



**UNIVERSITY OF BAHRAIN**

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# **SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2018-2019**

**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

# PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



At the University of Bahrain, we are moving forward to address the challenges highlighted in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As the flagship higher education institution in the Kingdom of Bahrain, we aim to take appropriate action to contribute to the sustainable development of our kingdom. To eliminate poverty and promote sustainable economic development through education, we subsidize approximately 90% of student tuition fees and offer free transportation to and from campus. Our campus has the greenest spaces in Bahrain, offering 2,000 staff, 26,000 students, and visitors a space that provides wellbeing, healthy food and clean water for free. The high quality of education that we offer has paved the way for our 60,000 alumni to lead economic growth in the Kingdom and contribute to industry in the region. In an environment of innovation and awareness of global issues related to climate change, land and water pollution, and green energy, we are working with local and international partners to create a hub of action and activities. Bahrain is known as a country of peace and justice where gender equality is reinforced by the Constitution. The impact of the University of Bahrain is global, and we seek to create new knowledge by developing our innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem to lead the national economy. Please take time to read this report and visit our website. We look forward to welcoming you to participate in the endless opportunities available at the University of Bahrain to advance and secure sustainable development.

*Professor Riyad Hamzah*

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# 1 NO POVERTY



End poverty in all its forms everywhere

## Impact



**\$150 M**

Total fees subsidy in 2018



**25%**

Of UoB students received full exemption fees



### FREE TRANSPORTATION

To further reduce financial barriers to education, UOB students receive free transportation services in all areas of the Kingdom, as well as free transportation on and between campuses. UOB has invested more than six million US dollars in this project. In addition to the 3700 students who benefit from free transportation between their residences and UOB, 900 students receive transportation between the UOB Sakhir and Isa Town campuses. Overall, 70% of UOB Sakhir campus students use these free transportation facilities.

### REDUCING POVERTY IN THE COMMUNITY

Students give back to others at UOB and the surrounding community. As part of these efforts, students participated in a program organized by Ayadi Relief to renovate a house in Bahrain to improve the living conditions of a family in need. UOB students have collected used clothes and housewares for donation to charity and collected plastic in return of a donated wheelchair for a student in need. These latter activities encouraged students to contribute to recycling while simultaneously supporting charities in a bid to help reduce poverty.

### DISCOUNTED SERVICES

Contracts between UOB and various companies provide discounted food, restaurant services, medical services, and other services to UOB affiliates. UOB signed agreements with 32 companies and hospitals in 2018 and 2019.

### FEE SUBSIDIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Education is key to eliminating poverty. As the sole national university, UOB is committed to educating the people of the Kingdom. Therefore, the fees of local students are subsidized at 90% of the market rate. In addition, students who cannot afford tuition fees receive full exemptions through support from UOB and other public and private funds. In 2018, 4284 students received scholarships for total fees exemption based upon their financial status.

### PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

UOB aims to assist the start-up of sustainable businesses through open discussions with successful business entrepreneurs. To this end, the UOB Business Incubator Centre organizes panel discussions in which CEOs share their journeys of becoming successful entrepreneurs with students. These talks include challenges faced and how they were overcome, as well as the resources needed and how they obtained them.



## 2 ZERO HUNGER



Knowledge for Food  
Security and Sustainable  
Agriculture

## Impact



50,000

Outreach efforts  
encompassing visitors



### OUTREACH TO THE PUBLIC

At the annual International Bahrain Garden Show, UOB was awarded First Place in impact on visitors competition held during the exhibition. UOB's section in the exhibition emphasized support for Bahrain's farmers and innovative approaches to food security. Students, researchers and the design team from UOB interacted with the public to highlight UOB's role in education, innovation and outreach.

### PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE FOOD CONSUMPTION

During Healthy Food and Safety Week, UOB representatives visited schools to educate students on the importance of food sustainability and responsible food consumption. These efforts also promote the role of society in achieving lower food consumption levels in Bahrain.

