

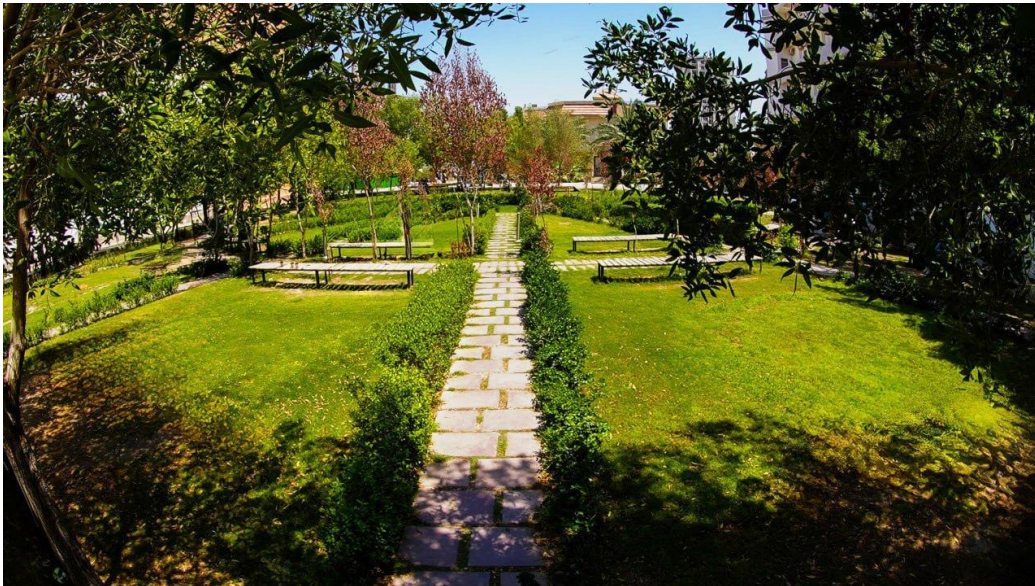
# UNIVERSITY OF AL-MAARIF

Ramadi · Anbar Governorate · Republic of Iraq

# Sustainability Report

## 2025 – 2026

*Advancing the Efforts to Tackle Climate Change Through Partnerships*



**Aligned with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**

Prepared by the Sustainability Office · [www.uoa.edu.iq](http://www.uoa.edu.iq)

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## Message from the President

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In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. It is my privilege to present the Sustainability Report of the University of Al-Maarif for 2025–2026, a document that records how our institution translates its values into measurable contributions to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Founded on 4 October 1993, the University of Al-Maarif is the first private university in Anbar Governorate and the sixth private university established in Iraq. Across more than three decades, and through some of the most difficult circumstances our region has faced, the university has remained committed to raising academic and scientific standards, widening access to higher education, and serving the communities of Ramadi, Anbar, and Iraq as a whole.

Sustainability is not a separate programme at Al-Maarif; it is woven through our teaching, our research, and our engagement with society. Our colleges in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, engineering, science, law, education, physical education, and administration each contribute to this agenda — whether through free health clinics for the public, energy and water research, environmental campaigns, support for orphans and low-income families, or partnerships with national and international institutions.

This report sets out, goal by goal, the concrete initiatives the university has delivered, the partnerships that made them possible, and the research that underpins them. It reflects our conviction that a university earns its standing not only through scholarship, but through the difference it makes in people's lives.

I extend my sincere gratitude to every member of our community — faculty, staff, students, and partners — whose dedication made these achievements possible. We offer this report as both a record of our progress and a commitment to do more in the years ahead.

### **Dr. Mahmoud Abdulrazaq**

President, University of Al-Maarif

## About the University of Al-Maarif



*The University of Al-Maarif campus in Ramadi, Anbar Governorate.*

The University of Al-Maarif, in Anbar Governorate, was established in 1993 under the Private Universities and Colleges Law No. 13 of 1996 (as amended). It is the first private university in Anbar Governorate and the sixth private university in Iraq, operating under the supervision of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research and recognised both locally and internationally. Over more than three decades it has graduated generations of students who have gone on to serve in teaching, administration, the judiciary, engineering, legal practice, and many other fields.

The university leads in advancing the scientific and social landscape of Anbar and of Iraq more broadly, adopting a quality-led approach across the educational process — attracting qualified academic staff, equipping diverse classrooms and laboratories, and providing strong facilities for its students.

