
    - AU's digitalization efforts have resulted in a consistent reduction in actual expenditures for stationery and printing. Below is a summary of percentage reductions by academic year:

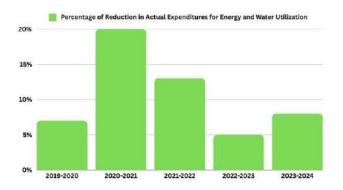
#### • Energy and Water Utilization Efficiency

Ajman University (AU) promotes energy and water efficiency through several key initiatives. A Building Management System (BMS) has been installed in new buildings, with plans to expand it to older ones, optimizing energy use. The university also conserves water with a sewage treatment plant, reverse osmosis plant, and hand-sensor operated wash basins.

A notable recent effort is the installation of a Solar Powered Lighting System in the parking area, reducing electricity consumption and operational costs while enhancing campus safety. These initiatives have led to notable reductions in energy and water expenditures:







- Sustainable Investment Policy Ajman University is a socially responsible institution that promotes community engagement, environmental sustainability and global citizenship while supporting the needs and challenges of the local and global community. In line with the University's core values, the Sustainable Investment Policy sets forth the University's approach to sustainable investment, which supports SDG 12.
- AU Environmental Health and Safety Manual –
  AU has an Office of Environmental Health and
  Safety the leads the implementation of the EHS
  Manual that ensures environmental health
  and safety, including waste management and
  handling of toxic chemical in the laboratories
  and clinics.

















#### • "Serve with Heart" Campaign

Ajman University's "Serve with Heart" campaign represents a conscientious effort to promote sustainability and minimize food waste at university events. The campaign goes beyond just reducing serving sizes; it is backed by event re-confirmations 2-day before the event, ensuring that the food is prepared with precision. Instead of discarding any extra food from the event, it is hygienically stored and shared with the cleaning and ground staff at the Sheikh Zaved Center, effectively reducing waste while fulfilling a social responsibility. By efficiently managing food resources, the university significantly advances the goals of SDG 12, which emphasizes responsible consumption and production.

#### AU Launches Health and Safety-First Aid Program

This initiative supports SDG 12 by encouraging the responsible and efficient use of essential health and safety resources. Through the distribution of compact and well-planned first aid kits, Ajman University promotes a culture of preparedness that helps minimize waste, ensures responsible consumption of medical supplies, and encourages the proactive management of resources for health and safety needs. By equipping staff with the right tools for minor incidents, the university reduces unnecessary use of larger medical interventions and reinforces sustainable, preventive practices across campus.

















#### RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

<u>Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security</u>
 <u>Program - Cultivating a Greener Tomorrow:</u>
 Innovation for Food Security

Ajman University continued to advance sustainable agriculture and responsible consumption through its campus initiative that promoted food security and sustainable practices in alignment with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). As part of the AU Climate Change Learning Program and AU Campaigns Towards the UN SDGs, students joined the Office of Sustainability in distributing planting kits made from recycled materials, including seed-embedded pencils that can be planted after use. By encouraging the community to grow their own herbs and vegetables, the initiative supported SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), strengthened environmental awareness in line with SDG 4 (Quality Education), and contributed to greener, more resilient communities in support of SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). This simple yet creative action fostered circular economy habits, reduced waste, and reinforced Ajman University's commitment to building a culture of sustainability across campus.

 Ajman University Backs "Plant the Emirates" Initiative, Strengthening National Efforts in Food Security and Climate Action (Oct. 2024

Ajman University proudly supports the recently launched "Plant the Emirates" initiative by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, aimed at boosting local agriculture, enhancing food security, and advancing national climate action. The initiative aligns with the University's ongoing efforts to promote responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), while also supporting food security and sustainable agriculture (SDG 2) and climate action (SDG 13).

Through education, research, sustainable campus practices, and community engagement, Ajman University continues to champion environmental stewardship and empower future leaders who can shape resilient and sustainable communities (SDG 11). By backing "Plant the Emirates," the University reinforces its commitment to advancing national sustainability priorities and driving impactful contributions that benefit society and the environment.







#### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 Ajman University Volunteers Restore Coastal <u>Ecosystems Through Mangrove Planting and Clean-Up Initiative</u> (Dec. 2024)

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University organized a Mangrove Planting and Clean-Up Initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club, bringing together 25 AU students and staff volunteers to raise environmental awareness and support the protection of marine ecosystems. The initiative involved planting mangrove trees to enhance coastal resilience and biodiversity, alongside a clean-up campaign to reduce plastic pollution and protect marine

life. By engaging the community in hands-on environmental action, the initiative promoted responsible waste management and sustainable ecosystems in alignment with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and SDG 15 (Life on Land), reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to sustainability, marine conservation, and community participation for the benefit of future generations.

 Ajman University Community Members and Students Participate in the "Clean UAE 2024" Campaign to Promote Environmental Sustainability (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University community members and students participated in the "Clean UAE 2024" campaign to promote responsible waste management in alignment with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). By supporting national clean-up efforts and encouraging waste reduction, recycling, and responsible disposal, the initiative strengthened environmental awareness and sustainable habits across the community, while also contributing to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through reduced pollution and improved ecosystem protection.

 Ajman University Student Showcases Air Quality Innovation at COP29

Ajman University undergraduate Doaa Al Alimi presented her award-winning "Electric Green Pot" at COP29 in Baku, showcasing a sustainable air purification solution that promotes responsible resource use and supports SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). By integrating an energy-efficient design that purifies air, captures carbon, and enhances plant growth, the project demonstrates how innovative student solutions can reduce environmental impact and promote circular, low-waste practices. With mentorship from the Office of Sustainability and ICARDA, this



achievement also reinforces broader climate goals connected to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), highlighting Ajman University's role in advancing sustainability leadership through student-driven innovation.

 Ajman University Community Members and Students Participate in the "Clean UAE 2024" Campaign to Promote Environmental Sustainability

Ajman University community members and students, along with their families, actively participated in the 23rd edition of the "Clean UAE 2024" campaign, organized by the Emirates Environmental Group under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, reflecting the University's commitment to environmental sustainability, community engagement, and responsible stewardship of natural resources. As part of a nationwide effort held from December 5 to 14, the campaign brought together 83,123 volunteers and resulted in the collection of 43,441 kilograms of waste across 95.5 square kilometers, reinforcing the values of teamwork, volunteerism, and environmental responsibility. Ajman University's delegation—comprising students, staff, faculty, and their families joined experts and volunteers from various organizations in cleaning natural areas, gaining firsthand insights into waste













#### RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



management challenges, and committing to sustainable habits such as recycling, reducing plastic use, and protecting ecosystems. The campaign aligns with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), demonstrating AU's dedication to advancing national sustainability goals and empowering its community to contribute to a cleaner and greener future.

# Ajman University: An Educational Partner in ICIP 2024

Ajman University participated as an educational partner in the 2024 IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), held at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre from October 27 to 30, reflecting the University's commitment to advancing scientific research, sustainable technological development, and innovation in alignment with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Representing AU, Prof. Khaled Assaleh, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs, joined a panel at the PROGRESS workshop titled "Democratizing AI and RISING with Limited Resources," which emphasized expanding access to artificial intelligence and promoting ethical, resource-efficient technological solutions. Students and alumni from the College of Mass Communication also supported the conference's media coverage under the supervision of Dr. Dina El-Khattat, gaining hands-on skills that enhance their professional readiness. As one of the world's premier platforms in image and video processing, ICIP brought together leading experts to showcase advancements in AI, data analysis, and computer vision, and Ajman University's



participation underscores its dedication to empowering youth, strengthening international academic collaboration, and preparing graduates to excel in a rapidly evolving and sustainability-focused technological landscape.

# Al and Digital Transformation Take Center Stage in Mining Sector Panel

Ajman University's Dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences, Dr. Fares Howari, moderated a high-profile panel on Innovation and Digital Transformation in the Mining Sector, in collaboration with key industry partners including the Fujairah Natural Resources Corporation, the Arab Industrial Development Standardization and Mining Organization, and the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, bringing together leading experts from the UAE and beyond to explore how artificial intelligence, data analytics, and digital technologies are reshaping the mining industry. The discussion examined Al-driven mineral exploration, predictive maintenance, sustainability challenges, cybersecurity, and workforce transformation, underscoring the UAE's commitment to advancing responsible and technology-enabled resource management. The session aligns with SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by promoting smarter, cleaner, and more sustainable industrial practices, while reinforcing Ajman University's role in driving dialogue, innovation, and knowledge exchange in critical national

 Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Participates in the Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders Summit 2024

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability participated in the Forbes Middle East Sus-



tainability Leaders Summit 2024, held from October 17 to 18 at Marina Hall, ADNEC in Abu Dhabi under the theme "Shaping a Sustainable Tomorrow," bringing together regional and global experts to advance climate resilience, responsible economic growth, and innovative sustainability solutions. Representing the University, Maya Haddad, Senior Sustainability Manager, contributed to panel discussions on the role of higher education in driving sustainable transformation and embedding sustainability principles across institutions and communities. Chaired by H.E. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade, the summit served as a key platform for collaboration between public and private sectors, focusing on green practices that address environmental and economic challenges in the region. Ajman University's engagement aligns with SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), reaffirming its commitment to national and global sustainability agendas and reinforcing its role as a leading academic institution championing innovation, climate action, and sustainable development.



Ajman University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Greenpeace Middle East and North Africa (Greenpeace MENA) to launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award," an initiative that encourages innovative thinking on redefining wellbeing, sustainability, and future economic models in the UAE. The award—open to students and independent researchers—invites proposals that rethink economic systems, explore alternative wellbeing indicators beyond GDP, and support sustainable energy transitions, reflecting national and global priorities in responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), affordable and clean energy (SDG 7), and climate action (SDG 13).

This collaboration reinforces Ajman University's commitment to advancing sustainability, empowering youth, and promoting research that supports societal wellbeing and inclusive development. Through this MoU, the University continues to foster community engagement, academic collaboration, and forward-thinking solutions that contribute to a more resilient, equitable, and environmentally responsible future (SDG 17).

#### Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University advanced SDG 12 through partnerships that emphasized sustainability awareness, waste reduction, resource efficiency, and socially responsible initiatives. Collaborations with government entities, cultural organizations, and private partners provided AU students and faculty with opportunities to integrate sustainability into education, research, and community engagement, fostering a culture of responsible consumption and production.





### **RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Municipality & Planning Department	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU College of Law students to distribute 50 Ghaf trees at Flag Park (31 Oct 2023) while raising awareness of COP28, climate change, and greenhouse gas emissions.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Organized workshops on architecture and urban sustainability, integrating environmental protection and community awareness.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Delivered training on Future Foresight Strategy, including sustainable planning themes.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>Supported College of Humanities awareness workshops and guest lectures focused on social responsibility and cyberse- curity, encouraging responsible digital and community prac- tices.</li> </ul>
Ajman Chamber	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU on Career Day and World Social Work Day activities, highlighting environmental and social respon- sibility in business practices.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Promoted awareness among students on the importance of sustainability in economic and social development.</li> </ul>
Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Develop-	<ul> <li>Organized events and exhibitions in collaboration with AU that raised student awareness about social responsibility and sustainability.</li> </ul>
ment	<ul> <li>Engaged College of Humanities students in training programs to strengthen their role in community-oriented responsible practices.</li> </ul>
Ajman Business Women Council	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU Women's Empowerment Council for the "4x1 Exhibition" (22 Feb 2024), showcasing sustainable and home-based Emirati women's projects.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Promoted responsible entrepreneurship and local production aligned with sustainability goals.</li> </ul>
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	<ul> <li>Co-organized International Museum Day Forum (18 May 2024) at AU to encourage sustainable practices in cultural heritage management.</li> </ul>
,	<ul> <li>Developed proposals for sustainable museum design and op- erations, linking culture and responsible resource use.</li> </ul>
Humaid Bin Rashid Alnu- aimi Foundation	<ul> <li>Supported AU's Mobile Dental Clinic (6 Feb 2024), providing health services with a community-focused and resource-effi- cient approach.</li> </ul>
	• Engaged students in research and volunteer initiatives that promoted sustainable social and cultural practices.
Society of Engineers – UAE	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU in competitions and advisory roles to promote sustainable engineering and responsible use of re- sources in urban development projects.</li> </ul>





Sustainable Development Goal Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

# **CLIMATE ACTION**



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 13, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

#### **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

#### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

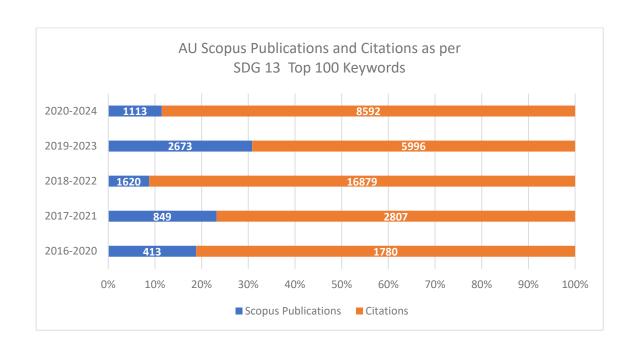
The aim of AU Research Centers is to provide real world solutions and educational training in new emerging fields that would contribute to new developments in these fields and creation of new talent. The AU Research Centers act as a vital link to other regional/international centers, apart from providing unique training opportunities for next-gen researchers and serving as a valuable information source for the community at large. Three of these research centers covers key areas of national and international strategic importance relevant to SDG 11:

- 1. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> Research Center (HSBERC)
- 2. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)
- Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center (HSSRC)

#### **RESEARCH:**

- AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 13 is shown below.
- Ajman University Launches UN-Supported <u>MENA Climate Solutions Research Network</u> (Aug. 2024)

Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability and in collaboration with the UAE Universities Climate Network, launched the MENA Climate Solutions Research Network (MENA CSRN) with support from the UN High-Level Climate Champions, strengthening regional action toward SDG 13 (Climate Action). The initiative will drive multidisciplinary research and solutions across energy, transport, finance, land use, industry, and water, aligned with the 2030 Climate Solutions Implementation Roadmap. By accelerating climate innovation, advancing practical mitigation and adaptation strategies, and fostering collaboration across the MENA region, the network reinforces Ajman University's leadership in sustainability and supports SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



#### **CLIMATE ACTION**



#### INNOVATION:

 Ajman University Student Presents Climate Innovation at COP29 in Support of SDG 13 (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University undergraduate Doaa Al Alimi showcased her award-winning "Electric Green Pot" project at COP29 in Baku, presenting a pioneering air-quality and carbon-capture solution that advances SDG 13 (Climate Action) through sustainable, nature-based climate mitigation. The project, developed with fellow students and supported by the AU Office of Sustainability and ICARDA, focuses on purifying air, reducing carbon emissions, and promoting plant growth, highlighting practical approaches to combat climate change. By demonstrating youth-driven innovation on a global platform, the initiative reinforces Ajman University's commitment to climate action while also contributing to SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 15 (Life on Land).