### OUTREACH TO YOUTH

UOB participated in the annual National Agriculture Educational Exhibition to raise awareness and knowledge of food security among the Kingdom's youth. UOB seeks to create a suitable regional platform for future food security through education, research and activities.



### 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages

## Impact



271

Graduates from the College of Health and Sports Sciences



### EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF HEALTH AND SPORTS SCIENCE EXPERTS

UOB provides comprehensive training to health and sports sciences students in programs including Nursing, Midwifery Nursing, Psychiatric Nursing, Community Health Nursing, Patient Care Assistant (in collaboration with King Hamad University Hospital), Pharmacy, Radiologic Technology, Medical Laboratory Sciences, Physiotherapy, Dental Hygiene, and Physical Education. In 2018, 271 students graduated from the College of Health and Sports Sciences with a B.Sc. in Nursing, Diploma in Midwifery, B.A. in Physical Education, B.Sc. in Physiotherapy, A.D. in Pharmacy, A.D. in Radiology, A.D. in Medical Lab or A.D. in Dental Hygiene.

### SUPPORTING STUDENTS' PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING

The University of Bahrain Health Centre provides healthcare services to students facing health problems during study and exam periods, including providing free nursing care during examinations. In addition, the university's Health Centre provides free comprehensive healthcare to all its affiliates, such as general medicine, skin diseases, diabetes (youth and adult), minor surgical procedures, maternity services, immunizations, prescriptions, emergency services, mental and psychological health services, travel medicine, sick leave issuance, approval of health insurance costs, sports medicine, and sexual health.



### HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

To highlight the importance of blood donation for saving lives, UOB organized a blood donation campaign in which students and UOB affiliates donated more than 65 units of blood to the Central Blood Bank in the Salmaniya Complex. Other health campaigns include Breast Cancer Awareness, Diabetes Awareness, and Autism Awareness.



## 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



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

### CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENS THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM

UOB is creating an “engaged campus” through promoting volunteerism and developing career readiness skills. In 2019, UOB held its first Volunteering Awareness Week, which promoted volunteering as a unique opportunity for students to make a difference in the community and develop career readiness skills such as teamwork, collaboration, and time management. This event was supported by a number of charities and organizations and motivated more than 70 students to volunteer for activities outside the university, including an event for children with cancer at Alsalmayia Hospital. UOB students also established “A Academy”, in which volunteers organize review sessions and sessions on extracurricular topics such as Currilum Vitea writing for university students and the general public.

### CAREER READINESS

UOB is raising educational standards in alignment with worldwide education reform to prepare students for a bright future. To promote career readiness, UOB partnered with INJAZ Bahrain, a non-profit organization aimed at empowering young people to own their economic success, on a pilot training program delivered in three sessions on two days in May 2018: “Writing Your Resume”, “Interviewing” and “The Internship”. In response to positive feedback and demand, the INJAZ program was repeated in April 2019, and related workshops were introduced. By the end of the 2018-2019 academic year, UOB ranked first among universities in the Kingdom in the number of participants in career-readiness programs, with approximately 4000 students completing training programs to boost employment opportunities and entrepreneurship skills.



### TRAINING AND EXECUTIVE PROGRAMS FOR THE COMMUNITY

UOB’s Alumni Affairs and Community Service Office cultivates close relationships with students, graduates, and the labour market with the aim of providing training and executive programs and continuous education programs to the community. During the 2018-19 academic year, 20 training workshops were delivered to 547 community stakeholders. Among these, the Image Processing Workshop offered in association with the Bahrain National Space Science Agency (NSSA) covered concepts of visual information and feature extraction. Participants acquired skills in computer vision techniques in real applications implementing traditional image processing operations using MATLAB. This program established a strong link with NSSA and opportunities for UOB students to participate in workshops such as the Space App Hackathon, which had more than 100 participants.



