



An-Najah National University Sustainability Report





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A message from the president



The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by all UN member states in 2015 and set out an ambitious plan for ending poverty, fighting inequality and building peaceful, just and sustainable societies by 2030. Achieving the SDGs will require the concerted efforts of all members of society. Universities are particularly well-placed to contribute to the creation of a sustainable future through their research and teaching activities.

Universities at the forefront of research generate new knowledge and innovations that provide solutions to the interconnected social, economic and environmental challenges captured in the SDGs. As educators, universities equip students with the knowledge and skills that enable them to contribute to creating a sustainable future. Of course, the role of universities in sustainable development extends beyond their role in research and teaching. Institutions also contribute to the SDGs through their policies and practice, and increasingly institutions everywhere are working hard to ensure continuous improvement and lead by example.

At An-Najah National University we recognize and embrace our responsibility in the transition to a sustainable future. We are committed to ensuring that our activities, be they research, teaching, community service or operations, advance us to a place that is better for humanity.

At the University, our staff have made major contributions to Palestine efforts to 'stamp out' the virus from our nation; they have responded to local and international challenges in innovative ways allowing us to maintain our core activities of teaching, research and service to the community, while continuing our focus on what is needed to achieve the longer term sustainability goals.

In this report we outline some of the many activities in our University that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. We cannot capture all the amazing work of our staff and students that occurs across research, teaching, engagement/outreach and operations. However, the selection presented here gives an appreciation of the kinds of activities happening within our University that are setting us on a path to a more sustainable future for all.

Prof. Abdel Naser Zaid
University President



The Philanthropy Forum Program

The Philanthropy Forum program is a social program that provides moral and financial support to humanitarian cases, directed by a voluntary staff from An-Najah National University and a committee of local community women.

In 2001, the Forum established a fund in the Financial Department of An-Najah National University. The fund aims to offer financial support that helps the center's programs achieve their goals by organizing charitable activities and gathering donations from different institutions and individuals from the local community.

Since establishment, the forum has contributed to support poor families and orphans by offering them university grants, school fees, medicines and many other important needs.

Student Scholarship Fund

The university offers various scholarships (full or partial) in the framework of supporting students who need financial assistance to complete their university studies. Scholarships are collected in cooperation with the University Alumni Association and many local and international institutions supporting students.

NNUH Poor Patient Fund

In collaboration with the Charitable Endowment Committee, An-Najah National University Hospital's (NNUH) Board of Trustees established the Poor Patient Fund, which offers medical and non-medical services to poor patients to contribute in alleviating the suffering of the Palestinian families. This leading step was taken to combat poverty in light of economic and political situations under which the Palestinians are living.

The fund provides its services based on a prior study of the patient's conditions. The fund may cover the full cost of the medical treatment and examinations, transport, and hospital stay.

Orphan Sponsorship Program

As part of the social responsibility of An-Najah National University and in cooperation with the Palestinian Orphan Support Association in Germany and the Palestine Children's Welfare Association in Canada as well as a number of sponsors, institutions and individuals, the Orphan Sponsorship program was launched in 2002. The program aims to shed light into the lives of impoverished orphaned children, so that one day they can become educated individuals who can alleviate their communities out of poverty.

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Sponsoring an orphan child

The Housing Reform Program

The idea of the housing rehabilitation program was launched at An-Najah National University with the aim of improve living conditions and provide healthy and safe community environments for individuals or families in need of shelter as well as support low-income, elderly or homeless populations through the rehabilitation and renovation of houses and communities.

The program resumed housing rehabilitation work with funding from the university and contributions from philanthropists and in partnership with a number of local authorities. As the program completed 18 cases during 2021/2022.



Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the action of human beings."

Nelson Mandela, Former South African President

End poverty in all its forms everywhere



6.6 M\$

University scholarships

Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

The Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine seeks to provide a suitable educational environment to prepare agricultural engineers and veterinarians qualified for the local and regional labor market in accordance with the comprehensive quality standards for maintaining human and animal health, serving agricultural and veterinary industries and ensuring food safety through undergraduate and postgraduate study programs and providing outstanding scientific research that contributes to providing integrated technical solutions and technology to the national economy, and an knowledgeable and technological exchange to achieve sustainable development for all beneficiaries in light of the ethics of the profession to serve the national society and economy.