The Office of Sustainability Launches Air Quality Monitoring System in Collaboration with Al Athaab and Aeron Systems (Jan. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability launched a new air quality monitoring system on campus in collaboration with Al Athaab Environment and Safety Solutions LLC and Aeron Systems, supporting SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being and SDG 13: Climate Action. The system measures key pollutants such as carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and ozone in accordance with local and international standards, enabling data-driven actions to improve outdoor air quality and safeguard the health of students, faculty, and staff. By integrating advanced monitoring technology with awareness campaigns and sustainability initiatives, Ajman University reinforces its commitment to providing a healthy learning environment

and promoting a culture of environmental responsibility within its community.

#### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within General Education courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable
  Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's <u>38 Academic Programs Mapping with the UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of <u>28 courses</u> have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 13: Climate Action. These courses emphasize key themes such as climate change mitigation, carbon reduction strategies, and the environmental impact of human activities, while exploring renewable and clean energy solutions, sustainable energy systems, and innovations in power generation and energy storage. Topics also cover the protection of water resources, environmental sustainability, and the global response to climate change, including policies, technologies, and practices that support environmental protection, sustainable develop-

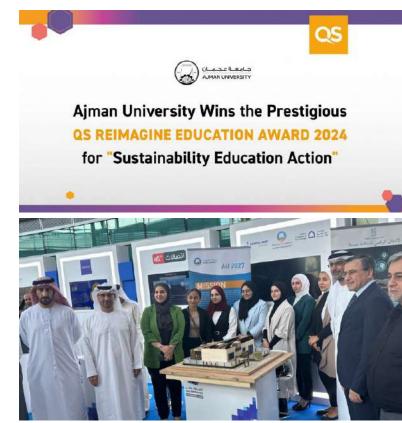
ment, and long-term climate resilience. Collectively, these courses equip students with the knowledge and skills to contribute to climate-responsive solutions and advance global sustainability efforts.

- AU Climate Change Learning Program
- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs
- Ajman University Wins QS Reimagine Education Award 2024 for Climate Action (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University received the prestigious QS Reimagine Education Award 2024 for its "Greening Communities: Mangrove Planting Project," a flagship climate initiative that advances SDG 13 (Climate Action) by empowering students and local communities to participate in mangrove restoration, a key nature-based solution for carbon sequestration and climate mitigation. Led by the Office of Sustainability and aligned with the UAE's target of planting 100 million mangroves by 2030, the project enhances climate resilience, raises environmental awareness through education and workshops, and inspires youth-driven action to combat climate change while also supporting SDG 15 (Life on Land) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Instills Climate Responsibility in New Students Through Sustainability Orientation (Aug. 2024)

The Office of Sustainability conducted an orientation session titled "Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action" to introduce new and international students to the University's climate priorities, advancing SDG 13 (Climate Action) by fostering awareness of climate impacts, environmental responsibility, and community safety. The session empowered students with knowledge on climate action, sustainable practices, and emergency response, reinforcing Ajman University's com-



mitment to building a climate-conscious campus and nurturing environmentally responsible future leaders.

 Ajman University Advances Climate Action at MOEI Innovation Week in Dubai

Ajman University participated in the MOEI Innovation Week in Dubai, where students and faculty showcased innovative architectural models designed to reduce energy consumption and support sustainable urban development. Aligned with SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), the projects focused on mitigating climate change and lowering greenhouse gas emissions through creative and energy-efficient design solutions. This participation reflects Ajman University's commitment to ad-







#### **CLIMATE ACTION**

vancing sustainability, fostering innovation, and empowering the next generation to contribute to a greener and more resilient future.

#### **OPERATION:**

 AU, in line with SDG 13, actively addressing climate change and sustainability through <u>var-</u> ious initiatives.

#### Office of Sustainability

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability, established in 2018 as the Office of Environmental Health and Safety and renamed in 2022, leads the institution's environmental, social, and economic sustainability agenda through initiatives that advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals—especially SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Guided by its vision to be a national and global leader in sustainable practices, the Office drives climate action, emissions reduction, and ecosystem protection, while embedding sustainability in education, research, operations, and community engagement. Under the leadership of its Senior Sustainability Manager, the Office champions youth empowerment, ESG policy participation, and international collaboration through high-level platforms such as COP conferences, national programs, and global sustainability networks, ensuring that sustainability becomes a core value across Aiman University and the broader community.

#### • <u>Sustainability Committee</u>

Ajman University's Sustainability Committee serves as the central governing body for advancing institutional sustainability in alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), as well as the UAE Green Agenda, the Net Zero by 2050 Strategy, and AU's Climate and Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030. Chaired by the Vice Chancellor for Financial and Administrative Affairs and composed of faculty, staff, student, and

alumni representatives, the Committee provides strategic oversight, drives sustainability policies, and promotes responsible practices in operations, academics, research, and community engagement. Through integrated planning, cross-campus collaboration, data-driven monitoring, and strategic partnerships, the Committee works to reduce the University's environmental footprint, enhance social responsibility, and foster a culture of sustainability, empowering the AU community to lead climate action and contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future.

In addition, AU as a whole, fosters the development of initiatives, best practices and continuing efforts that promote sustainability on campus and in serving the community. In particular, the following are examples of initiatives and best practices at AU that support SDG 13:

#### Campus

- Energy Conservation
- Water Conservation
- o Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- o A Tree to Set Them Free Project
- Energy and Water Utilization
   Efficiency
- o **Digitalization**
- Sustainable Investment Policy
- Sustainability Clubs

#### Community

- o AquaGreen's Sustainable Home
- Mobile Dental Clinic
- Carbon Emissions Reduction









#### Classrooms

- o Smart Classrooms
- Simulated Labs
- E-textbooks

#### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 Ajman University Co-leads the UCN Decarbonization Academy in Support of SDG 13

Ajman University co-led the launch of the UCN Decarbonization Academy to support SDG 13 (Climate Action) by empowering institutions with the knowledge and skills needed to develop effective decarbonization strategies. Through expert-led workshops on climate awareness, carbon reduction planning, emissions measurement, and energy efficiency, the academy strengthens climate literacy and supports the UAE's vision for carbon neutrality, reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to leading climate action and advancing sustainable practices across the higher education sector.

 Ajman University Conducts Mangrove Planting and Clean-Up Drive at Al Zorah Golf Club (Dec. 2024)

The Office of Sustainability at Aiman University organized a mangrove planting and coastal clean-up initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club to advance SDG 13 (Climate Action) through handson environmental engagement. The activity brought together 25 volunteers from the AU community who participated in planting mangroves—vital natural carbon sinks that help mitigate climate change, enhance coastal protection, and preserve biodiversity—while also collecting plastic waste and pollutants harmful to marine life. By fostering awareness on climate mitigation and sustainability, the initiative strengthened environmental stewardship and community participation in protecting marine ecosystems, aligning with SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Joins "Clean UAE 2024" to Support Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University community members, students, and their families actively participated in the nationwide "Clean UAE 2024" campaign, reinforcing the University's commitment to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through



large-scale environmental volunteerism. Held under the patronage of the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, the campaign empowered participants to engage in waste clean-up efforts, reduce pollution, and promote eco-friendly practices that protect natural resources and mitigate environmental harm. By fostering climate awareness, responsible waste management, and community participation, Ajman University strengthened environmental stewardship and contributed to national sustainability goals, while also supporting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Students Join "Sustainability Heroes" Program to Champion Climate Action and Youth Empowerment (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students, in coordination with the Office of Sustainability, participated in the launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" program, a national youth initiative led by Nestlé and INJAZ UAE that advances SDG 13 (Climate Action) by equipping young leaders with the skills to drive sustainable solutions. Through



# **CLIMATE ACTION**

















expert-led workshops, hands-on learning, and training focused on environmental challenges and responsible innovation, AU students are empowered to design impactful sustainability projects that promote climate awareness, mitigation, and long-term environmental stewardship. This initiative reinforces the University's commitment to cultivating climate-conscious youth leaders while also supporting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Students Promote Climate Action at Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University, showcasing their "Sustaina" initiative, which advances SDG 13 (Climate Action) through awareness, hands-on activities, and student-led climate solutions. As part of a week-long program dedicated to the UN

SDGs, the initiative emphasized climate action through tree planting, carbon footprint awareness, and innovative sustainability projects, while also promoting responsible behaviors that reduce environmental impact. By engaging with experts and peers, AU students strengthened their role as climate ambassadors and contributed to broader sustainability goals, supporting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

Ajman University Students Advocate for Climate Action at Environmental Public Speaking Competition (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition, presenting innovative ideas that support SDG 13 (Climate Action) through youth-led solutions focused on cli-



















mate awareness, green innovation, and environmental protection. Competing under themes such as developing sustainable cities and promoting planetary security, AU students highlighted the urgent need for climate mitigation and environmental stewardship, while also emphasizing the role of oceans and ecosystems in stabilizing the global climate. Their participation reflects Ajman University's commitment to empowering students as sustainability advocates and aligns with broader goals including SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

 Ajman University Highlights Innovation Supporting Climate Action in Mining Sector Panel

Ajman University participated in a high-level panel on digital transformation in the mining sector, where discussions emphasized how Al and advanced technologies can drive operational efficiency while reducing environmental impact, aligning with SDG 13 (Climate Action). By addressing sustainability challenges, cleaner resource extraction, and tech-enabled environmental safeguards, the session underscored the role of innovation in mitigating climate risks and supporting a more sustainable future, alongside related goals such as SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).

Ajman University Students Drive Climate Innovation at Pathway to Net-Zero Competition

Ajman University students excelled in the "Pathway to Net Zero: Innovating for a Sustainable Future" competition by BEEAH, presenting practical, youth-led climate solutions that directly advance SDG 13 (Climate Action) through CO<sub>2</sub> reduction and net-zero innovation. By designing sustainable prototypes—ranging from energy-efficient systems to carbon-capture concepts—the students demonstrated how creative thinking and entrepreneurship can support climate mitigation and a low-carbon future. The initiative reflects AU's commitment to cultivating climate-conscious innovators and reinforces related goals including SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).



# **CLIMATE ACTION**

 Ajman University Highlights Climate Action at Global Sustainability Conference

Ajman University participated in The Grace Preservation Second Global Conference, showcasing its sustainability achievements and reinforcing its commitment to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through advocacy, knowledge-sharing, and institutional best practices. With discussions centered on climate-related themes—including sustainable agriculture, food waste reduction, water preservation, and circular economy solutions—AU emphasized the role of universities in driving climate mitigation and resilience. Through active engagement and panel contributions, the University demonstrated its dedication to advancing sustainability locally and globally, while also supporting SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).

Ajman University Launches "Mangrove Champions" to Advance Climate Action and Ecosystem Protection (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability launched the "Mangrove Champions" initiative, engaging students in mangrove planting and conservation activities that support SDG 13 (Climate Action) through nature-based climate solutions. By raising awareness of mangroves' vital role in carbon sequestration, coastal protection, and ecosystem resilience, the initiative strengthens youth participation in climate mitigation while fostering environmental stewardship and sustainable habits. The program also reinforces SDG 15 (Life on Land) and aligns with the UAE's national sustainability agenda by encouraging hands-on conservation and community collaboration.

 Ajman University Advances Climate Action Through National ESG Consultation (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University, represented by its Office of Sustainability, participated in the MOCCAE stakeholder consultation on ESG practices, reinforcing its support for SDG 13 (Climate Action) by contributing expert recommendations on climate adaptation, disaster management, and sustainable governance. Through active engagement with government and industry partners, the University emphasized the role of academia in shaping climate-responsive policies and advancing collaborative ESG frameworks, while also supporting SDG 17













(Partnerships for the Goals) and national sustainability priorities.