## 5 GENDER EQUALITY



Achieve gender equality  
and empower all women  
and girls

### EQUAL REPRESENTATION IN STEM

UOB strives to motivate its female students to embark on careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics through workshops to promote the role of women in these underrepresented fields, exchange visits with other educational institutions and organizations, and forums attended by more than 1000 women.

### THINK EQUAL, ACKNOWLEDGE WOMEN: BAHRAINI WOMEN'S DAY

UOB highly values its female affiliates' academic and administrative achievements, which are annually acknowledged during the country's celebration of Bahraini Women's Day on 1st December. Faculty and administrative staff are recognized for their scientific publications in renowned international journals and international awards for their leadership and innovative skills.

### HEALTH LITERACY FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

UOB stresses the importance of health awareness among the Bahraini community by organizing a number of medical awareness and educational campaigns on breast cancer for UOB affiliates and women in society.

### ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

To ensure gender parity and disseminate awareness of gender equality as a crucial differentiator for Bahrain's sustainable socio-economic growth, UOB organizes knowledge-transfer events and awareness campaigns to educate its affiliates and the local community on women's political and electoral rights and domestic violence.

### DIVERSITY AWARD FOR WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

UOB won a Diversity Award for having the highest number of female participants at DevFest Bahrain 2019. DevFest is an event hosted by the Google Developer Group (GDG) Manama that aims to build participants' developer skills using Google Technologies. Participants compete by getting the highest number of Google badges in the span of 10 hours. UOB was honoured for showing exemplary insight in the area of female inclusion, and this award reflects UOB's efforts to take positive action to deliver a truly diverse and inclusive society by developing high-calibre female talent.





## 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

## Impact



44%

Reduction in campus water consumption



### WATER AND YOUTH

To raise youth awareness about water security, UOB organized a drawing activity as part of the “Year of Water” initiative. Drawings by school children were collected and published in the UOB 2020 Calendar to raise awareness of water consumption in the community.

### DESALINATION TECHNOLOGY

Seawater desalination is a vital source of freshwater in the region, and UOB is developing technology to reduce its environmental impact and energy consumption. UOB held Water and Energy Sustainable Innovation and Industry (WESII) Conference and Exhibition on 22-23 April 2018. The university also collaborates with the University of Oxford in the UK to identify regional solutions to enhance the seawater desalination process.



### RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN WATER SECURITY

The university researches seawater desalination which focuses on improving current technologies by developing new strategies for reducing energy consumption during pre- and post-treatment at desalination plants. Researchers at the university investigate the potential of new water extraction and treatment methods, and find ways to improve membrane technologies to tolerate the distinctive characteristics of water from the Arabian Gulf.



## 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



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

## Impact



**\$1.5 M**

Funds for international energy  
collaboration projects



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FORUM

In collaboration with Shanghai University in China and United Nation offices in Bahrain, UOB organized a forum on Sustainable Energy focused on the latest research approaches to clean and alternative energy solutions.

## RAISING YOUTH AWARENESS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

UOB renewable energy labs receive many visits from private and public schools. These visits are designed to increase student awareness of renewable energy in the community.



## ENERGY EFFICIENCY ENHANCEMENT

UOB contributes significantly to the National Energy Plan in a collaboration with the Sustainable Energy Centre in the Kingdom of Bahrain. UOB also has strong international collaborations with three UK universities (Oxford University, Aston University and Loughborough University) that focus on scientific and technological issues at the water-energy nexus.