Agricultural Training and Research Center

An-Najah Agricultural Research and Training Centre was established in 2014 over a square of 72 acres' arable lands. The center aims to:

1. Offering agricultural services to the Palestinian community.
2. Expanding farmers' experiences and developing their skills in various fields.
3. Improving production through using modern agricultural methods.
4. Conducting agricultural research to serve the local community.
5. Adopting methods based on experimental learning and classroom participation.
6. Adopting the economic analysis approach on farm.
7. Holding practical courses to all academic levels.
8. Establishing a database for agricultural research on various fields.

Hydroponics

Recently, An-Najah National University has worked to find a new pattern of agriculture to grow crops on its farms, which is hydroponics. Hydroponics is a

subset of hydroculture and is a method of growing plants using mineral nutrient solutions, in water, without soil; it is considered a revolution in the world of agriculture.

Sustainable Food Policy

An-Najah National university committed to provide environmentally friendly and sustainable campus hospitality, the university is fully aware of the impact that procurement, storage, production, consumption and wastage has on the environment and the need to ensure that the Sustainable Food Policy supports the university's environmental policies and practices.



+ 50 Tons of organic vegetables, fruits, herbs, beans, etc.... have been harvested from An-Najah's farms.



End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

2 ZERO HUNGER



+ 1500

Cases that were provided with food coupons and food parcels that include meat, bread, fish, milk, hundreds of vegetable and fruit baskets, etc.

The Palestinian Child Institute

The Palestinian Child Institute at An-Najah National University was established in 2014 for the aim to develop diagnosis and rehabilitation services for children with neuro-developmental disorders such as ASD, ADHD, L.D, and other disorders. The institute works currently on developing a holistic strategy as a key player in the field of ECD at the national level.

An-Najah National University Hospital (NNUH)

An-Najah National University Hospital was established in 2013 in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at An-Najah National University. The University Hospital is now the leading academic institution in the field of health care in Palestine.

The hospital is a non-private and non-profit hospital, the only teaching hospital in Palestine that provides education and health care and provides space for medical research and training, while providing students with the best scientific environment and the most up-to-date infrastructure for learning and development.

An-Najah Center for Cancer and Stem Cell Research

An-Najah Center for Cancer and Stem Cell Research conducts basic, translational, and clinical research to develop novel drugs to make the body kill cancer and to develop optimal conditions to regrow, repair or replace damaged or diseased cells, organs or tissues.

+5000

A unit of blood donated by university students to patients.



Corona Virus Research

As the COVID-19 situation develops, research staff at An-Najah University continue their support of COVID-19 research studies, including the impact of COVID-19 pandemic (Coronavirus) on the Palestinian's health and educational system. Such as:

- Prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies in the Palestinian population.
- How to Deal with Gastroenterological Procedures, Inflammatory Bowel Diseases, Liver Diseases and Transplantation During COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Suggestive approach for handling cancer patients during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Recommendations for dealing with kidney and urinary surgeries during the spread of corona virus.
- Recommendations for safe and effective practice of interventional cardiology during COVID-19 pandemic.

Health and Well-Being are among the most important aspects that should always be achieved and constantly improved. Since we are a third-world country, it's always a challenge to do so. Having said that, An-Najah has always been proactive when it came to the welfare of its students, employees and community.





Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



+20

Coronavirus research papers in international scientific journals

Education for All

The University is committed to increasing access, retention and achievement for all students with nondiscrimination, and has in place a number of programmes to support the achievement of students in the compulsory sector, access to university study, and achievement at university.

SDG Study Program

An-Najah National University offers specific undergraduate and postgraduate courses that relate to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under subjects such as Geography, Environmental Science, Economics, Politics, Sociology, Education, and Law.

These courses allow the students to develop an understanding of the values that underpin sustainability, complex social and ecological systems, and global sustainability issues and potential solutions. They also develop the ability to design and apply sustainability solutions in organizations and communities.