 Ajman University Strengthens Climate Action at Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders (Oct. 2024)

Summit Ajman University's Office of Sustainability participated in the Forbes Middle East Sustainability Leaders Summit 2024, reinforc-

ing its commitment to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by engaging in high-level discussions on climate resilience, sustainable development, and green transformation. Represented by Senior Sustainability Manager Maya Haddad, AU highlighted the essential role of higher education in advancing climate solutions and integrating sustainability into institutional practices, while fostering regional and global collaboration in support of a low-carbon, more sustainable future, in alignment with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

Ajman University Promotes Climate Awareness at Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum
 2024 (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability and Office of Community Engagement participated in the Arabia CSR & Sustainability Forum 2024, advancing SDG 13 (Climate Action) by fostering climate awareness, environmental responsibility, and youth engagement in sustainability dialogue. Through student participation and discussions on innovation, responsible development, and environmental challenges, the University reinforced its commitment to empowering communities and supporting collaborative climate action, in alignment with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) and national sustainability efforts.



Ajman University Explores Climate-Tech Solutions at GITEX 2024 (Oct. 2024)

Students and staff from Ajman University visited GITEX Dubai 2024, supporting SDG 13 (Climate Action) by exploring cutting-edge sustainability technologies designed to reduce carbon emissions, enhance resource efficiency, and strengthen environmental resilience. Through exposure to innovations such as Al-driven energy systems, green data centers, smart grids, and carbon capture solutions, participants deepened their understanding of climate mitigation technologies and the role of digital transformation in advancing a low-carbon, sustainable future, while also contributing to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).



# **CLIMATE ACTION**



 Ajman University Champions Youth Climate Action Through "Urban October" Campaign

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University marked "Urban October" with a campaign on Youth and Sustainable Cities, advancing SDG 13 (Climate Action) by raising awareness of the urgent need for climate-resilient and sustainable urban development. Through seminars, discussions, and youth-focused activities, the campaign highlighted the role of young people in driving climate solutions and shaping sustainable cities, while promoting environmentally responsible behaviors and supporting related goals such as SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

# Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 13 (Climate Action)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University advanced SDG 13 by collaborating with government entities, municipal departments, and cultural organizations to strengthen climate awareness, promote sustainable practices, and engage students in environmental protection initiatives. Through hands-on activities, awareness campaigns, and research collaborations, AU empowered students to contribute to global efforts against climate change while reinforcing the UAE's sustainability vision.



Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Municipality & Planning Department	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU College of Law students to distribute 50 Ghaf trees at Flag Park (31 Oct 2023), raising awareness on COP28, climate change, and greenhouse gas emissions.</li> <li>Highlighted the ecological and cultural importance of the Ghaf tree, a drought-tolerant species vital to biodiversity in desert ecosystems.</li> <li>Supported workshops and activities linking urban planning with climate resilience.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>Engaged AU students in community service and social responsibility initiatives, some of which incorporated themes of sustainability and environmental stewardship.</li> <li>Organized training and awareness activities that indirectly supported responsible climate-related action through forward-looking strategy planning.</li> </ul>
Ajman Chamber	<ul> <li>Participated in collaborative initiatives and awareness campaigns promoting sustainability in business and society.</li> <li>Encouraged students and community members to integrate environmental responsibility into economic development practices.</li> </ul>
Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Develop- ment	<ul> <li>Conducted events, exhibitions, and training sessions that included community awareness on sustainability and environmental challenges.</li> <li>Engaged AU students in socially responsible projects aligned with climate and sustainability awareness.</li> </ul>
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU to highlight sustainable practices in cultural heritage management, emphasizing climate-sensitive design and operations.</li> <li>Organized International Museum Day Forum (18 May 2024) with discussions on sustainability and climate awareness in heritage preservation.</li> </ul>
Society of Engineers – UAE	<ul> <li>Engaged AU students in competitions and projects focused on sustainable engineering solutions that reduce environmental impact.</li> <li>Promoted innovation in infrastructure design to align with climate action goals.</li> </ul>



Sustainable Development Goal Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.





AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 14, has undertaken initiatives, actions, collaborations and partnerships with the external community and reports the following data.

# **RESEARCH AND INNOVATION:**

### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these is the Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center (HSSRC), which aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally. HSSRC will provide a distinct climate of comprehensive research opportunities as well as an ability to attract high-quality scientific researchers through partnerships and collaborations. In addition, AU has the Centre of Medical and Bio-allied Health Sciences Research (CMBHSR), which research covers Medical and Bio-allied Health Sciences is contributing to the development of life-changing technologies with significant impact on individuals and communities.

# **RESEARCH:**

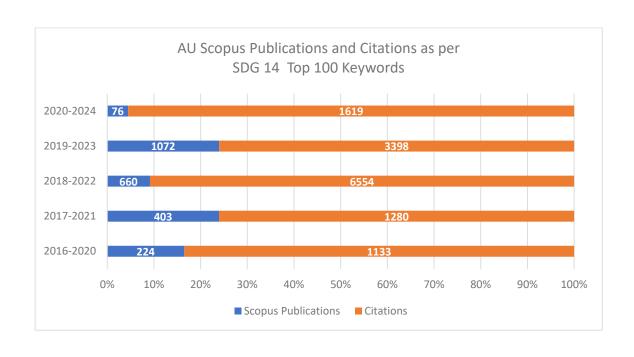
 AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 14 is shown below:

# **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate **Programs:** AU's 15 graduate explicitly programs integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.



# LIFE BELOW WATER

- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the <u>UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 30 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 14: Life Below Water. These courses emphasize key themes such as marine conservation, ocean protection, maritime resource management, ecosystem restoration, oceanography, and water quality preservation, with a strong focus on addressing marine pollution, oil and hydrocarbon contaminants, and oceanic pollutants that threaten aquatic ecosystems. The courses also explore management and mitigation strategies, including sustainable maritime practices, pollution control, and the protection of vulnerable marine environments. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills needed to address challenges related to ocean conservation, pollutant reduction, and ecosystem resilience, these courses prepare future leaders to support global efforts in protecting oceans and advancing long-term sustainability.
- AU Climate Change Learning Program
- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs
- Ajman University Conducts "Your Planet Needs You" Awareness Session (Mar. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability organized an awareness session and workshop titled "Your Planet Needs You" at Al Maarifa International Private School, promoting SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 15 (Life on Land) by encouraging students to protect marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Through interactive activities, quizzes, and sustainability pledges, the session raised environmental awareness, inspired responsible habits, and empowered youth to support conservation





efforts and contribute to a more sustainable future.

 <u>Psychology Department Welcomes New</u> Students with a Memorable Sea Trip

Ajman University Psychology Students Participate in Sea Trip Promoting Marine Appreciation

The Psychology Department organized a sea trip to welcome new students and strengthen community bonds while fostering appreciation for the marine environment in support of SDG 14 (Life Below Water). Through team activities and shared experiences, the event encouraged respect for natural ecosystems and highlighted the importance of protecting marine environments, reflecting Ajman University's commitment to student well-being,









community building, and environmental awareness.

 Exploring the Hidden Gems of Wadi Raafisa: A Day of Adventure and Empowerment

On November 9, the Office of Student Housing, in collaboration with the Hostel Creative Team, organized an uplifting trip for female residents to Wadi Raafisa, offering a day of adventure, reflection, and empowerment. Surrounded by desert views and lush valleys, participants enjoyed scenic drives and a peaceful hike, while sharing stories, supporting one another, and connecting with nature and local wildlife. The experience blended exploration, communication, and teamwork, strengthening bonds, building confidence, and inspiring students to continue discovering the UAE's natural treasures together.

# **OPERATION:**

 Ajman University, through the Office of Sustainability and the Office of Community Engagement, collaborates with external partners and communities to support initiatives aligned with SDG 14. These efforts promote climate action, ecosystem protection, and responsible resource management while integrating sustainability into education, research, operations, and outreach, ensuring that sustainability is embraced across the Ajman University community.

Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) focuses on preserving and sustainably managing the world's oceans and marine resources. Oceans are crucial for maintaining our planet's habitability and have wide-ranging impacts on climate, resources, and ecosystems. The UAE, under its Vision 2021, actively addresses SDG 14 through the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment MOCCAE executes projects (MOCCAE). dedicated to marine conservation, combating illegal fishing, and addressing threats like ocean acidification and pollution. AU is deeply committed to SDG 14, focusing on ocean conservation (AU initiatives).

# **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 Ajman University Community Participates in Clean UAE 2024 (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University community members, students, and their families took part in the Clean UAE 2024 campaign, supporting SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by helping reduce waste and protect natural ecosystems. Through hands-on clean-up activities and environmental awareness efforts, participants contributed to national



# LIFE BELOW WATER



sustainability goals, promoted responsible waste practices, and strengthened community involvement in preserving natural resources and protecting biodiversity.

 Ajman University Students Promote SDG 14 at Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University and presented their "Sustaina" initiative, which raised environmental awareness through activities linked to the UN SDGs, including SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). By addressing marine pollution, biodiversity protection, and sustainable practices through interactive sessions and student engagement, the initiative supported environmental conservation and demonstrated Ajman University's commitment to empowering youth as sustainability leaders.

 Ajman University Mangrove Planting and <u>Clean-Up Initiative Supports SDG 14</u> (Dec. 2024)

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University organized a mangrove planting and clean-up activity at Al Zorah Golf Club to support SDG 14 (Life Below Water) by restoring coastal ecosystems, reducing marine pollution, and raising awareness about the importance of protecting marine biodiversity. With the participation of 25 volunteers, the initiative helped remove waste that harms marine life and contributed to the preservation of mangrove habitats, reflecting the University's commitment to safeguarding marine ecosystems and promoting environmental stewardship within the community.

 Ajman University and Al Zorah Golf Club, affiliated with Al Zorah Development Private Company, Launch Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour Initiative (Apr. 2024)

Ajman University, in collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club, launched the 13-week





















"Mangrove Planting and Golf Tour" initiative to support the UAE's environmental goals and SDG 14: Life Below Water, engaging students and community members in planting 1,000 mangrove trees to protect marine biodiversity, enhance coastal habitats, and promote healthy ecosystems that safeguard fish nurseries, strengthen shoreline resilience, and contribute to the preservation of marine life.

 Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Organizes an Awareness Session and Workshop titled "Your Planet Needs You "at Al Maarifa International Private School (Mar. 2025)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability organized an awareness session and workshop

titled "Your Planet Needs You" at Al Maarifa International Private School to promote environmental responsibility and support the Greening Education Partnership's "Greening pillar. Delivered by AU Communities" students Amreen Fatima, Zainab Mohiuddin, and Nasima Mohammad Helal, the session highlighted the importance of SDG 14: Life Below Water and SDG 15: Life on Land, offering practical solutions for protecting marine and terrestrial ecosystems. The workshop featured an interactive quiz with eco-friendly prizes and a student pledge activity, reinforcing personal commitment to environmental conservation and empowering youth to adopt sustainable habits in their communities.



# LIFE BELOW WATER

Ajman University and Al Zorah Development
 Private Company team up for Mangrove
 Ecosystem Restoration Event (Feb. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Al Zorah Development Private Company, organized a Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration event under the Greening Communities initiative to protect marine biodiversity and advance SDG 14: Life Below Water. The awareness session, delivered by representatives from Al Zorah Golf Club, emphasized the vital role of mangroves in safeguarding coastal ecosystems, supporting marine life, and acting as powerful blue carbon sinks that mitigate climate change. The event also featured a coastal clean-up campaign with around 80 volunteers from Ajman University and local schools - Al Agsa Private School, Ajman and National Charity School, highlighting the importance of preserving marine habitats, maintaining clean shorelines, and fostering long-term environmental stewardship among youth and the wider community.

# Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 14 (Life Below Water)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University contributed to SDG 14 by engaging with partners that promote environmental protection, marine awareness, and sustainable practices linked to water ecosystems. Through awareness campaigns, community engagement, and student-led initiatives, AU highlighted the importance of conserving aquatic and marine resources, while also connecting education with environmental stewardship.

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Municipality & Planning Department	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU students to raise awareness on climate change and environmental sustainability, including activities connected to COP28.</li> <li>Awareness campaigns on the ecological significance of biodiversity such as the Ghaf tree also linked to broader sustainability of ecosystems, including water and marine life protection.</li> </ul>
Ajman Chamber	Supported activities that raised awareness on environmental responsibility in the business sector, including resource protection and sustainability measures with indirect impact on aquatic ecosystems.
Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Development	<ul> <li>Organized training and awareness events with AU students that included sessions on environmental challenges and conservation themes, encouraging responsible interaction with natural resources, including water systems.</li> </ul>
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	• Forum discussions and cultural projects emphasized sustainable practices in heritage and environmental management, including themes on preserving natural ecosystems linked to marine and coastal heritage.
Society of Engineers – UAE	• Promoted sustainable engineering practices in competitions and advisory roles, encouraging resource-efficient urban design with indirect positive impacts on water and marine systems.