## 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



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



2020 QS WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

#1 in BAHRAIN

TOP 4% of UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE

TOP 2% GLOBAL EMPLOYER REPUTATION



## TOP 2% IN THE QS GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY RANKING

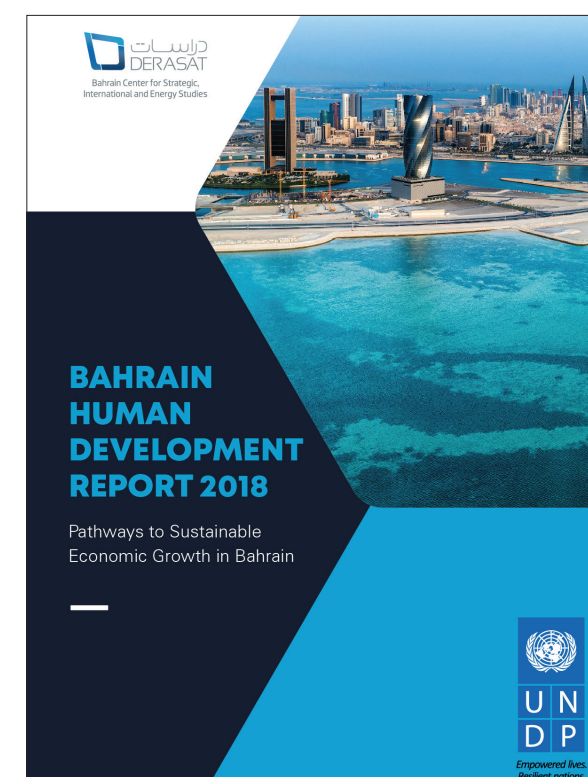
UOB is internationally recognized by employers for its quality education and high-calibre graduates. In the latest QS ranking for employer reputation, UOB ranked among the top 2% of universities in the world in graduate employability. This reputation has a ripple effect not only in attracting foreign direct investment but also in creating new job opportunities.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BUSINESS START-UPS

As part of the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in April 2019, UOB and Babson College ran a masterclass for students on the entrepreneurial mindset that took students from idea generation to building a prototype in a few hours. UOB staff and students were exposed to Babson's unique approach to teaching entrepreneurship education. UOB also promotes enterprise education through its Business Incubator Centre and has helped many students start successful new businesses.



## BAHRAIN HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2018



Faculty members from the University participated as peer reviewers and referees in the Bahrain Human Development Report (BHDR) produced by DERASAT and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The report is comprehensive and represents a crucial step for the Kingdom of Bahrain. Based on a wealth of descriptive, analytical and policy-related content relevant to the Kingdom's future path towards sustainable human development for all Bahrainis, the main recommendation is to ensure a diverse economy.



## 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



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



INFORMATION &  
eGOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

### MEASURING CUSTOMER SATISFACTION WITH GOVERNMENT SERVICES

UOB is collaborating with the Authority of Information and Electronic Government on a research project to measure customer satisfaction with and awareness of eGovernment Services in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The project aims to measure awareness, usage and experiences, social and economic eGovernment impact, and future development of different service channels, including kiosks, national portals, mobile portals, toll free numbers, and the e-Services Centre (ESC) from the point of view of residents, businesses, and government entities. The project will identify recommendations to enhance the services provided by the authority.

### PROMOTING INNOVATION

The Business Incubator Center at UOB supports university affiliates such as students, alumni, faculty and staff who have innovative ideas and inventions to create and grow businesses and start-ups. The center's role is to provide appropriate support to develop these innovative ideas and inventions through an ideal entrepreneurial environment with strong inter-institutional partnerships with other ecosystem enablers. The center provides access to specialized labs, facilities, resources and equipment as well as specialized educational sessions covering aspects from idea generation to implementation.



### TACKLING ENERGY SOLUTIONS

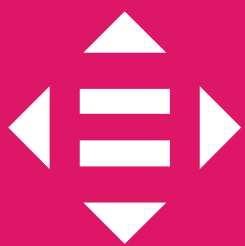
UOB is collaborating with the Electricity and Water Authority's Center for Sustainable Energy on research on the use of solar power for water desalination as a new and inexpensive source of water production. This research project will establish the first solar water desalination unit in Bahrain and will contribute to achieving the objectives of sustainable development, energy and water supply in Bahrain through innovative means.