Supportive Education Program

The Supportive Education Program aims to make the right to education meaningful by combating major barriers to education and advance equal access to quality education for all. An-Najah's offers this program to help students with learning difficulties overcome the barriers to learning which result from social and economic factors of their families through a group of volunteers from University and the local community.

Education through COVID-19

The university also worked to activate the electronic transformation plan in the learning and teaching process, which reflects the growing role of the university's joint efforts in its comprehensive readiness according to a well-studied plan that matches the needs of the times to face future crises.

An-Najah University is the first in this field. The field has been working on this plan to confront crises for 10 years. With this step, the university was able to continue the educational process despite the Corona epidemic crisis, and open new horizons in the world of creativity, and be an example of how effective digital learning is in absorbing the challenges caused by this virus and any other crises of the future, where he scoffed at An-Najah national University, has harnessed all advanced technological means in its various sites, through the university's e-learning center (<https://elc.najah.edu/>), which holds an ISO 9001:2015 international quality certificate in the field of e-learning.

+ 30%

Research output in
Palestine from An-Najah's

114

Bachelor Programs

70

Masters Programs

9

PhD. Programs



18:1

Student: Academic Staff Ratio

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



44%

Courses focused on or related to sustainability

648

Scholarly publications on sustainability 2019-2021

“Gender equality is more than a goal in itself. It is a precondition for meeting the challenge of reducing poverty, promoting sustainable development and building good governance.”

Kofi Annan,
Seventh Secretary-General of the United Nations (1997-2006)

65%

Female students at An-Najah National University

68%

Female first degree graduates



Encouragement for University Studies

An-Najah’s encourages high school students (both males and females) to apply and study at the university. Every specialization is open for both females and males without any discrimination. The university usually hosts high school students from almost all schools and organizes a day tour to the university so that the students know about the university and what can be offered for them etc.

Women in Leadership Program

The University offers a year-long program that provides opportunities for women to develop personal leadership skills. Specific objectives include increasing the numbers of women in senior positions, enhancing opportunities for women to be recruited and retained in under-represented areas, fostering formal and informal learning as well as mentoring and career development for women.

Harassment and Discrimination Policy

An-Najah National University is committed to providing a safe process for bringing complaints forward and to fostering an environment free of personal harassment and discrimination, where human rights are respected and where all members of the learning community (employees, students, clients, contractors, and visitors) are treated in a fair and respectful manner.





Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5 GENDER EQUALITY



35%

of all University administration and academic staff (FTE) are women.

UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Water Resources Management

In coordination with UNESCO's established UNESCO Chair at An-Najah National University. The Chair is multidisciplinary in its nature. It is directly related to many UNESCO domains, disciplines, and priorities, such as water sciences, engineering and technology resources, the environment, natural resources policy and management, institutional and infrastructural science, regional sustainable development reviews, climate change, science education, science and technology, policy and administration, public awareness and access to information. The Chair objectives are related to several UNESCO's medium-term strategies for 2014-2021.

The Water and Environmental Studies Institute (WESI)

The Water and Environmental Studies Institute (WESI) at An-Najah National University (ANU) was established in June 2001, as a result of upgrading Water and Environmental Studies Center founded in 1994. The main objective of WESI is to serve the Palestinian community's needs in terms of studying, monitoring, describing, controlling, and following up all issues and aspects related to the present and future state of water and environment in Palestine.

MSc. Water and Environmental Engineering Program

The program is considered the largest postgraduate program in the field of water and environmental engineering in Palestine. It is designed to generate qualified engineers with a solid theoretical and applied tools, skills, and understanding of water and environmental engineering to serve the Palestinian community's needs in terms of studying, monitoring, describing, modeling, controlling, and following up all issues and aspects related to the present and future state of water and environment engineering related problems with special emphasis on the Palestinian projects. Candidates concentrate on surface and subsurface hydrology, engineering probability and statistics, aquatic chemistry, water and wastewater treatment, sanitation and public health, water quality

lab, advanced hydraulic engineering, hydraulic structures design, sediment transport, water resources management, irrigation and drainage systems, solid waste management, water quality modeling, and environment impact assessment.