Sustainable Development Goal Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

# LIFEONLAND



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 15, has undertaken initiatives, actions, collaborations and partnerships with the external community and reports the following data:

# **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

### **RESEARCH CENTERS:**

Ajman University launches 6 new research centers to enhance research in emerging Hi-Tech fields

The aim of AU Research Centers is to provide real world solutions and educational training in new emerging fields that would contribute to new developments in these fields and creation of new talent. The AU Research Centers act as a vital link to other regional/international centers, apart from providing unique training opportunities for next-gen researchers and serving as a valuable information source for the community at large. Three of these research centers covers key areas of national and international strategic importance relevant to SDG 11:

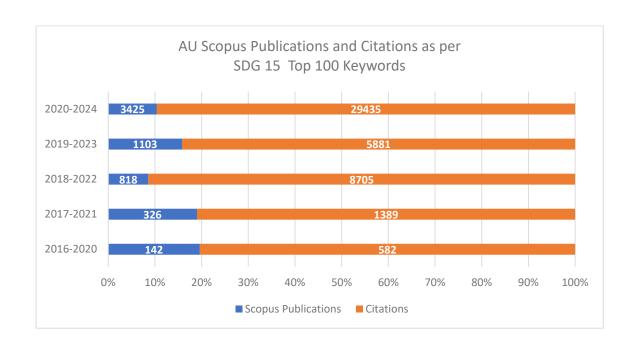
- 1. <u>Healthy and Sustainable Built Environment</u> Research Center (HSBERC)
- 2. <u>Digital Transformation Research Center</u> (DTRC)
- 3. <u>Humanities and Social Sciences Research</u> <u>Center (HSSRC)</u>

# **RESEARCH:**

AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 15 is shown below:

# **INNOVATION:**

The Office of Sustainability Launches Air Quality Monitoring System in Collaboration with Al Athaab and Aeron Systems (Jan. 2024) Ajman University's Office of Sustainability launched a new air quality monitoring system on campus in collaboration with Al Athaab Environment and Safety Solutions LLC and Aeron Systems, supporting SDG 15: Life on Land by helping safeguard terrestrial ecosystems and promote a cleaner, more resilient environment. By tracking key pollutants such as carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and ozone in accordance with local and international standards, the system provides data that supports efforts to reduce environmental degradation, protect soil and plant health, and mitigate the harmful effects of air pollution on land-based biodiversity. Through this initiative, Ajman University advances its commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable land practices, ensuring a healthier campus ecosystem and contributing to broader conservation goals.





### **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education courses</u>, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate Programs: AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the <u>UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of 40 courses have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 15: Life on Land. These courses emphasize key themes such as ecosystem conservation, habitat protection, environmental restoration, soil con-

servation, freshwater ecosystem preservation, community-based conservation, and sustainable land management practices. They explore the valuation of natural resources, the mitigation of land degradation, the control of invasive or introduced species, and the protection of biodiversity across terrestrial ecosystems. With a strong focus on environmental stewardship and ecosystem resilience, the courses also examine strategies in natural resource management, conservation criminology, and sustainable land-use planning to combat desertification and safeguard vulnerable habitats. By equipping students with the knowledge and skills to address land sustainability challenges, these courses prepare future leaders to support global efforts in conserving ecosystems, restoring degraded environments, and promoting long-term sustainability in alignment with SDG 15: Life on Land.

- AU Climate Change Learning Program
- AU Campaign Towards the UN SDGs

# **OPERATION:**

Office of Sustainability

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability. established in 2018 as the Office of Environmental Health and Safety and renamed in 2022, leads the institution's sustainability agenda with a strong focus on SDG 15 (Life on Land) through initiatives that support ecosystem protection, biodiversity conservation, and responsible land stewardship. Guided by its vision to be a national and global leader in sustainable practices, the Office advances conservation-driven education, research, and community initiatives that promote habitat preservation, land restoration, and environmental resilience. Under the leadership of its Senior Sustainability Manager, the Office champions youth empowerment, ESG policy participation, and international collaboration, strengthening partnerships with government bodies, global sustainability networks, and community stakeholders to foster a culture of environmental responsibility and ensure long-term protection of natural ecosystems on campus and beyond.

 AU fosters the development of initiatives, best practices and continuing efforts that promote sustainability on campus and in serving the community. In particular, the following are examples of initiatives and best practices at AU that support SDG 15:

- o Sustainability at Ajman University
- o AU Initiatives Towards the UN SDGs
- o Carbon Emissions Reduction at AU

# **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 Ajman University Co-leads the UCN Decarbonization Academy in Support of SDG 15

Ajman University co-led the launch of the UCN Decarbonization Academy to support SDG 15 (Life on Land) by advancing environmental stewardship and ecosystem protection through nature-positive climate solutions. The academy provided expert-led workshops on conservation-focused planning, sustainable land management, and the environmental impact of carbon emissions on terrestrial ecosystems. By strengthening climate literacy and promoting practices that protect natural habitats and biodiversity, this initiative reinforces Ajman University's commitment to safeguarding ecosystems, supporting national sustainability goals, and advancing a more resilient environmental future across the higher education sector.

 Ajman University Students Participate in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University, presenting their "Sustaina" initiative, which promotes environmental awareness through activities aligned with SDG 7, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 14, and SDG 15. The initiative included workshops, interactive challenges, and tree-planting activities, and also launched the "Sustaina" E-magazine to document sustainability efforts and expand engagement with global platforms. Through this symposium, AU students showcased their commitment to sustainability, strengthened collaboration with peers, and reinforced their role as emerging leaders in driving innovative environmental solutions.

 The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University Organizes a Mangrove Planting and Clean-Up Initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club

The Office of Sustainability at Ajman University organized a mangrove planting and clean-up initiative at Al Zorah Golf Club to promote environmental awareness, protect biodiversity, and support SDG 15: Life on Land through the preservation of vital coastal habitats. With



# **LIFE ON LAND**



the participation of 25 AU volunteers, the event included planting mangrove trees and removing plastic waste to reduce pollution and safeguard ecosystems. Through this community-driven effort, Ajman University continues to encourage environmental stewardship and collective action to sustain healthy natural environments for future generations.

 Ajman University Community Members and Students Participate in the "Clean UAE 2024" Campaign to Promote Environmental Sustainability

As part of its commitment to environmental sustainability and SDG 15: Life on Land,

Ajman University community members and students, along with their families, participated in the 23rd edition of the "Clean UAE 2024" campaign organized by the Emirates Environmental Group. The event promoted environmental awareness, community engagement, and responsible waste practices by bringing together volunteers to clean natural areas, protect ecosystems, and preserve land resources. Through this national initiative, AU participants strengthened values of teamwork, volunteerism, and social responsibility while reinforcing the University's dedication to environmental conservation and sustainable development.









 Ajman University Students Participate in the Launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" Program

Ajman University students, Itemad Sauria and Khadeeja, participated in the launch of the "Sustainability Heroes" program, held in collaboration with Nestlé and INJAZ UAE under the patronage of the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment. Supported by the Office of Sustainability, the initiative aims to empower youth to develop impactful environmental projects that support SDG 15: Life on Land by promoting responsible resource management and ecosystem protection. Through a six-month program featuring expert-led workshops and hands-on training in sustainability and entrepreneurship, students will gain the knowledge and skills to design innovative solutions that preserve natural environments. By engaging in this national initiative, Ajman University reinforces its commitment to nurturing future sustainability leaders who can drive meaningful change in their communities and beyond.

 Ajman University Students Participate in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the Youth Sustainability Leaders Symposium at Khalifa University, where they presented their "Sustaina" initiative, a student-led Sustainability Week promoting environmental awareness across multiple SDGs, including SDG 15: Life on Land. Through interactive activities, such as educational games on land conservation, recycling, and habitat protection, the initiative encouraged sustainable behaviors while also addressing SDG 7, SDG 12, SDG 13, and SDG 14. A key outcome was the launch of the "Sustaina" E-magazine, which documents AU's sustainability efforts and connects with global platforms like Oxford University's Nature Positive University and UNEP. By taking part in the symposium, AU students strengthened collab-











oration with peers, showcased their commitment to ecosystem protection, and reinforced the University's mission to empower youth as sustainability leaders and agents of positive environmental change.

Ajman University Students Participate in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition (Dec. 2024)

Ajman University students participated in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition, organized by the Emirates Environmental Group and hosted by







# **LIFE ON LAND**

Higher Colleges of Technology - Dubai, where they presented innovative sustainability projects aligned with SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 14: Life Below Water, and SDG 15: Life on Land. Competing alongside universities from across the MENA region, AU teams addressed themes such as green innovation and ocean preservation, while strengthening their skills in environmental analysis, public speaking, and solution-focused thinking. Their participation reflects the University's commitment to empowering youth, promoting environmental responsibility, and fostering creative, research-based ideas that support a more sustainable and resilient future.

 Ajman University Shines at Global Sustainability Conference (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University participated in The Grace Preservation Second Global Conference, organized by the Emirates Red Crescent, showcasing its sustainability efforts in support of SDG 12, SDG 13, and SDG 15. Sustainability Manager Ms. Maya Haddad shared AU's best practices in environmental stewardship and resource conservation, highlighting the University's role in empowering future sustainability leaders. Through this engagement, Ajman University reinforced its commitment to protecting natural ecosystems and advancing sustainable development at both national and community levels

 Ajman University's Office of Sustainability Launches "Mangrove Champions" Initiative (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability launched the "Mangrove Champions" initiative to promote environmental awareness and support SDG 15: Life on Land, organizing a mangrove planting and kayaking activity in collaboration with Quest for Adventure. The event educated students on the ecolog-



ical importance of mangroves in protecting coastlines, enhancing biodiversity, and supporting climate resilience, while encouraging hands-on participation in conservation efforts. Through this initiative, Ajman University continues to strengthen environmental stewardship and inspire sustainable practices within its community.

 The Office of Sustainability Participates in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem (Jul. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Al Zorah Golf Club, participated in the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem, supporting SDG 15: Life on Land by engaging 20 student and staff volunteers in mangrove planting and a coastal clean-up to protect biodiversity and preserve this vital ecosystem. The initiative raised awareness of the critical role mangroves play in safeguarding coastlines, supporting wildlife habitats, and reducing carbon emissions, while reinforcing Ajman University's commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable community action.



















 The Office of Sustainability Collaborates with Goumbook and Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation in Green Communities Event (Jan. 2024)

As part of the Greening Communities program by the Ministry of Education and the Abdulla Al Ghurair Foundation, Ajman University's Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Goumbook, organized the "Greening Communities: Seeds of Tomorrow" event to highlight the ecological and cultural significance of the Ghaf tree in the UAE. The workshop, led by Goumbook representatives Omaima Sirelkhatim and Nasrin Suleiman, emphasized the Ghaf tree's vital role in combating desertification, enhancing soil and air quality, promoting biodiversity, and supporting SDG 13: Climate Action and SDG 15: Life on Land. Participants engaged in planting Ghaf seeds, which will later be transplanted on campus, symbolizing their commitment to environmental preservation and ecosystem restoration. Through such collaborative initiatives, the Office of Sustainability continues to foster environmental awareness, community engagement, and innovative solutions that support a more sustainable future.

 Ajman University Hosts Session on Pathway to Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future (Jun. 2024)

Ajman University's College of Business Administration hosted a session titled "Pathway to

Net Zero Innovation for a Sustainable Future" led by Ms. Almas Muhammad Shafiq from BEEAH Education, highlighting the importance of protecting natural ecosystems and reducing environmental degradation in support of SDG 15: Life on Land. The session emphasized the impact of human activities on the environment and encouraged students to participate in sustainability initiatives that promote conservation, ecosystem protection, and long-term environmental stewardship, reflecting the University's commitment to fostering sustainable practices across its community.

# Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 15 (Life on Land)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University advanced SDG 15 by collaborating with municipal authorities, cultural organizations, and professional societies to promote biodiversity conservation, sustainable land use, and environmental awareness. These partnerships engaged AU students in activities such as tree planting, sustainability workshops, and research initiatives that emphasized protecting ecosystems and raising community awareness on desert biodiversity and land stewardship.

# LIFE ON LAND

Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Municipality & Plan- ning Department	<ul> <li>Collaborated with AU College of Law students to distribute 50 Ghaf trees at Flag Park (31 Oct 2023) as part of environmental awareness initiatives.</li> <li>Students engaged the public on COP28, climate change, and the role of the Ghaf tree in desert biodiversity, symbolizing stability and peace.</li> <li>Supported architecture and urban sustainability workshops with ecological preservation components.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>College of Humanities and College of Engineering initiatives included training, workshops, and research projects on social responsibility and sustainability, indirectly supporting land-use and environmental stewardship.</li> </ul>
Ajman Chamber	<ul> <li>Partnered in activities that raised awareness on sustainability and re- sponsible practices in community development, reinforcing environ- mental protection and conservation principles.</li> </ul>
Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Development	<ul> <li>Organized exhibitions, cultural events, and awareness sessions involving AU students, including themes on sustainability and responsible interaction with natural environments.</li> </ul>
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	<ul> <li>Activities in cultural preservation and sustainable heritage management included awareness elements related to protecting land and natural environments.</li> <li>Organized the International Museum Day Forum (18 May 2024), which highlighted cultural and ecological sustainability.</li> </ul>
Society of Engineers – UAE	<ul> <li>Engaged AU students in competitions and projects that promoted sustainable engineering and responsible land-use planning.</li> <li>Served on advisory boards to integrate sustainability into urban and land development practices.</li> </ul>





Sustainable Development Goal Access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



AU, in line with its commitment and support to SDG 16, has implemented a range of initiatives, actions, collaborations, and partnerships with the external community, and reports the following outcomes:

# **RESEARCH & INNOVATION:**

### **RESEARCH CENTER:**

AU has a total of six research centers and among these is the <u>Humanities and Social Sciences</u> Research Center (HSSRC) which aims to organize major research projects and study important societal issues within the Emirati society and other cultural groups globally. HSSRC will provide a distinct climate of comprehensive research opportunities as well as an ability to attract high-quality scientific researchers through partnerships and collaborations.