### THE SHAPE OF GLOBAL HIGHER EDUCATION

UOB was commissioned by the British Council in 2018 to participate in a global study entitled "The Shape of Global Higher Education", which measured government support for international higher education (IHE) engagement and identified policy areas where collaborations are most needed worldwide. UOB was responsible for running all phases of the research/study, including data collection, analysis, interpretation and comparisons across seven countries (Mauritius, Uganda, Argentina, Ghana, South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria). South Africa and Mauritius had the most supportive IHE policies. Other remarkable findings included 1) a relatively low general level of expenditure by governments on international research collaboration across all studied countries, 2) major limitations to inbound/outbound mobility of students and academics due to economic conditions, 3) a need for significant improvement in opening up local labour markets to international graduates.



# 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Reduce inequality within and among countries



## SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students with special needs receive transportation services to and from UOB in buses and between university buildings in specially equipped cars. Registration assistance is provided to special needs students, and volunteer students assist students with special needs while they are at the university and during the examination period. These services are coordinated by the Deanship of Student Affairs. Moreover, the website of UOB has been designed to allow all users, including those with special needs, to access its content. For visually impaired students, UOB uses screen reader programs such as Hull, Supernova, and Atfovuc S.

## CAREER COUNSELLING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

As part of its efforts to eliminate inequality, the Career Counselling office provides sessions for students with special needs that cover choosing, planning and pursuing a career; finding available opportunities; identifying jobs that are the best match for their limitations; overcoming difficulties; and rearranging physical surroundings to their needs. These sessions are conducted by representatives from the job market to introduce the employer point of view and work places that care about recruiting students with special needs during the career services and occupational preparation of this student population.





## 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



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

## Impact



**\$80 M**

Allocated for Development of new Sustainable Buildings and Projects



**600+**

Students offer innovative solutions for Housing challenges

### SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING

Measures implemented by UOB in the last two years to support sustainable commuting include increasing the percentage of sustainable commuting among staff, faculty and students, a priority of the Engineering Office at UOB. In addition to encouraging students to carpool, other measures (incentives or charges) to increase carpooling are being considered. UOB constantly reviews the utilization ratio of its mass transportation services for students to optimize its services both financially and environmentally (best stops, best routes, optimum times). Plans are underway to expand the public transportation system within the two campuses in collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication (MTT), including adding another major stop in Sakhir Campus in 2020. Negotiations with MTT on a Smart Scooter project are in their final stages. Lastly, UOB, alongside its master plan consultant, is in initial negotiations with MTT to include the UOB Sakhir campus in the plans for Bahrain Metro – Phase 1.

### INNOVATIVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS

UOB and Eskin Bank are working together to identify alternative solutions for sustainable and affordable housing in Bahrain. In this program, architecture students gain experience in contemporary challenges in the residential sector in the Kingdom and professional architectural practices. From housing masterplans to affordable housing prototypes, students are challenged to rethink the way Bahrainis live, supporting Eskin Bank in the development of better housing conditions and consequently a happier and more satisfied nation.



### SUSTAINABLE BUILDING STANDARDS

UOB is committed to ensuring the sustainability of its built environment and contributing positively to national, regional and international sustainability mitigation plans. All new buildings at UOB are designed following the environmental specifications of both international and local standards, including the new building of the College of Engineering, the new academic building of the College of Law and the new Students Affairs Building.