Water Efficient Appliances Usage

Within the university's sustainability plan, it worked during the last period to replace about 66% of the water appliances to water efficient appliances. For example: changing urinal with water, flush WC and taps and use automatic control of urinal flushing, waterless urinals, low flush WC's and low flow taps and automatic taps.

6,500

cubic meters of rain water saved per year for flushing toilets, garden sprinkler, cleaning the open spaces, cooling and fire systems.





Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



An-Najah National University's commitment to achieving and spreading the sustainability culture does not ever stop. When it comes to clean water and sanitation, it's crucial to protect the health and safety of the university faculty, students, visitors and even the community in terms of water.

Energy Research Center (ERC)

The Energy Research Center was established with the aim of contributing to finding appropriate scientific solutions to energy problems in Palestine, through conducting studies and research for the exploitation of solar energy systems, wind energy and biogas, as well as by raising the efficiency of electrical networks, rationalizing energy consumption, and reducing the emission of toxic gases. CO2.

First Solar Power Station Inaugurated at An-Najah University

On 2020, An-Najah National University inaugurated the first solar power station with a capacity of 995 kilowatts, a project that will meet the energy needs of University and will contribute to providing it with electricity through permanent and clean energy.

The project is one of the most important and bold strides taken the University in shaping the energy sector, especially with regard to intensifying its efforts of scaling up the production of renewable energy and curbing the effects of climate change. The solar power station is expected to help reduce electricity bills by 20-25%.

An-Najah Excels in Research in Renewable Energy Field

An-Najah National University has excelled in research in the field of renewable energy in terms of location study, establishment of climate databases through weather stations existing in different regions in the West Bank, data analysis, and designing, installing, operating and maintaining solar energy systems through the University's Energy Research Center.

Community Service

The Energy Research Center (ERC) at An-Najah National University concluded the " Solar PV Systems " project, which provided a number of Palestinian Khirbets in Al-Aghwar area with solar photovoltaic systems (PV) to strengthen the resilience of poor Palestinians there.

Through this project, fifteen solar panels/ solar

energy systems have been installed to increase electricity access via solar photovoltaic systems to 15 poor rural households in remote regions of Al-Aghwar.

During the last 5 years, ERC provided about 150 families from Al-Aghwar area with solar energy systems, which helped them improve the quality of their life.





Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



88%

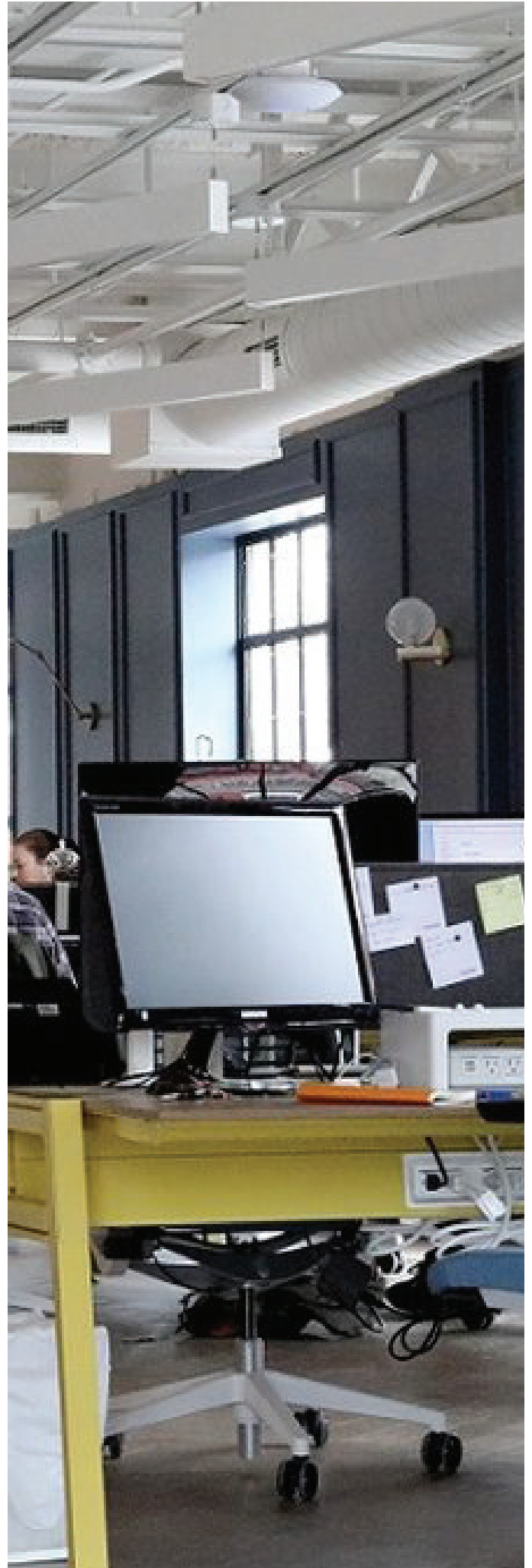
of energy usage
at An-Najah's produce from
renewable energy