### **RESEARCH:**

- AU's Scopus research publications and citations using the SDG top 100 keywords search for SDG 16 is shown below:
- Dr. Salah Gad and Dr. Saeed Nasef Win Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award

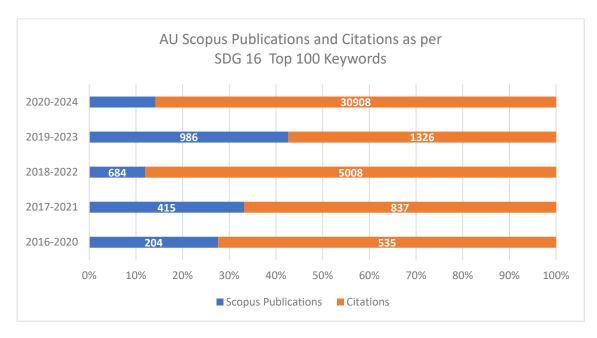
Ajman University faculty members Dr. Saeed Nasef and Dr. Salah Gad from the College of Humanities and Sciences were honored with the Rashid Bin Humaid Cultural and Sciences Award (41st edition) for their research titled "The Role of Media Culture in Promoting Sustainable Development Among University



Youth." Their study examined the influence of modern digital media in fostering awareness and engagement with sustainable development goals among students. This recognition reflects Ajman University's commitment to academic excellence and socially impactful research, advancing SDG 16 by promoting informed, ethical, and responsible institutions, while also contributing to SDG 4, SDG 9, and SDG 17 through innovation, quality education, and collaborative research for sustainable progress.

College of Mass Communication Hosts
 Seminar on the Role of Influencer Marketing
 in Shaping Youth Purchasing Decisions in the
 UAE

Ajman University's College of Mass Communication, through its Research Committee, hosted a seminar presenting a study by Dr. Mervat Medhat, Associate Professor in the Graphic Design for Media program, titled "The Impact of Social Media Influencer Marketing on



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS









Youth Purchase Intentions: A Case Study in the UAE." The research examined how influencer marketing affects youth perceptions, trust, and purchasing behaviors in the digital era. By addressing media ethics, digital influence, and the societal effects of online marketing, the seminar reinforces SDG 16 through research-driven discussions on accountability and transparency in communication, while also contributing to SDG 4, SDG 9, and SDG 12

by promoting quality education, innovation,

and responsible consumer awareness.

contribute to ethical, data-driven governance and sustainable societal development.

# **INNOVATION:**

<u>Data Analytics Student at Ajman University</u>
<u>Pioneers Al Solution to Revolutionize Job Search</u>
(Dec. 2024)

Ajman University's Data Analytics student Maryam Hesham developed an innovative Al-driven job-matching platform, Ajman Job Connect, during her internship at the Department of Digital Ajman, which was showcased at GITEX Dubai 2024. The initiative advances SDG 16 by promoting transparent, inclusive, and efficient digital systems that strengthen institutional services and foster equitable access to employment opportunities. By integrating a voice-based user interface to enhance accessibility for people of determination, the project also supports justice, inclusivity, and equal participation in digital innovation, reflecting Ajman University's role in empowering youth to

# **TEACHING:**

In line with its mission, AU develops well-rounded, career-ready graduates who are professionally competent, socially responsible, and innovative, with the capacity to contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development of the UAE and beyond.

During Academic Year 2023–2024, AU offered **38 academic programs**, including two newly launched programs, the <u>Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence</u> and the <u>Master of Digital Sociology</u>.

- Undergraduate Programs: All 23 undergraduate programs embed sustainability as a mandatory theme within <u>General Education</u> courses, in compliance with the requirements of the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
- Graduate **Programs:** AU's 15 graduate programs explicitly integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing innovation, excellence, lifelong learning, sustainability, and advanced knowledge in leadership, strategy, and operational solutions across disciplines such as education, business, engineering and data science, architecture and design, healthcare, and law.
- AU's 38 Academic Programs Mapping with the <u>UN SDGs</u> (AY 2023–2024) demonstrates clear alignment of program learning outcomes with global sustainability priorities.
- A total of <u>29 courses</u> have been identified through AU's SDG keyword taxonomy (top 100 terms) as directly addressing SDG 15: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. These courses emphasize human rights, justice, civil and international law, ethics, transparency,





governance, and accountability. They promote understanding of political and individual rights, child and family protection, anti-bribery practices, and institutional integrity. Collectively, these courses strengthen students' awareness of peacebuilding, fairness, and ethical governance, preparing future professionals to uphold justice, transparency, and human rights in alignment with SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

 Ajman University Alumnus Recognized Among Top GCC Banking CEOs

Mr. Mustafa Al Khalfawi, Chief Executive Officer of Ajman Bank and Ajman University alumnus (Class of 2007), was recognized by Finance Middle East as one of the Top GCC Banking CEOs of 2024. His achievement reflects the values of ethical leadership, integrity, and institutional excellence fostered at Ajman University. By exemplifying responsible governance and driving sustainable growth within the financial sector, this recognition advances SDG 16 by promoting strong institutions and principled leadership that contribute to regional stability and economic progress.

Mass Communication Students Showcase
 Creativity in Radio & TV Graduation Projects

Ajman University's Mass Communication students specializing in Radio and Television Production showcased their graduation projects on December 18, 2024, highlighting creativity, social awareness, and ethical storytelling. Supervised by Dr. Aliaa Antar, the projects included documentaries, commercials, and a short fiction film covering

impactful topics such as the role of Emirati women, entrepreneurship, the Emirati Genome Program, mental health, and psychological support for children. By addressing real societal challenges through responsible media production, the initiative advances SDG 16 by fostering transparency, freedom of expression, and social responsibility in media, key elements in building peaceful and inclusive institutions.

Graphic Design Graduation Project Exhibition:
 "Out of Mandoos"

Ajman University's Graphic Design students from the College of Mass Communication presented their graduation exhibition titled "Out of Mandoos" on December 17, 2024, under the supervision of Dr. Mervat Medhat. The exhibition celebrated the fusion of UAE heritage and modern design innovation, reflecting students' creativity, cultural awareness, and commitment to meaningful social impact. Inaugurated by Dr. Hosam Salama, Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, and Dr. Emad Omar, the event underscored Ajman University's role in nurturing ethical, expressive, and socially conscious graduates, advancing SDG 16 by promoting cultural identity, inclusion, and responsible creative communication.

 College of Humanities and Sciences Organizes a Cultural Initiative to Promote Emirati Heritage Among Students (Dec. 2024)

The Department of Sociology at Ajman University's College of Humanities and Sciences organized a cultural initiative at the Al-Shohouh Association for Culture and Heritage in Ras Al Khaimah, under the supervision of Dr. Nagwa Yousif. The initiative introduced students to



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Emirati customs, traditions, and living heritage through interactive activities that fostered cultural appreciation, national pride, and a sense of belonging. By promoting intercultural understanding and the preservation of cultural identity, this initiative advances SDG 16 by strengthening social cohesion and institutional values rooted in respect, inclusivity, and shared heritage.

# Office of Student Life Organizes the "Student Life Forum Fall 2024"

Ajman University's Office of Student Life hosted the "Student Life Forum Fall 2024" in the presence of Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services, and Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of Student Life, to highlight the value of extracurricular activities and student engagement. The forum provided a collaborative platform where student leaders, club representatives, and athletes shared ideas to enhance campus life and strengthen community involvement. promoting dialogue, inclusivity, and leadership development, this initiative advances SDG 16 by fostering participatory governance and institutional cohesion, while also contributing to SDG 4 and SDG 17 through capacity building, partnerships, and holistic student development.

# Ajman University Honors Winning Clubs in the 2024 Student Club Fair (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's Office of Student Life hosted a ceremony recognizing the outstanding





achievements of student clubs during the 2024 Student Club Fair, attended by Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services, and Dr. Mohamed Helal, Director of Student Life. The event celebrated more than 100 student clubs representing diverse cultural,



academic, and interest-based communities, honoring winners across multiple categories for their creativity, teamwork, innovation, and commitment. Clubs such as the Emirati Cultural Club, Graphic Design Club, Saudi Cultural Club, and Arabic Language Club were among those recognized for their exceptional performance and engagement in campus life.

This ceremony reflects Ajman University's dedication to fostering diversity, inclusion, and student empowerment through extracurricular engagement that promotes cultural exchange, leadership, and collaboration. By celebrating students' contributions to cultural understanding and community building, the initiative reinforces UN SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) by promoting equal participation and cultural inclusivity, SDG 4 (Quality Education) through holistic student development, and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by nurturing mutual respect and cooperation within a vibrant, multicultural campus community.

The College of Mass Communication Participates in a Seminar on "The Role of Media Psychology in Shaping Youth Values and Attitudes" (Nov. 2024)

The College of Mass Communication at Ajman University participated in a seminar titled "The Role of Media Psychology in Shaping Youth Values and Attitudes," held as part of the cultural program organized by the Sociological Association during the 2024 Sharjah In-

ternational Book Fair. Dr. Amal Badr, Associate Professor in the College of Mass Communication, presented key insights on how media psychology influences the development of youth values and behaviors, highlighting the power of dialogue and responsible media in promoting ethical communication, critical thinking, and social cohesion. Moderated by Dr. Rugayya Al Raisi, President of the Association, the seminar emphasized the importance of empowering young people through media literacy and value-driven content, advancing UN SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions by fostering informed, ethical, and socially responsible youth engagement in media and society.

Ajman University's Counseling Unit Launches
 "Ataa" Initiative to Enhance the Values of
 Giving and Volunteering (Nov. 2024)

Ajman University's Counseling Unit has launched the "Ataa" initiative, an inspiring program that empowers students to share their skills and talents with the community through volunteerism and creative engagement. The initiative promotes a culture of giving, empathy, and social responsibility, encouraging students to contribute positively to society while nurturing ethical awareness and civic participation. The first activity, a painting workshop at Shola American School led by psychology student Abdul Razzaq Ali Al-Hadheer helped young learners express themselves creatively and build confidence









# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS













through art. Through "Ataa," Ajman University reinforces its commitment to fostering compassionate, responsible, and civically engaged students—advancing UN SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, with a secondary contribution to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

 The Counseling Unit Celebrates Friendship and Tolerance in the "Best Buddy" Event

(Nov. 2024)

As part of Ajman University's celebration of the International Day for Tolerance, the Counseling Unit organized the "Best Buddy" event to promote the values of friendship, appreciation, and tolerance among students. The event fostered a spirit of mutual respect and gratitude, encouraging students to celebrate their bonds through heartfelt nominations, video messages, and symbolic tokens of friendship. This initiative created an inclusive and positive atmosphere that strengthened emotional connections within the AU community. By nurturing understanding, empathy, and peaceful coexistence among students of diverse backgrounds, the "Best Buddy" event advances UN SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, supporting Ajman University's vision of cultivating a tolerant, respectful, and inclusive academic environment.

Integrated Marketing Communication
 Students Present Graduation Projects Under the Theme "Health and Safety for UAE Generations"

In celebration of the UAE's 53rd National Day, Integrated Marketing Communication students from Ajman University's College of Mass Communication presented their graduation projects under the theme "Health and Safety for the Generations of the UAE." Supervised by Dr. Dina El-Khattat and Ms. Layal Ayoub, and inaugurated by Dr. Hosam Salama, the exhibition showcased innovative awareness campaigns promoting cybersecurity, child empowerment, and healthy lifestyles. By addressing issues of digital safety, youth development, and community well-being, this initiative advances SDG 16 through responsible communication and institutional advocacy, while also contributing to SDG 3, SDG 4, and SDG 10 by supporting health, education, and equality for future generations.

 <u>Counseling Unit Celebrates World Mental</u> Health Day (Oct. 2024)

Ajman University's Counseling Unit celebrated World Mental Health Day through interactive workshops and awareness activities under the theme "It's Time to Prioritize Mental Health in the Workplace." The event emphasized the importance of mental well-being in professional and academic settings, offering participants

practical tools to manage stress, maintain balance, and build emotional resilience. By fostering a compassionate and supportive campus culture, this initiative advances SDG 16 by strengthening institutional care, inclusivity, and well-being, while also contributing to SDG 3 through mental health promotion.

<u>Teaching and Learning Center Hosts</u>
 <u>Workshop on Modern Teaching Methods and</u>
 <u>Learning Abilities</u>

Ajman University's Teaching and Learning Center organized a workshop titled "Introduction to Modern Teaching Methods and Different Learning Abilities," aimed at empowering educators with innovative, student-centered teaching strategies. The session emphasized inclusivity by addressing diverse learning needs and integrating digital tools to enhance classroom engagement. By fostering equitable and adaptive teaching practices, the workshop advances SDG 16 through institutional capacity building and inclusive education, while also supporting SDG 4 by promoting lifelong learning and teaching excellence.

 Counseling Unit Hosts Workshop on Fostering Social Relationships Within the AU Community

Ajman University's Counseling Unit organized a workshop titled "Social Relationships among

the AU Community: How Can We Support Each Other?" to promote empathy, understanding, and inclusion among students. The session focused on building positive relationships and enhancing the sense of belonging, particularly for students of determination, by encouraging peer support and dismantling social barriers. Through this initiative, Ajman University advances SDG 16 by strengthening social cohesion and inclusivity within its institutional culture, while also contributing to SDG 10 through its commitment to equal opportunities and community well-being.

Office of International Academic Affairs Hosts
 Presentation Showcasing Emirati Heritage

Ajman University's Office of International Academic Affairs organized an interactive presentation highlighting the UAE's rich cultural heritage, offering exchange students an immersive experience of Emirati traditions. The event featured henna art, authentic local cuisine, and cultural activities that deepened participants' appreciation of national identity and diversity. By fostering cross-cultural understanding and mutual respect, this initiative advances SDG 16 by promoting peaceful and inclusive communities, while also contributing to SDG 11 and SDG 4 through the preservation of cultural heritage and the promotion of global learning.



