



The American  
University in Cairo



# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022



# What is a sustainability report?

A sustainability report is a report produced by an organization, company or institution that gives information about its economic, environmental and social performance.

This is The American University in Cairo's second sustainability report. Compiled by the Office of Sustainability, this report aims to highlight the University's unwavering commitment to the environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. This report is organized around the University's different forms of engagement with sustainability, including education, research, campus operations, campus community and public engagement. In alignment with international, well-established universities, this report recognizes AUC's commitment to sustainable practices and identifies areas where the University can improve to become an international leader in sustainability. By establishing our second sustainability report, we hope AUC can continue to serve as a model for similar institutions in the Middle East and North Africa region.



## Academics

Teaching and Discovering  
Sustainability



## Operations

Embodying  
Sustainability



## Campus Community

Living  
Sustainability



## Public Engagement

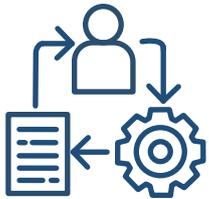
Sharing  
Sustainability



## Academics

### Teaching Sustainability

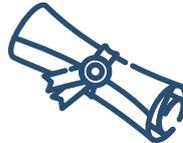
Across the University, students are given opportunities to learn about sustainability concepts and find solutions to complex environmental issues. AUC offers a variety of courses across departments that investigate sustainability through different lenses. From undergraduate to professional programs, sustainability is incorporated into all levels of education at AUC.



**32**  
academic departments  
offering sustainability  
courses



**561**  
sustainability  
courses  
offered



**13**  
sustainability-focused  
degree programs

### Professional Interdisciplinary Diploma in Water, Energy, Food Technologies (WEFT)

In partnership with AUC's Engineering And Science Services, the Center for Applied Research on the Environment and Sustainability introduced a new professional interdisciplinary diploma in water, energy, food technologies. This 18-credit program aims to qualify professionals in the field of agriculture, energy and water to implement sustainable resource management in desert areas and tackle the water, energy and food-related challenges addressed in the Egypt Vision 2030 sustainable development strategy.



## Academics

### Discovering Sustainability

Innovation is at the core of AUC's values, and the University pushes its students and faculty to explore creative academic endeavors across a variety of disciplines. Student and faculty research at AUC addresses sustainability issues on both the local and international scale, with many projects relating to Cairo and the surrounding areas.



**\$23.5 million**  
total funds dedicated to  
sustainability research



### The Health Equity and Sustainable Development Goals Learning Platform

The Social Research Center recently launched the Health Equity and Sustainable Development Goals for the Arab Region learning platform. This publicly accessible and interactive space brings together a wide network of researchers, actors and stakeholders supporting the Arab region to achieve equity in health, well-being and the Sustainable Development Goals. The platform contributes to the achievement of the sustainable development agenda, especially goals number 3 and 10 in the Arab region.



**300+**  
scholarly publications on  
sustainability<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Average per annum over the last three years



## Operations

### Embodying Sustainability

AUC recognizes the importance of embodying sustainability in the daily operations of its campus and is committed to the efficient and responsible use of resources. The Office of Sustainability tracks the University's energy consumption, water usage and waste management regularly and measures the campus's consumption of natural resources.

**50%**



reduction in energy use due to energy-efficient wall construction



**7.4 million**

plastic bottles saved from the campus's filtered water stations

**100%**

of campus irrigation uses treated wastewater



Carbon footprint of

**25,678 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e**

in AY 21

**1,172**

trees planted in the AUC garden





## Campus Community Living Sustainability

AUC community members are the most important partners in building a sustainable campus. It is essential to encourage AUC students, faculty and staff to practice sustainable habits and foster a culture of awareness. The COVID-19 pandemic severely limited in-person engagement; however, our community members found creative ways to increase sustainability awareness and instill sustainable practices while ensuring the health and safety of the campus community.



16

sustainability newsletters published



93%

of campus community vaccinated against COVID-19

### Campus Sustainability Month 2021

After a full year of online instruction, the University reopened the campus in Fall 2021 with strict COVID-19 safety measures in place. With the vibrant campus back to a “new normal,” the Office of Sustainability hosted a series of face-to-face events to celebrate Campus Sustainability Month, an international celebration of sustainability in higher education. The programming included a series of awareness events covering various sustainability issues, including energy consumption, food and material waste, and transportation emissions.



## Public Engagement Sharing Sustainability

AUC has implemented meaningful changes that make campus operations more sustainable, but as a globally oriented University, we always seek to engage with external partners. As an institute of higher education, AUC recognizes its ability to make a positive impact on the surrounding community. Through public events, external partnerships and global initiatives, AUC is committed to sharing sustainability beyond its campus boundaries.

6 global sustainability  
initiative memberships



**#1** sustainable university in Africa and Egypt according to 2021 UI GreenMetric World University Ranking

John D. Gerhart Center for  
Philanthropy, Civic Engagement  
and Responsible Business Webinar  
Series

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the John D. Gerhart Center launched the webinar series "The Aftermath of COVID-19: The New Social Impact Ecosystem." The series discusses concepts that are currently not mainstream, which may or perhaps should become mainstream in the aftermath of the pandemic. The webinar series covers a range of topics concerning sustainability and the COVID-19 pandemic, featuring distinguished speakers from various fields around the world.



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To read the full Sustainability Report 2022, visit  
[aucegypt.edu/about/sustainable-auc/sustainable-campus](https://aucegypt.edu/about/sustainable-auc/sustainable-campus).