An-Najah National University has always been the best place for its employees to thrive and pursue their dreams. The University has been promoting healthy and safe environment for its employees and students through a series of practices and policies, such as:

- measures/ tracks pay scale gender equity, minimum wage, through the Payroll.
- recognizes unions & labor rights (freedom of association & collective bargaining) for all, including women & international staff.
- defend the rights and interests of the university employees to achieve equality and protect their public interest and to enhance the economic, social and cultural levels of its members.
- committed to no discrimination in the workplace, no slavery, no human trafficking.
- committed to employ and protect people with disability.
- committed to comply with applicable law and regulations regarding intellectual property, copyrights and trademark matters.
- Providing assistance and support for start-ups through An-Najah Business Innovation and Partnership Center (NaBIC).

Employment Matters Policy

An-Najah National University is committed to creating a working, learning, cultural and social environment that is based on dignity and respect. To ensure achieving this goal, the university is committed to comply with Employment law and labor regulation, the Law of Minimum Wage, employ and protect people with disability, no forced labor, no modern slavery and no human trafficking, and no child labor. The purpose of this policy to pursuit the University mission regarding the development and implementation of university employment policies in compliance with applicable laws, the administrative process for discipline or termination of university employees, the employee grievance process, faculty claims pertaining to retention, promotion, discrimination, and tenure decisions.





Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Innovation and Partnership Center (NaBIC)

NaBIC is concerned with Institutionalizing the relationship between the university departments and its various programs with the manufacturing and service sectors by Stimulating partnerships with various business sectors for the purpose of implementing scientific research geared to providing solutions and enhancing creative and innovative culture between students.

Green Entrepreneurship Program

An-Najah National University has launched a training program in green entrepreneurship, which aims to build the capacities of beneficiaries; In order to establish pioneering companies in line with the environmental reality in Palestine and to contribute to solving environmental problems within the (SWITCHMED) project funded by the European Union.



The Arab Innovation Network (AIN)

In 2011, the Arab Innovation Network branch was opened at An-Najah National University to foster innovation and healthy competition among Arab Students in science and technology field.

In addition, the network improving the level of education in the Arab world by engaging with young people to generate enthusiasm around innovation and entrepreneurship and improving knowledge and experience transfer across the Arab world.

Hult Prize Team

The Green Gold team from An-Najah National University has qualified for the final stage of the global Hult Prize competition, which will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in the United States of America.

The idea of the Green Gold team is to use the solid waste resulting from olive pressing to extract the cellulose that is used in the manufacture of paper, carton and others. The idea of the team thus provides a solution to the idea of the challenge presented by the competition, which is to transform food into a tool to change the world under the title Food for Good.





**Build resilient infrastructure,
promote inclusive and sustainable
industrialization and foster innovation**

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



UNESCO Chair on Human Rights and Democracy and Peace

Palestine in coordination with UNESCO's UNITWIN and UNESCO Chair program established UNESCO Chair at An-Najah National University in order to enhance scientific research and program development in designated academic fields and build connections with the local and global academic community as well as foster links with the civil society, local communities, and decision makers

An-Najah University Experience with Disabilities

An-Najah National University is keen to provide an appropriate, supportive and friendly environment for staff and students with disabilities, through Disabilities Care Office.