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

 Aviation Club Visits the Aviation Academy in Dubai

Ajman University's Aviation Club organized an educational visit to the Aviation Academy at Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai, engaging 20 students from various majors in an immersive learning experience about aviation careers. Led by Pilot Rizwan, students explored aircraft operations, emergency procedures, and key aspects of aviation management. The visit enhanced their understanding of professional disciplines within the field while fostering collaboration, curiosity, and civic engagement. By encouraging responsible learning and teamwork, this initiative advances SDG 16 through institutional cooperation and community engagement, while also contributing to SDG 4 and SDG 8 by promoting quality education and career readiness.

 Athletics Unit Hosts Friendly Volleyball Match Between Ajman University and Alumni Team

Ajman University's Athletics Unit, under the Office of Student Life, organized a friendly women's volleyball match between the Aiman University team and the Alumni Team, fostering camaraderie, teamwork, and sportsmanship. The event offered players an opportunity to enhance their performance, test new strategies, and strengthen communication in a supportive environment. By encouraging collaboration, mutual respect, and women's active participation in sports, this initiative advances SDG 16 by promoting social cohesion and inclusive community engagement, while also supporting SDG 3 and SDG 5 through health, well-being, and gender empowerment.

• Office of Sustainability Organizes Emergency Preparedness and Sustainability Workshop

Ajman University's Office of Sustainability conducted a workshop titled "Emergency Preparedness, Sustainability, and Climate Action," led by Ms. Maya Haddad, Sustainability Manager. The session focused on climate adaptation, environmental risk mitigation, and emergency response, equipping participants with essential knowledge and practical skills to manage crises and promote sustainable practices. By integrating sustainability with safety awareness and institutional preparedness, this initiative advances SDG 16 through strengthened governance and community resilience, while also contributing to SDG 13,

SDG 11, and SDG 3 by fostering climate action, sustainable communities, and a culture of health and safety.

 Counseling Unit Programs Supporting SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

The Counseling Unit at Ajman University actively contributes to SDG 16 by fostering a culture of peace, emotional well-being, ethical behavior, and inclusivity through counseling workshops and awareness sessions. These initiatives promote mental health, conflict resolution, and positive social values that strengthen just and peaceful institutional communities.

# Fall 2023

- Adjusting to University Life: Tips for First-Year Students (Aug 21, 2023) – Promotes inclusion, peaceful transition, and emotional stability among new students key to building peaceful communities.
- **2. Finding Balance in Your Life** (Aug 22, 2023) Encourages personal well-being and emotional regulation, contributing to harmony and conflict prevention.
- 3. Healthy University Relationships: How to Have and Maintain Them (Aug 23, 2023)

   Supports peaceful coexistence, respect, and understanding—fundamentals of inclusive institutions.
- **4. Positive Steps to Wellbeing** (Aug 23, 2023) Enhances emotional resilience and mental health, fostering non-violence and inner peace.
- 5. Clear Your Mind of Unwanted Thoughts (Sep 12, 2023) Addresses mental health and self-awareness, crucial for conflict resolution and positive social behavior.
- World Mental Health Day (Oct 10, 2023)
   Raises awareness about psychological well-being, a cornerstone for peaceful and inclusive societies.
- 7. Responding to Conflict: Strategies for Improving Communication (Oct 25, 2023)
   Teaches non-violent communication, conflict resolution, and empathy, directly supporting SDG 16.
- **8.** Body Image Positivity & Self-Esteem (Oct 26, 2023) Promotes inclusivity, respect, and self-acceptance—values aligned with peace and justice.

 Ajman University's "Reaching for the Stars" Series (Oct 31, 2023) – Inspires ethical leadership and positive contribution to society, strengthening institutional values.

# Spring 2024

- **1. Getting to Know My Classmates** (Jan. 9, 2024) Promotes inclusivity, mutual respect, and community building key elements of peaceful institutions.
- 2. Collaborative Thinking Skills: Driving Teams Toward Better Results (Jan. 10, 2024) Encourages teamwork, respect, and constructive dialogue, supporting peace and justice through collaboration.
- **3.** Enhancing Your Skills and Managing Your Time (Jan. 10, 2024) Fosters responsibility, integrity, and self-discipline values integral to strong and ethical institutions.
- **4. Life Satisfaction: The Key to Happiness** (Feb. 15, 2024) Focuses on well-being and emotional balance, helping prevent conflict and promote peaceful interaction.
- 5. Self-Enhancement: Steps to Strengthen Social Relationships (Feb. 20, 2024) Builds empathy and interpersonal harmony, aligning with the goal of fostering peaceful and inclusive communities.
- **6. Setting Up Smart Goals for Personal Growth** (*Feb. 21, 2024*) Encourages ethical self-improvement, responsibility, and motivation pillars of social integrity.

- Allies for Gender Equity (Mar. 5, 2024) –
  Promotes equality, justice, and inclusivity,
  directly contributing to SDG 16 targets on
  fairness and institutional integrity.
- **8. Enhancing Problem-Solving Skills** (*Mar. 21, 2024*) Teaches peaceful resolution and logical approaches to conflict, reinforcing non-violent communication.
- **9. Emotional Intelligence Development** (*Mar.* 25, 2024) Cultivates self-awareness, empathy, and social responsibility, essential for justice and peace.
- **10.Cyberbullying and Online Safety** (*Mar.* 26, 2024) Protects digital rights and promotes justice, fairness, and safety in online spaces.
- **11.**Family Relationships and Their Reflection on the Personality of Children (*Apr. 22, 2024*) Highlights the importance of nurturing peaceful, respectful relationships as foundations of stable communities.
- **12.Surviving Cancer: A Journey to Life Success** (Apr. 22, 2024) Strengthens values of resilience, empathy, and community support promoting inclusive well-being.

# **OPERATIONS:**

AU in line with one of its core values – <u>Inclusiveness</u>: "embraces shared governance, inspires tolerance, and is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion". AU adopts shared governance



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

in which faculty members are involved in decision-making at different levels including curriculum, program, and development of academic policies. Students are as well involved in decision-making through its participation in standing committees and college councils. Professional staff are also appointed as members of standing committees.

# <u>Inauguration of the Center for Inclusive</u> Learning for Students of Determination

Ajman University advanced its commitment to SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) and SDG 4 (Quality Education) with the inauguration of the Center for Inclusive Learning for Students of Determination on November 19, 2024, by H.H. Sheikh Ammar bin Humaid Al Nuaimi, Crown Prince of Ajman and Chairman of the Executive Council and Board of Trustees. The Center provides a barrier-free learning environment equipped with advanced assistive technologies and specialised support services, ensuring equal access, fairness, and empowerment for students of determination. This milestone reflects Ajman University's dedication to fostering inclusivity, compassion, and institutional justice while aligning with the UAE Vision 2031 for equitable and lifelong learning opportunities for all.

# Office of Medical Services and Office of Community Engagement Launch Anti-Smok-ing Awareness Initiative

Ajman University's Office of Medical Services, in collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement, launched an Anti-Smoking Awareness Initiative to educate the community about the dangers of smoking and to encourage healthier lifestyle choices. The





event featured free carbon monoxide breath tests using the Smokerlyzer device, enabling participants to assess their respiratory health and monitor progress toward quitting. By fostering a culture of health awareness, accountability, and preventive care, this initiative supports SDG 16 by promoting institutional commitment to community well-being and social responsibility, while also advancing SDG 3 through preventive health education and behavior change.

# <u>Dr. Karim Seghir Welcomes Ajman University's</u> <u>Alumni Councils</u>

Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, met with outgoing and incoming members of the Ajman University Alumni Councils to discuss upcoming initiatives, including the University's 40th anniversary celebrations, and strategies to enhance alumni engagement. The meeting provided a collaborative platform for exchanging ideas and strengthening ties between the University and its graduates. By fostering participatory governance, long-term partnerships, and institutional continuity, this initiative advances SDG 16 by promoting inclusive decision-making and community collaboration, while also contributing to SDG 17 through sustained engagement with key stakeholders.

# • Office of Medical Services Organizes National Flu Vaccination Campaign

Ajman University's Office of Medical Services, in collaboration with Emirates Health Services, organized the National Flu Vaccination Campaign for faculty, staff, and students, with 142 employees and 100 students participating. The initiative reflects AU's proactive

commitment to ensuring a healthy, safe, and resilient campus community. By promoting preventive healthcare and collective responsibility, this campaign advances SDG 16 by strengthening institutional well-being and community trust, while directly supporting SDG 3 through public health promotion and disease prevention.

- <u>Policies</u> AU has the following policies published in the Policies and Procedures Manual that support SDG 16:
  - <u>Non-Discrimination Policy</u> AU does not discriminate on the basis of nationality, sex, age, religious belief, race, color, or marital status".
  - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy AU embraces shared governance and tolerance, promotes diversity and recognizes its responsibility to foster an open, welcoming environment where multicultural students, faculty and staff can collaboratively learn, work, serve and engage with the external community". Ajman University's policy on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion underscores its unwavering commitment to fostering a respectful, inclusive, and equitable academic and work environment that empowers all members of its community. The University actively supports the success of students from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, ensures fairness in recruitment and advancement, and promotes shared governance, tolerance, and accountability. AU values diversity as a driver of innovation, institutional excellence, and global citizenship, providing equitable opportunities for learning, employment, and leadership. Through its collaborative efforts across academic and administrative units, the University continuously strives to remove barriers to success, embrace inclusive education, and cultivate a culture of compassion, respect, and mutual understanding.
  - Employee Code of Conduct Policy This policy establishes Ajman University's commitment to upholding the highest standards of ethics, honesty, and professionalism among all employees. It ensures that all members act with integrity, fairness, and respect in carrying out their duties, safeguard the University's reputation and interests, and adhere to legal and ethical principles, including the strict prohibition



of modern slavery, forced labor, human trafficking, and child labor.

- Student Disciplinary and Academic Integrity Policy – This policy aims to ensure that students behave in an acceptable manner and maintain honesty and integrity of their work.
- People of Determination Policy AU, in line with its values and in compliance with the "National Policy for Empowering People with Special Needs" has established this policy to ensure that all those with special needs or People of Determination among its students, faculty, staff and visitors are treated in fair and equitable manner.
- Faculty and Professional Staff Employment Legal Issues Policy - This policy aims to guide the AU community regarding the handling of legal issues relating to the employment of faculty and professional staff.
- Student Complaint, Grievance and Appeal Policy - This policy is designed to provide opportunities to students for lodging a complaint or grievance and the right to appeal.
- Faculty Complaint, Grievance and Appeal Policy - To make faculty members aware of their right to file a complaint or formally submit a grievance against an administrator or another individual or party concerning any dispute that could not be resolved amicably.
- Professional Staff Complaint, Grievance and Appeal Policy – AU aims at providing a workplace with an environment of mutual respect where members of its

# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

community can all work amicably and discharge their duties effectively without any harassment or problems. However, as is natural, disputes may arise from time to time between professional staff members, administrators, or other individuals. In such a case, AU professional staff may exercise their right to file a complaint or formally submit a grievance.

- Operations Risk Management Policy This policy aims at identifying the probability of having negative consequences of certain incidents that might occur during the normal course of operations and thus clarifying the set of controls, activities and actions in place to control AU's business continuity with regards to such risks.
- Ajman University's Office of Sustainability publishes <u>selected policies</u> related to sustainability topics, making them publicly accessible online to promote transparency, awareness, and community engagement.

### **OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIP:**

 College of Humanities and Sciences Participates in Seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child"

As part of the 2024 Sharjah International Book Fair, Dr. Nagwa Yousif, Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology, participated in moderating the seminar "Positive Steps to Raising Your Child," organized by the Sociologi-

cal Association in Sharjah. The session provided parents with effective strategies for positive parenting, communication, and emotional guidance to strengthen family relationships and foster resilient child development. By promoting social harmony, constructive dialogue, and responsible parenting, this initiative contributes to SDG 16 by reinforcing values of peace, empathy, and inclusivity within families and communities.

Office of Community Engagement Organizes
 Blood Donation Campaign

Ajman University's Office of Community Engagement, in collaboration with Emirates Health Services, organized a Blood Donation Campaign that saw the participation of 71 students, faculty, and staff members. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about the vital importance of regular blood donation and the collective responsibility to support patients in need. By fostering compassion, civic duty, and community solidarity, this initiative advances SDG 16 through institutional collaboration and social responsibility, while also contributing to SDG 3 by promoting health and saving lives.

 Sociology Department Hosts Annual Meeting with Parents of Students of Determination

The Committee of Social Responsibility and Integration within Ajman University's Department of Sociology held its Annual Meeting with parents of students of determination, providing a meaningful platform for collaboration and dialogue. The session



focused on enhancing student support systems, sharing tailored academic strategies, and addressing parental feedback to improve the educational experience of students of determination. By fostering open communication, empathy, and institutional inclusivity, this initiative advances SDG 16 by strengthening social cohesion and participatory governance, while also contributing to SDG 4 and SDG 10 through its commitment to equitable and inclusive education.

### Masar Career Excellence Hosts Workshop on Artificial Intelligence

Masar Career Excellence, in collaboration with INJAZ UAE, organized a workshop led by Dr. Abhishek Shukla, Chief Visionary Officer, on the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in modern life. The session explored cutting-edge AI advancements and their real-world applications, fostering awareness of ethical, social, and professional implications of technology. By promoting digital responsibility and preparing students for future-ready careers, this initiative contributes to SDG 16 through institutional innovation and governance awareness, while also supporting SDG 9 and SDG 4 by encouraging technological advancement and lifelong learning.