# 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Sustainable Waste Management

## Impact



504

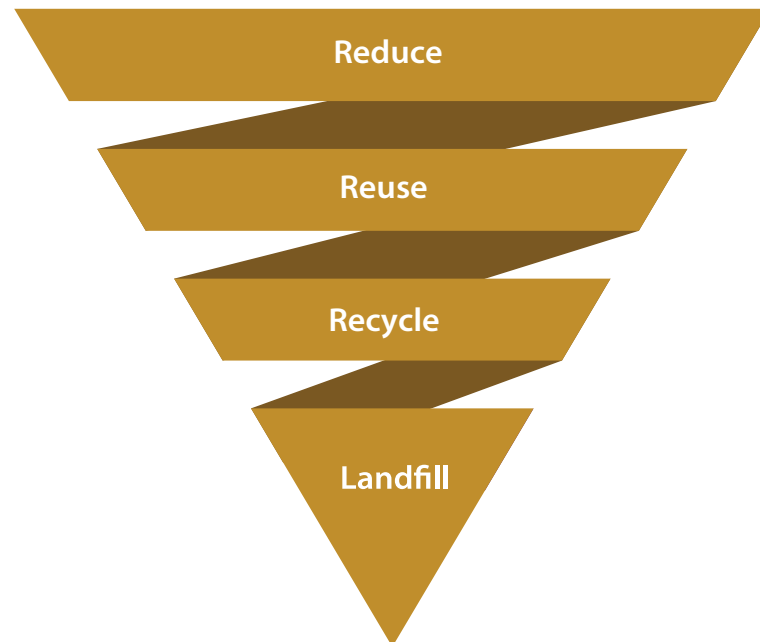
Cubic meters of treated wastewater



Sustainable waste management strategy”

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATIONS

UOB is committed to national environmental legislation to reduce the negative impacts of waste generation from daily activities. A waste hierarchy that focuses on preventing waste from being produced, reusing items and segregating materials for recycling is followed.



## UNIVERSITY OF BAHRAIN SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT (STP)

UoB's Sewerage Treatment Plant has been designed and constructed since 1995 with an average daily flow of 504 m<sup>3</sup>/day to treat the domestic wastewater from the Sakheer campus and nearby villages. The employed treatment process is the biological, extended aeration activated sludge system. The treated final effluent is mixed in a reservoir for re-using it for landscaping and irrigation.







Toward local climate action



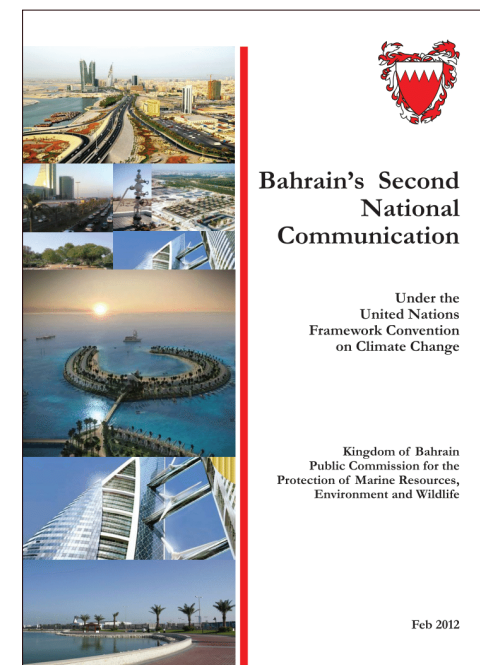
## CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

During Sustainability Development Week, Prof. Manfred A. Lange, the director of the Future Earth Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Regional Centre in Cyprus, addressed 100 UOB students and researchers about global changes in the Middle East and North Africa and mitigation/adaptation strategies



## CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS, IMPACTS, MITIGATION, IMPACT REDUCTION AND EARLY WARNING

Professor Philippe Ciais from Laboratoires des Sciences du Climate et de Environnement (LSCE), the climate change research unit of the Institute Pierre Simon Laplace (IPSL) in France, addressed 200 UOB students and researchers on recent trends in the carbon cycle, including the rapid growth of emissions and the slowing trend of natural sinks.

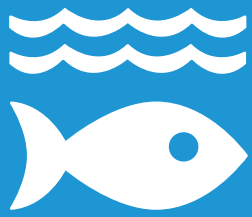


## NATIONAL GREEN GASES TEAM

UOB contributes to planning climate change adaption and mitigation strategies and reporting through awareness, education and research. UOB plays a major role on the national greenhouse gases team, which is responsible for preparing the Kingdom's CO2 footprint inventory.