The office was established in 2008, which specializes in following up with the needs of with different disabilities, and assist them to overcome any difficulties that may face them during their university life. An-Najah University opened its doors for people with disabilities and offered them full support to continue their higher education as follows:

- The University facilitates the admission of SWDs in its academic programs, offering them the opportunity to benefit from its scholarships and financial facilities.
- The University encourages the hiring qualified staff from people with disabilities.
- The University provides counseling services through departments that include psychosocial specialists (of both genders), including those who work closely with people with disabilities.
- The University is inclusive of this category in social, artistic, cultural and sports, through engaging them in cultural exchange programs, musical bands, theater performances and sport activities.
- The University established a computer lab for visually impaired people to provides curriculum courses in Braille books.
- The University Opened the Prosthetics Clinic, that offers free services to students and locals from the community.

- The University infrastructure completely prepared to fit any type of disability.
- The University offers free accommodation for a number of visually impaired students and facilitates their mobility between campuses.

44

Disabled Employees

175

Disabled Students





Reduce inequality within and among countries

10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



1820

Scholarship for Disabled
Students

One of the top priorities of An-Najah National University is to build resilient and safe cities and communities. The University has many centers and units that are tirelessly working for the benefit of the society and communities.

Considered the first portal gate in Palestine that focuses on earth sciences, seismic engineering, re-planning and society development. Sub units: Urban and Regional Planning Unit, Construction and Transportation Research Unit, Earth Sciences and Seismic Engineering Unit, Architectural Conservation Unit.

Architectural Conservation Unit

The Architectural Conservation unit was established to accomplish the role of An-Najah National University in serving and developing the local community and to contribute to the protection and conservation of Palestinian cultural heritage.

Sustainable Transport

The University is committed to promoting the use of sustainable modes of transport, and encourages staff and students to use active modes of transport, such as walking and cycling, and public transport. A 2023 survey by An-Najah's showed that 70% of University students use such forms of transport to get to and from their campus.

An-Najah Excels in Research in Sustainable Transport Systems Field

During the academic year 2022, An-Najah National University has excelled in research in the field of sustainable transport systems.

A group of researchers from the University published 10 research articles in international refereed journals. Also, two scientific papers were presented in two refereed conferences in the fields of sustainable transport systems, development of concrete pavements, traffic accidents and road safety management with the participation of a number of researchers from Palestine, Korea and Australia.



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Sustainability Policy

In establishing this policy, An-Najah National University reinforces its commitment to build on its achievements in the efficient management of energy, water and key material resources, and the minimization of waste and emissions, and commits to continue to find new and innovation ways to demonstrate leadership in research, teaching, learning, operations, partnerships, capacity building and networking to advance sustainability through the university's strategic plan 2020-2025.

Waste Management Policy

The policy aims to reduce the negative environmental impacts of our waste, to reduce landfill waste and to ensure disposal of waste materials (Plastic, Paper, Glass and Metal) is in an environmentally responsible manner. We recognize we need to reduce the unnecessary use of raw materials and will enable waste recycling, composting and energy recovery to assist in reducing landfill waste. The university is committed to the implementation of an effective waste management program that meets or exceeds all legislative and regulatory requirements placed upon it.

Responsible Procurement

The University is committed to ethical procurement practices as outlined in its procurement strategy. Procurement staff include sustainability in the non-price attributes against which tenders are evaluated.

MSc. Sustainable Engineering in Production

Sustainable Engineering is a way of engineering that meets the needs of the present, preserves the environment, and consider the possible needs of future generations. It requires a lifecycle analysis and takes into account not only the immediate costs and effects, but also the resources required to prepare the materials and the resources needed to maintain them. In Palestine with the limited natural resources, human capacity building to use such resources efficiently is of vital importance. Hence, in this program, human resources will be developed to use the natural resources efficiently and standards of living of people on another hand.





Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Energy Consumption

The University's energy use has remained relatively stable over time. The new buildings are designed within green building standards to be energy efficient with many energy saving initiatives in place e.g. rooftop solar cells, energy-efficient operating equipment, lighting, and energy-saving behaviors by staff and students.

PADUCO Project

Managing heavy metals contaminated industrial wastewater from inorganic chemical industries in the West Bank: Implementing cleaner production (CP) for sustainability.

The main goal of this project is to recommend through pilot studies appropriate CP tools and best practices to efficiently manage industrial wastewater contaminated with heavy metals (i.e. from leather industry) in the West Bank. Therefore, it focuses on the management and treatment of wastewater polluted with heavy metals generated from local chemical industries (leather tanning) and generalizes them to galvanization and aluminum fabrication. The project uses appropriate tools, techniques and technologies for treating industrial wastewater containing heavy metals for pollution prevention, control, recycling and reuse of resources and the recovery of metals and value added products.

Community Services

An-Najah National University offers a number of services to the Palestinian community for free or at cost price such as:

- Opportunities to conduct scientific research on water resources management, wastewater treatment, renewable energy production and water quality monitoring and the effect of Agricultural and industrial activities on it.
- Training workshops on environmental preservation and water treatment for farmers, women, teachers and other categories of the local community.
- Comprehensive tests to assess groundwater, wastewater and the agricultural and industrial products at the cost price.

- Providing a database of some environmental variables to develop water and environmental policies.
- Assessment studies of the environmental impacts of the existing and new projects.

MSc. Environmental Sciences

The program is a multidisciplinary program designed to generate qualified candidates with a solid theoretical and applied tools, skills, and understanding of environmental sciences to serve the Palestinian community's needs in terms of studying, monitoring, describing, modeling, controlling, and following up all issues and aspects related to the present and future state of environmental problems with special emphasis on the Palestinian environment. It covers areas of general environmental sciences including natural resources management, environmental law, public health and sanitation, environment social impact assessment, applied statistics, wildlife protection and management, soil-water- plant relationship, land reclamation, environmental pollution and pesticides, waste management, instrumental analysis, mathematical ecology, water resources management, water quality control, and air pollution control.

Tree Planting Activity

Community Service Center's students and volunteers at An-Najah University participated in a tree planting day. The activity has been implemented in Al-Mas'oudia area, north of Nablus and was organized by the Political and National Guidance Commission in coordination with An-Najah University.

The University's students and volunteers were invited to take part in this activity which aims to raise awareness about tree protection. It provides a platform for the university students to foster a connection with their environment and encourages active community involvement.

Moreover, the activity aims to create and raise environmental awareness among university students and local communities.



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13 CLIMATE ACTION



+1500 GJ

Production of renewable energy sources at the university

Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine

The Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine seeks to provide a suitable educational environment to prepare agricultural engineers and veterinarians qualified for the local and regional labor market in accordance with the comprehensive quality standards for maintaining human and animal health, serving agricultural and veterinary industries and ensuring food safety through undergraduate and postgraduate study programs and providing outstanding scientific research that contributes to providing integrated technical solutions and technology to the national economy, and an knowledgeable and technological exchange to achieve sustainable development for all beneficiaries in light of the ethics of the profession to serve the national society and economy.

Palestine's Scientific Forum for Nature Protection

An-Najah National University hosted the Scientific Forum for Nature Protection, Palestine meeting. The forum aimed at discussing projects implementation to sustain biodiversity in Palestine especially endangered plants in collaboration with the Environment Quality Authority and a number of international institutions.

Ecology Friends Association

The Ecology Friends Society was founded in the year 2012 by a student group of the Biology Department at the Faculty of Science under the supervision of academic staff to create environmental awareness through positive learning experiences. Its aims at achieving the intended goal of protecting our Palestinian environment. It aims at raising environmental awareness for students and instructing them on the proper use of the environmental resources through adopting safe environmental behavior.