### Masar Career Excellence Organizes an Insightful Session with Emirates Global Aluminium

Masar Career Excellence, in collaboration with Emirates Global Aluminium (EGA), hosted an interactive session featuring Mr. Musameh Ismail, Senior Officer of Performance Management at EGA. The event provided Ajman University students and alumni with valuable insights into industry best practices, performance management, and professional development. By fostering institutional collaboration and bridging academic learning with real-world expertise, this initiative advances SDG 16 by promoting strong partnerships and responsible leadership, while also supporting SDG 8 and SDG 4 through career readiness and lifelong learning.

<u>Dr. Dalia Bedewy Addresses Mental Health</u>
 <u>Challenges for Women Refugees at Abu Dhabi</u>
 <u>University Conference</u>

Under the patronage of H.H. Sheikha Fatima bint Mubarak, Dr. Dalia Bedewy, Manager of the Counseling Unit at Ajman University, delivered an impactful address at Abu Dhabi



University's conference on "Mental Health of Women Refugees." Speaking during the panel "Mental Health Support in Climate-Affected Regions," she highlighted the psychological impacts of displacement on women and children and called for sustainable, inclusive approaches to mental health care. By advocating for empowerment, equity, and access to mental health services for vulnerable populations, this initiative advances SDG 16 by promoting social justice and institutional compassion, while also contributing to SDGs 3, 5, and 13 through mental health advocacy, gender empowerment, and climate resilience.

College of Engineering and Information
 Technology Hosts Cybersecurity Compliance
 and Legal Privacy Awareness Seminar

The College of Engineering and Information Technology, in collaboration with the IT Club and the Office of International Academic



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Affairs, hosted a seminar titled "Cybersecurity Compliance and Legal Privacy Awareness." Delivered by Ms. Olga Fleming, Founding Partner and Attorney at Law at Unikomm Limited and Unikomm Europe LLC, the session explored the legal and ethical dimensions of cybersecurity and data privacy. By enhancing students' understanding of digital compliance and institutional responsibility, this initiative advances SDG 16 through the promotion of justice, integrity, and strong governance, while also contributing to SDG 9 and SDG 4 by integrating innovation and ethical learning in technology education.

 Counseling Unit Organizes "Teaching and Adapting for Students with Visual Impairments" Workshop

Ajman University's Counseling Unit organized a workshop titled "Teaching and Adapting for Students with Visual Impairments: Supportive Strategies," aimed at enhancing awareness and practical understanding of inclusive education. The session provided participants with tools to effectively support visually impaired students and foster equal participation in learning environments. By promoting empathy, accessibility, and inclusive teaching practices, this initiative advances SDG 16 by strengthening institutional inclusivity and equity, while also contributing to SDG 4 and SDG 10 through its focus on quality, accessible, and equitable education for all learners.

Women Empowerment Council Conducts
 Career Exploration Workshop

Ajman University's Women Empowerment Council, led by Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi in collaboration with the Unit of Student Recruitment Admissions, organized Career and Exploration and Guidance Workshop for high school students at Ajman Academy. Facilitated by Ms. Maryam Alsuwaidi, Career Services Officer at Masar Career Excellence and a certified Career Facilitator from the National Career Development Association, the session equipped participants with essential career planning skills and insights to guide their academic choices. By fostering empowerment, mentorship, and informed decision-making, this initiative advances SDG 16 by strengthening inclusive institutional engagement, while also contributing to SDG 5 and SDG 4 through the promotion of gender equality and access to quality career education.

# Masar Career Excellence Hosts Session on the Journey of Building a Tech Career

Masar Career Excellence welcomed Khalid AlAwadhi, Founder of Remal IoT, to share his professional journey and insights into the evolving technology sector. During the session, he discussed challenges, success strategies, and the essential skills required to excel in a competitive digital landscape. By promoting mentorship, innovation, and career empowerment, this initiative advances SDG 16 through institutional engagement and knowledge sharing, while also contributing to SDG 8 and SDG 4 by fostering employability, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning.

### A Day for Orphaned Children at Ajman University

Ajman University's Office of Student Life, in collaboration with the UAE Red Crescent in Ajman, organized a community event titled "Together We Make Joy" for orphaned children, held at the University's sports

















complex. Supported by the Activities Unit, Athletics Unit, Red Crescent Club, and White Hearts Club, the event featured games, sports, music, and creative activities designed to bring happiness and inclusion to children in need. By fostering compassion, volunteerism, and social engagement, this initiative advances SDG 16 through community-building and institutional outreach, while also contributing to SDG 3 and SDG 10 by promoting well-being and social equity.

### Obaya Bezeid Achieves a Milestone by Joining the European Network for Academic Integrity

Obaya Bezeid, a third-year student from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and Projects Coordinator at the Student Success Center, achieved a remarkable milestone by being selected as a Student Board Member of the European Network for Academic Integrity (ENAI WG) at the University of Wollongong in Dubai for the 2023-2024 academic year—the first Aiman University student to hold this position. Her selection reflects AU's commitment to fostering ethical leadership, student participation, and a culture of integrity across academic disciplines. By promoting accountability, transparency, and student engagement in global academic ethics, this achievement advances SDG 16 by strengthening institutional integrity and governance, while also contributing to SDG 4 and SDG 17 through quality education and international collaboration.

# Ajman University Innovation Center and Amazon Web Services Collaborate to Foster Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Startups

The Ajman University Innovation Center (AUIC) announced a strategic collaboration with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to strengthen support for startups and empower them to harness advanced cloud technologies for innovation and growth. Through



this partnership, AUIC offers eligible startups \$5,000 in AWS cloud credits and access to specialized training, mentorship, and infrastructure resources that facilitate scalable, sustainable business development. By nurturing entrepreneurship, digital capacity, and youth empowerment, this initiative advances SDG 16 by reinforcing institutional innovation and responsible governance, while also contributing to SDG 8, SDG 9, and SDG 17 through inclusive economic growth, technological advancement, and strategic partnerships.

# AU Athletics Unit and Ajman Youth Council Organize Youth Futsal Championship

Ajman University's Athletics Unit, under the Office of Student Life, in collaboration with the Ajman Youth Council, organized the Youth Futsal Championship at the Ajman Youth Center – Al Safia, featuring 12 teams and over 80 young athletes from across the UAE. The tournament promoted fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship, aligning with the values of health and community well-being. By fostering youth engagement, collaboration, and mutual respect through sports, this initiative advances SDG 16 by strengthening social inclusion and civic participation, while also contributing to SDG 3 and SDG 17 through healthy lifestyles and institutional partnership.



# PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

















 Ajman University Launches the 2024 Student Club Fair Showcasing More Than 100 Student Clubs

Ajman University's Office of Student Life organized the 2024 Student Club Fair, inaugurated by Dr. Karim Seghir, Chancellor of Ajman University, in the presence of Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Dean of Student Services, and Cabinet members. Featuring 107 student-led clubs, the fair celebrated diversity, creativity, and community engagement by bringing together students from various academic and cultural backgrounds. The event emphasized the role of student organizations in developing leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. By promoting collaboration, inclusivity, and active participation, this initiative advances SDG 16 through institutional empowerment and civic engagement, while also contributing to SDG 4 and SDG 17 by fostering holistic education and collaborative partnerships.

 Ajman University Signs MoU with Greenpeace MENA to Launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award"

Ajman University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Greenpeace Middle East and North Africa (Greenpeace

MENA) to launch the "UAE Wellbeing Economy Award," a pioneering initiative promoting sustainable and inclusive economic models for the future. The award encourages students and researchers across the UAE to propose innovative ideas that redefine wellbeing, explore alternative economic indicators beyond GDP, and address sustainable energy transitions. By fostering research, critical thinking, and stakeholder collaboration, this partnership advances SDG 16 through institutional cooperation and civic participation, while also contributing to SDG 8, SDG 13, and SDG 17 by integrating sustainability, economic innovation, and global partnership into the UAE's wellbeing agenda.

 Partner Organizations Supporting SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University advanced SDG 16 by partnering with government entities, judicial institutions, and civil organizations to promote peace, justice, and the rule of law. These collaborations provided AU students with experiential learning opportunities in law, governance, public policy, and community service, while strengthening civic responsibility, ethical awareness, and institutional capacity-building.





Partner Organization	MoU Activation / Support in AY 2023–2024
Ajman Court	<ul> <li>College of Law students completed internships and practical training.</li> <li>One College of Business student also completed an internship in Fall 2023.</li> <li>Strengthened collaboration in developing students' understanding of the justice system.</li> </ul>
Dubai Courts	<ul> <li>Organized multiple orientation lectures for AU Law students (Sep—Nov 2023), including sessions on custody law, commercial contracts, and civil litigation procedures.</li> <li>His Excellency Judge Salem Mohammed Al Qaidi, President of the Real Estate Court, delivered a lecture on UAE Civil Procedures Law, linking theoretical knowledge with practical applications.</li> </ul>
General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs – Ajman	<ul> <li>Accepted at least one College of Business student for internship each semester.</li> <li>Collaborated with the College of Humanities on research initiatives related to governance and social systems.</li> </ul>
Central Legal Affairs – Ajman	<ul> <li>Hosted a field visit for AU Law students to deepen their understanding of institutional legal practices.</li> <li>Provided training opportunities for College of Humanities students in governance and legal frameworks.</li> </ul>
Courts Department of Ras Al Khaimah	<ul> <li>Provided internship opportunities for AU Law students.</li> <li>Conducted training programs in collaboration with the College of Humanities.</li> </ul>
Department of Land & Real Estate Regulation	<ul> <li>Offered College of Business students internship opportunities each semester.</li> <li>Engaged College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design students in competitions and public lectures, linking governance with urban development and institutional practices.</li> </ul>
Ministry of Infrastructure Development	<ul> <li>A representative served on the Advisory Board of the College of Architecture, Art &amp; Design.</li> <li>Collaborated with the College of Humanities on graduation projects that integrated policy and governance perspectives.</li> </ul>
Ajman Police	<ul> <li>Partnered with AU to deliver training on Future Foresight Strategy.</li> <li>Supported community service initiatives and student research on social responsibility, governance, and public safety.</li> <li>Ensured internship placements for AU students each semester.</li> </ul>



Sustainable Development Goal Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

# PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Ajman University, in alignment with SDG 17, continues to forge strategic collaborations with government entities, NGOs, academic networks, and industry partners to advance education, research, sustainability, and social impact. These initiatives collectively strengthen policy dialogue, knowledge exchange, and multi-sectoral partnerships that drive progress toward the UN 2030 Agenda.

Methodology: Data were consolidated from internal reports of the Office of Sustainability, Office of Student Life, Office of International Academic Affairs, the Office of Community Engagement Annual Activation Report, and participating colleges to align institutional activities and partnerships with the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

# 1) SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals Reports (Year 2024)

- 17.2.1 Relationships with regional NGOs and government for SDG policy
- 17.2.2 Cross sectoral dialogue about SDGs
- 17.2.3 International collaboration data gathering for SDG
- 17.2.4 Collaboration for SDG best practice
- 17.2.5 Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs

### 2) Ajman University Environmental Impact Training Report (2020-2024)

Ajman University's Environmental Impact Training Report highlights collaborative efforts to strengthen environmental awareness, sustainability competencies, and responsible practices across the university community. Developed through partnerships among academic units, the Office of Sustainability, and external organizations, the report documents programs promoting resource efficiency, energy conservation, and climate action. These initiatives reinforce AU's commitment to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) while directly supporting SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

# <u>Ajman University Environmental Impact Training</u> <u>Report (2020 – 2024)</u>

# 3) Ajman University Social Impact Training Report (2020-2024)

The Social Impact Training Report showcases a comprehensive program of capacity-building delivered by the Office of Sustainability, Office of Student Life, Counseling Unit, Office of HR, and academic colleges, engaging students, faculty,

staff, contractors, and the wider public. Covering certified courses (HABC first aid, fire safety, risk assessment), emergency drills, and wellbeing sessions, the initiative integrates hands-on safety and health training with mental-health, inclusion, and equity programs. These activities strengthen AU's internal capabilities while fostering community outreach—advancing SDG 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16, and 17.

# Ajman University Social Impact Training Report (2020-2024)

# 4) Climate Partnerships and Accountability (Race to Zero)

Since 2022, Ajman University has been a UAE signatory to the UN-led **Race to Zero** campaign and published the *AU Climate & Sustainability Strategy: Carbon Neutral by 2030*, along with annual carbon-reduction progress reports, underscoring AU's accountability in climate leadership and SDG reporting.

- Education Race to Zero Current Signatories
- AU Carbon Emissions Reduction Report

# **Continuing and New Partnerships:**

# A. Key Academic and Industry Collaborations (Monitored by Colleges & Departments)

Ajman University sustains cross-border academic and corporate partnerships that enable exchanges, research, internships, and co-developed curricula, supporting **SDG 4, 8, 9, and 17**.