## 14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, sea and marine resources for sustainable development



### FOCUS ON HAWAR ISLANDS

UOB marine scientists serve as consultants to national governmental organizations and contribute to plans and strategies related to marine conservation. During the Week of Hawar Islands organized by the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage, UOB provided knowledge and consultation on the conservation plan for the terrain and marine ecosystems of these islands.

### UOB MARINE BIOLOGY COURSE

UOB encourages students to participate in scuba diving teams and obtain scuba diving licences. These skills facilitate marine ecosystem investigations and close analysis of the causes of marine pollution.





# 15 LIFE ON LAND



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



## SYNERGY AMONG SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS IN BAHRAIN

Dr. Khaled Allam and Dr. Humood Naser



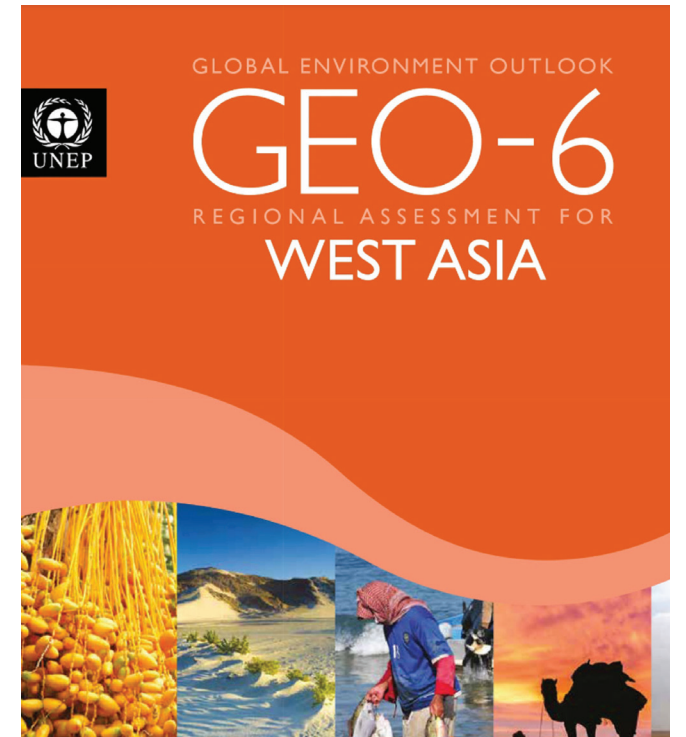
### BIODIVERSITY CONVENTION

In cooperation with IUCN, UOB developed a road map to align SDGs with biodiversity-related conventions in Bahrain. The published report focuses on five biodiversity-related conventions and their potential synergies.



### SUSTAINABLE GREEN CAMPUSES

UOB's sustainable green campuses comprise 77 acres planted to combat desertification. The planted areas include over 50 different types of plants and trees and constitute a model for regenerating life and biodiversity on land.



### GEO-6 WEST ASIA REGIONAL ASSESSMENT

UOB contributed a chapter in the GEO-6 West Asia Regional Assessment published by the UNDP on water, land, marine resources and biodiversity.



## 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



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

## Impact



Collaboration with professional and governmental institutions in the field of legal training



**+1000**

Graduates that represents an essential part of legal expertise and cadres in the Kingdom of Bahrain and in the region



**15**

volumes in the Journal of Law



## GOOD GOVERNANCE

UOB promotes good governance through several mechanisms. First, the Student Council consists of representatives of academic colleges, presidents of student societies, and representatives of student clubs. Female candidates have won seats in different colleges, and a high sense of responsibility and leadership is observed among the student community. Second, colleges are managed by College Councils comprising department heads, a high-ranking academic member from each department appointed by the University President, and three members from outside the University appointed by the Board of Trustees. These councils oversee matters related to teaching, research and examination as well as scientific, cultural and sports affairs. Finally, Program Advisory Committees (PACs) composed of employers, scholars, and other external stakeholders with an interest in the quality of a program's graduates acts as advisors for programs and their development.