Sustainable Agriculture Production System

The following production practices are applied at the Faculty of Agriculture & Veterinary farms for ensur-

ing more food production and sustainable agriculture, taking into consideration human health, environment and economy as main aspects that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change and maintain ecosystems.

- Soil solarization and crop rotation as natural and sustainable controlling methods for soil borne diseases and weeds.
- Accurate and non-intensive chemical pesticide application taking into consideration the pesticide safety
- period before harvesting.
- Using soilless culture in greenhouse vegetable production for reducing water consumption and maximizing water use efficiency and the production per land unit area.
- Efficient fertilizer use; precise chemical fertilizer program is applied according to crop type and plant growth stage, for allowing maximum nutrient use efficiency.
- Using green manure and crop residue as environmental safely practices for soil enrichment with organic matter and natural resource conservation.
- Hydroponics.





Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



Achieving and addressing the life below water and life above land SDGs has always been a little bit hard. The Israeli occupation has taken over our lands, forests, water resources including the sea, rivers and lakes and has been controlling and managing these resources solely and gave us no control whatsoever on these natural resources.

Constitutional Studies Centre

Focuses particularly on the separation of powers; the scope of legislative, executive, and judicial powers and on the structure of constitutional democracy; the freedoms of speech, gender studies within constitutional agendas, press, and religion. In sum, the center is devoted to the development of constitutional building in Palestine.

Contribution to National Policy Making

The Palestinian National Council (PNC) recently appointed Dr. Sana Sarghali, Chair of An-Najah's Constitutional Studies Centre, and Faculty Member at the University's Faculty of Law, as the ninth member of the Select Constitutional Drafting Committee in Palestine which makes her the only female member to be selected for this position.

My Constitution Should Include Me

On Saturday, 10 October, 2020, the Constitutional Studies Centre (NCSC) at An-Najah National University, in partnership with the Association of Women Media and Development (TAM), and the General Union of Palestinian Women (GUPW) launched a constitutional awareness campaign titled: "My Constitution should include me.". The campaign aimed to raise awareness on constitutional values and spread constitutional culture among various segments of society especially women and university students in Palestine.





Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



The Office of International Development and External Affairs

The Office of International Development and External Affairs at An-Najah fosters partnerships with local and international bodies. By forging such collaborative relationships, An-Najah hopes to develop academic standards, enhance cultural understanding, and create more opportunities for Palestinians. To this, the international office currently overseas formal partnerships with over 40 local and international partners. These partners include NGOs, universities, governmental organizations, research centers, the European Union, and the United Nations.

Some of the An-Najah partners

- Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED)
- UNESCO
- SOAS University of London
- Paris-Sud University
- University of Dundee

Some of the An-Najah International Memberships

- International Association of University (IAU)
- Association of Arab Universities (AArU)
- Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW)
- Community of Mediterranean Universities (CMU)
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
- The United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI)
- The International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience (IAESTE)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- The Association for Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER)
- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO)
- Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)





Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS





About This Report

This report summarizes the range of activities that An-Najah National University undertakes to meet the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).

Most of these activities can be identified under research, teaching, operations, public engagement and partnerships. We have substantiated the report with metrics (quantitative) and case studies (qualitative).

This year has created new challenges and also the opportunity to overcome these challenges collectively.

The Covid-19 outbreak disrupted many of our ongoing practices and the implementation of many SDGs. We tackled the global pandemic's unprecedented events by focusing on reducing inequalities, poverty and hunger among our staff, students and the wider community, and working towards the good health and well-being of the people around us. This year's report is a list of our ongoing activities and initiatives, many of which were improvised to face the global pandemic's challenges. We remain committed to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and believe that the underlying principles of UNSDGs will help recover better post-pandemic.

University Impact Rankings for the SDGs

An-Najah National University was ranked No. 1st in Palestine and 11th in the Arab region and among the best 201-300 universities in THE University Impact Rankings 2023 by Times Higher Education (THE), which measures how universities worldwide perform against the SDGs. These outstanding results recognize An-Najah's commitment to sustainability and making a positive social impact through its research, teaching and knowledge transfer.



An-Najah National University
Nablus - Palestine
www.najah.edu