### **Academic Partner Institutions (by region)**

- Africa: Ain Shams University (Egypt); American University in Cairo (Egypt); University of Monastir (Tunisia); University of Tunis El Manar (Tunisia); ESCA École de Management (Morocco)
- Middle East & GCC: American University in Dubai (UAE); Gulf Medical University (UAE); Applied Science University (Bahrain); Majmaah University (KSA)
- Asia: Universiti Malaya (Malaysia); Universiti Putra Malaysia (Malaysia); Manipal Academy of Higher Education (India); Mahidol University (Thailand); King Abdul-Aziz University (KSA); Chiba University (Japan)

# PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

- Europe: KU Leuven (Belgium); University
   of Nottingham (UK); University of Geneva
   (Switzerland); Politecnico di Milano (Italy);
   Cardiff University (UK); Trinity College Dublin
   (Ireland)
- North America: University of British Columbia (Canada); Rutgers University (USA); California State University Dominguez Hills (USA); University of Florida (USA); Mount Allison University (Canada)
- Special Academic Networks: American
   Pharmacists Association (USA); AWS Academy (UAE); Cisco Academy (UAE); SAP Dual Study
   Program (UAE); PwC Academy (UAE)

# Corporate & Institutional Partners (by category)

- Government & Public Sector: Ajman Police;
   Ajman Municipality & Planning Department;
   Department of Economic Development –
   Ajman; Ministry of Education (UAE); Department of Human Resources Ajman; Ajman Courts; Ajman Free Zone; Department of Land & Real Estate Regulation
- Healthcare & Training: Saudi German Hospital; tal; Gulf Medical University; Amina Hospital; Dr. Sulaiman Al Habib Hospital; United Eastern Medical Services; Iranian Hospital Dubai
- Industry & Private Sector: Ajman Bank;
   Bahri & Mazroei Group; BEEAH Group; Direct

- Trading Technologies; Odoo; Oracle Academy; Huawei; ALSTOM; Veolia Group; Yousuf Saeed Lootah Group
- Civil Society & Non-Profit: Humaid Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi Foundation; Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation; Bait Al Khair Society; International Council of Museums (ICOM); Emirates Environmental Group; Ajman Business Women Council
- Design & Architecture Training: Al Oroba Decoration; Line Style; Mazaya Consulting Engineers; Virtues Interior Design LLC; Urban Vision Co. WLL (Bahrain)

# B. Partnerships for the Goals – Monitored by the Office of Sustainability (AY 2023 – 2024)

Ajman University, through its Office of Sustainability, continues to strengthen and expand its network of partnerships with leading organizations at the local, regional, and international levels. These collaborations—some long established and others newly formalized during AY 2023–2024—advance AU's commitment to sustainability, climate action, and the UN 2030 Agenda. Working with government entities, global academic networks, industry leaders, and environmental organizations, the Office promotes sustainability education, policy engagement, and innovation. Collectively, these alliances engage both internal and external AU communities, fostering knowledge exchange, institutional resilience, and joint initiatives that drive progress toward the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The following table highlights key sustainability partnerships and their alignment with specific SDGs.

Ajman University Office of Sustainability – Strategic Partnerships and Related SDGs (AY 2023–2024)

#	Partner / Network	Scope of Collaboration / Focus Area	Related SDGs
1	International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN)	Global platform promoting sustainability integration across university operations, research, and teaching.	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 17
2	Nature Positive Universities Alliance (University of Oxford & UNEP)	Global initiative to advance biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, and nature-positive actions on campuses.	SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15, SDG 17
3	UN Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI)	UN-led partnership connecting higher education institutions to advance sustainability in teaching, research, and operations.	SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 17
4	Greenpeace MENA	Collaboration to launch the <i>UAE</i> Wellbeing Economy Award promoting sustainable economic models and community wellbeing.	SDG 8, SDG 13, SDG 16, SDG 17
5	Greening Education Partnership (UNESCO)	Partnership to integrate sustainability and climate literacy into education systems and curricula.	SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 17
6	The Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education (EAUC)	Global network promoting sustainability leadership in education with over 285 member universities worldwide.	SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 17
7	UN Environment Programme – Race to Net Zero	Commitment to decarbonization, emission reduction, and achieving carbon neutrality in higher education institutions.	SDG 7, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 17
8	International Society of Sustainability Professionals (ISSP)	Global community of sustainability professionals advancing best practices and professional certification.	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 13, SDG 17
9	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)	Professional body for environmental and sustainability practitioners supporting standards and capacity development.	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 13, SDG 17
10	The SDG Accord	International higher education commitment to advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals through institutional collaboration.	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
11	Emirates Environmental Group (EEG)	UAE-based NGO advancing environmental awareness through campaigns, research, and community action.	SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 17
12	Environment Center for Arab Towns (ECAT)	Regional collaboration promoting sustainable urban development and environmental innovation in Arab cities.	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 17
13	Tafaseel BPO	Local corporate partnership supporting administrative efficiency and sustainable operational practices.	SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 12, SDG 17
14	BEEAH Group / BEEAH Education	Partnership to empower sustainability leadership, environmental awareness, and youth engagement.	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 17

# **PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**

#	Partner / Network	Scope of Collaboration / Focus Area	Related SDGs
15	COP28 Universities Climate Network (UAE)	Collaboration among UAE universities to mobilize climate action, youth engagement, and research contributions to COP28.	SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 17
16	COY18 UAE (Conference of Youth) – Knowledge Partner	Supported youth-led climate initiatives and engagement through the COP28-affiliated youth platform.	SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 16, SDG 17
17	Emirates Higher Education Safety Professionals Network (EHSPN)	Enhancing safety, health, and environmental compliance across UAE higher education institutions.	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
18	Emirates Green Building Council (EmiratesGBC)	National network promoting sustainable building practices and environmental stewardship in the built environment.	SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 17
19	Sustainable Campus Initiative (with Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi)	Youth-focused program engaging students in sustainability projects, research, and community awareness.	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 17
20	Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAE)	Policy collaboration and consultation on national climate strategies and sustainability frameworks.	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 16, SDG 17
21	Emirates Municipal Environmental Council	Institutional representation in taskforces contributing to environmental planning and municipal sustainability.	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 16, SDG 17
22	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)	Global academic partnership promoting sustainable development research and solutions-based education.	SDG 4, SDG 9, SDG 13, SDG 17
23	CANIE Accord (Climate Action Network for International Education)	Ajman University as the first UAE signatory, demonstrating climate leadership and carbon accountability in higher education.	SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 17

# C. Partnerships for the Goals – Monitored by the Office of Community Engagement (AY 2023 – 2024)

In AY 2023–2024, Ajman University strengthened its collaborations with local, regional, and international partners across government, private, and non-profit sectors. These partnerships advanced inclusive education, innovation, health, sustainability, and institutional excellence. The following table summarizes key partner organizations, the nature of their collaboration, and their alignment with specific Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reflecting AU's active role in fostering cross-sectoral cooperation and collective progress toward the UN 2030 Agenda.

### Ajman University Partner Organizations and Related SDGs (AY 2023–2024)

#	Partner Organization	Koy Collaboration Summary / Activities	Polated SDCs
#	Partner Organization	Key Collaboration Summary / Activities	Related SDGs
1	International Charity Organization	Student discounts; Thamer Fund support (AED 500K); "Back to School Shopping" initiative providing AED 250 vouchers per child	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
2	Bait Al Khair Society	Student discounts; Ramadan Iftar initiative by the College of Humanities	SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 10, SDG 17
3	Dar Al-Ber Society	Student scholarships; AED 400K donation via Graduate Fund	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
4	Department of Economic Development	Startup License Program, business internships, AU Innovation Center participation	SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 16, SDG 17
5	Ajman Bank	AED 600K Scholarship Endowment; internship placements for Business students	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 17
6	Ajman Free Zone	Trainee placements for new graduates in marketing, PR, and design	SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
7	Department of Land & Real Estate Regulation	Internship placements for Business and Architecture students	SDG 8, SDG 11, SDG 17
8	Ajman Police	Student scholarships, training, field trips, and awareness sessions on cybersecurity and social responsibility	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
9	General Directorate of Residency & Foreigners Affairs – Ajman	Internships and joint research collaboration	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
10	Ministry of Infrastructure Development	Advisory board member; collaboration on student projects	SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 17
11	Ajman Court	Law student internships and field training	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
12	Municipality & Planning Department	Student discounts; Ghaf Tree Campaign; COP28 awareness; visual architecture workshops	SDG 11, SDG 13, SDG 15, SDG 16, SDG 17
13	Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Group	Continuous internship placements for Business students	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 17
14	Ajman Chamber	Student discounts; internships; social responsibility and environmental awareness programs	SDG 8, SDG 12, SDG 16, SDG 17
15	Humaid Bin Rashid Al Nuaimi Foundation	Mobile Dental Clinic; psychology research; volunteer work; cultural award judging	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
16	UAE Chess Federation	Male and female chess tournaments promoting cognitive and social skills	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 17
17	Central Legal Affairs – Ajman	Legal field visits and training for students	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17

# **PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**

Partner Organization	Key Collaboration Summary / Activities	Related SDGs
Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Development	Training and awareness initiatives for Humanities students	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 16, SDG 17
Ajman Tourism Development	Internship placements for Business students	SDG 8, SDG 17
Statistics and Competitiveness Center (SCC)	Training and research data collaboration	SDG 4, SDG 9, SDG 17
Architectural Heritage Society – Dubai	Advisory, jury participation, and public heritage awareness activities	SDG 11, SDG 16, SDG 17
<b>Dubai Courts</b>	Legal lectures and workshops on Civil Procedures Law	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman	Scholarships and student discounts	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
International Council of Museums (ICOM)	Co-organized International Museum Day Forum; training and research on museum development	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 16, SDG 17
Ministry of Education (MoE)	Student scholarships; workshops; research collaboration and training	SDG 4, SDG 9, SDG 17
Department of Human Resources – Ajman	Career Day participation; training and internship programs	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 17
General Directorate of Civil Defence – Ajman	Training and internships on emergency preparedness	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
Ajman Business Women Council	Women empowerment exhibition, entrepreneurship, and equality workshops	SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 17
Saudi German Hospital – Ajman	Health awareness campaigns; clerkship and dental training programs	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 17
Courts Department of Ras Al Khaimah	Law student internships and training programs	SDG 4, SDG 16, SDG 17
UAE Inventors Association	Innovation fairs and exhibitions with Humanities students	SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
Department of Economy and Tourism – Dubai	Career Day collaboration with Humanities College	SDG 8, SDG 17
Society of Engineers – UAE	Competitions, advisory involvement, and joint technical activities	SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 17
Easa Al Gurg Foundation	Endowment scholarships (AED 1.8M + annual AED 500K); graduate fund	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
Murshed Al Shehhi	Full and partial scholarships for students	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation	Large-scale financial assistance and scholarships	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
Marya Investments Company	Full and partial scholarships for students	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
Esaad Card	Student financial discounts and support	SDG 1, SDG 4, SDG 10, SDG 17
Bahri and Mazroei Group	Student support; AED 200K for Thamer Fund	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 17
Al Oroba Decoration	Internship placements for students	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
Al Yarmouk Group LLC	Student internships	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
	Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Development Ajman Tourism Development Statistics and Competitiveness Center (SCC) Architectural Heritage Society – Dubai Dubai Courts Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman International Council of Museums (ICOM) Ministry of Education (MoE) Department of Human Resources – Ajman General Directorate of Civil Defence – Ajman Ajman Business Women Council Saudi German Hospital – Ajman Courts Department of Ras Al Khaimah UAE Inventors Association Department of Economy and Tourism – Dubai Society of Engineers – UAE Easa Al Gurg Foundation Murshed Al Shehhi Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation Marya Investments Company Esaad Card Bahri and Mazroei Group Al Oroba Decoration	Ajman Society of Social and Cultural Development Ajman Tourism Development Ajman Tourism Development Statistics and Competitiveness Center (SCC) Architectural Heritage Society – Dubai Courts  Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman Courts  Co-organized International Museum Day Forum; training and research on museum development Advisory, jury participation, and public heritage awareness activities Legal lectures and workshops on Civil Procedures Law Citizens Affairs Office – Ajman Co-organized International Museum Day Forum; training and research on museum development Ministry of Education (MoE) Student scholarships, workshops; research collaboration and training Department of Human Resources – Ajman General Directorate of Civil Defence – Ajman Ajman Business Women Council Saudi German Hospital – Ajman Courts Department of Ras Al Khaimah UAE Inventors Association UAE Inventors Association UAE Inventors Association Correct Day participation; training and internships on emergency preparedness Uaw student internships on emergency preparedness Uaw student internships and training programs Courts Department of Ras Al Khaimah UAE Inventors Association UAE Inventors Association Innovation fairs and exhibitions with Humanities students College Competitions, advisory involvement, and joint technical activities Career Day collaboration with Humanities College Competitions, advisory involvement, and joint technical activities Easa Al Gurg Foundation Full and partial scholarships for students Khalifa Bin Zayed Foundation Full and partial scholarships for students Large-scale financial assistance and scholarships Full and partial scholarships for students Student financial discounts and support Student financial discounts and support Al Oroba Decoration Internship placements for students

#	Partner Organization	Key Collaboration Summary / Activities	Related SDGs
42	Artizan Interior Design	Student internships	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
43	D.R.K. Interior Decoration LLC	Student internships	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
44	Graphic Engineers Consultant	Internship supervision and mentorship	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
45	Line Style	Advisory board member; student training support	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
46	Mazaya Consulting Engineers	Internship and practical experience for students	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
47	Virtues Interior Design LLC	Internship placements	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
48	Mango Decoration & Painting	Internship placements	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
49	Rich Line Decor	Provided case studies and project data for learning	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
50	BHL Interior Design	Internship placements	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
51	Urban Vision Co. WLL	Internship placements	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
52	Al Tayar Kitchens	Student training and technical exposure	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
53	Sakan Engineering Consultants	Part-time work and training for students	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
54	Bin Dalmouk Consultants	Jury participation and academic collaboration	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17
55	Oman Think Urban	Internship placements for Architecture students	SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17



AJMAN UNIVERSITY, P.O.BOX:346 AJMAN UAE + 971 6 748 2222

Connect with us















Copyright © 2003 - 2025 Ajman University