## SPREADING AWARENESS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

UOB continuously collaborates with national and international entities to provide general education and upskill lawmakers. In November 2019, the University's Legal and Human Rights Clinic in collaboration with the National Commission for International Humanitarian Law in the Kingdom of Bahrain organized a seminar on the essential role of raising awareness of international humanitarian law in the realization of its goals: alleviating the scourge of wars and disputes and protecting civilians from their devastating impact. The seminar also highlighted the importance of awareness to eliminate stark violations, such as the use of lethal weapons, treating captives as guinea pigs, targeting drinking water tanks of civilians during wars, and falsely guaranteeing security before killing.

## RAISING LEGAL AWARENESS IN THE COMMUNITY

The University's Legal and Human Rights Clinic serves the local government by organizing training programs and workshops on numerous legal topics in coordination with many of the related bodies and entities of the Kingdom. The Clinic also provides educational sessions to university affiliates and the general public on human rights principles and contributes to raising legal awareness in the community through free lectures and workshops.

## LEGAL EXPERTISE AND RESEARCH FOR GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS

The expertise of UOB faculty in reviewing drafted laws is recognized by many governmental institutions, and some faculty members are assigned exclusively for short periods of time to government institutions, such as the Supreme Council for Women. In addition, UOB has played a pioneering role in legal research and studies for the benefit of governmental institutions, including studies by the Centre for Legal Consultation and Studies at UOB for the benefit of the National Human Rights Institution. One such study is "Worker rights in the light of Bahraini labour law" by Dr. Salah Muhammad Ahmed. Experts from UOB are also senior members of the Board of Trustees of the Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies, which provides lawyer training and capacity building programs. The institute serves as the national source of lawyer and legal education.



## 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



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



### PARTNERSHIP WITH UNDP

UOB has signed an agreement with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to promote SDGs at the university. UNDP will provide UOB technical support and capacity development by mobilizing internal and external knowledge and skills, harvesting local ideas, and drawing on international expertise. In addition, in November 2018, UOB signed an MOU with UNDP to enhance joint and collaborative activities for gender equality and promote innovation with the common goal of raising awareness and promoting the achievement of SDGs in Bahrain. UNDP and UOB also jointly develop and deliver graduate-level courses on the 2030 Agenda SDGs at UOB and an introductory-level course for foundation-level students.



### COLLABORATION WITH UNEP TO SUPPORT YOUTH IN EDUCATION

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and UOB signed an MOU on 20 May 2019 to provide strategic support to youth in education. Through this agreement, the University joined the International Youth and Education Alliance. UNEP and UOB will collaborate on areas related to the Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES) and the implementation of the Global Action Program on Education for Sustainable Development. This partnership will provide periodic joint seminars and workshops addressing different environmental issues and training workshops on key regional environmental issues such as renewable energy, water scarcity, and food security. The two parties will conduct joint academic research projects on major environmental challenges related to Bahrain and the region.



### COMPACT MUON SOLENOID (CMS) EXPERIMENT AT THE EUROPEAN NUCLEAR RESEARCH CENTRE (CERN)

In 2019, UOB became an Associated Institute in the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment at the European Nuclear Research Centre (CERN), continuing the University's path to scientific excellence. This international collaboration is an important step for the Kingdom of Bahrain to achieve further global cooperation in science, technology and innovation. Through induction projects at the Colleges of Engineering, Information Technology and Science, the University has started to take part in CMS experiments conducted on accelerators. In addition, a team from the College of Information Technology is working to improve the current program to select important data resulting from the collision of protons, and a second team from the Department of Mechanical Engineering is designing and build a special motorised jig for platform insertion for CMS maintenance.





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