### Vision

The University of Al-Maarif aspires to be a beacon of knowledge in Anbar Governorate and across Iraq — an institution distinguished by academic rigour, ethical values, innovation, and a deep commitment to the sustainable development of its society and environment.

### Mission

The University of Al-Maarif is committed to providing accessible, high-quality education that empowers individuals to reach their full potential and contribute meaningfully to society. Through innovative teaching, research, and community engagement, the university cultivates critical thinking, cultural understanding, and responsible citizenship, while embedding the principles of sustainable development across all of its academic and administrative activities.

### Sustainability at the University of Al-Maarif

The University of Al-Maarif has formally adopted all seventeen United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as the framework guiding its institutional strategy. As a leading private institution in Anbar Governorate, the university works to provide direct support to individuals and organisations striving to achieve the goals, to generate knowledge and innovation, and to transfer technology and resources to the wider community.

This report documents the university's contributions across the full set of goals during the 2025–2026 period, presenting initiatives, partnerships, and supporting research. Further information is maintained on the university's dedicated sustainability portal at <https://uoa.edu.iq/sustainable>.

## Faculties at the University of Al-Maarif

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The University of Al-Maarif comprises eleven colleges spanning the medical, engineering, scientific, humanities, legal, and administrative fields. Five of these colleges operate in the health and medical sector, reflecting the university's strong commitment to public health and to Sustainable Development Goal 3. The university also maintains two peer-reviewed scientific journals — one in the humanities and one in the pure sciences — alongside a research centre, a quality-assurance unit, an information-technology unit, and a large library serving researchers and students from within and beyond the institution.

- Pharmacy College
- Dentistry College
- Health and Medical Technologies College
- Nursing College
- Engineering College
- Engineering Technology College
- Science College
- Physical Education and Sports Sciences College
- Law College
- Education College
- Administrative and Financial Sciences College

## 1 No Poverty

*End poverty in all its forms everywhere.*

The University of Al-Maarif treats the alleviation of poverty as a matter of justice rather than charity. Through financial-access measures, community relief projects, and applied research, the university works to reduce poverty among its students and across Anbar Governorate, in line with UN Targets 1.2, 1.3 and 1.A.



*Distributing essential goods and gifts to orphaned children and needy families.*

### Financial access and tuition support

The university operates a structured programme of tuition reductions for students from low-income backgrounds, with discounts reaching up to one hundred per cent for the most financially constrained applicants. The objective is to ensure that talented students from disadvantaged areas around Ramadi are not excluded from higher education by cost, and that financial hardship does not interrupt a student's progression to graduation.

### Community relief and orphan care

During the holy month of Ramadan, university staff and students deliver essential goods — food parcels, clothing, and household appliances — to families identified as most in need across Anbar Governorate. The programme is delivered in stages: mapping the areas of greatest need in partnership with local planning authorities, mobilising students, staff and sponsors for funding, and conducting distribution visits. More than five hundred families have benefited from this initiative.

In partnership with the Innovation House Foundation for orphan care, the university supplies basic needs and food to orphaned students, while the Department of Student Activities organises voluntary drives distributing gifts, Eid clothing, and stationery to needy families inside and outside the governorate.

### Research and awareness

Faculty in business administration, working with NGOs and government authorities, have conducted workshops and field case studies examining the structural causes of poverty in the region. Statistical tools were used to estimate the number and income of poor families, generating evidence to help public authorities identify and target those most in need.

## 2 Zero Hunger

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

Under Sustainable Development Goal 2, the University of Al-Maarif promotes food security and sustainable agriculture through campus production, applied research, and public events that connect local farmers and food producers with the academic community.



*Sustainable agriculture and date production on campus.*

### **Sustainable agriculture on campus**

The university advances sustainable agricultural development as a means of meeting food needs and creating decent livelihoods for current and future generations. Campus initiatives focus on improving agricultural production both quantitatively and qualitatively to strengthen food security and reduce dependence on imports, using improved methods and techniques suited to the local environment.

### **Al-Maarif Forum for Sustainable Agriculture**

In celebration of World Food Day, the university convened an international forum on sustainable agriculture at which local farmers and food producers exhibited their agricultural and food products. The forum addressed the obstacles to sustainable agricultural development in Iraq, strategies for preserving agricultural land, and the case for prohibiting chemical pesticides that harm the environment.

These activities respond directly to Iraq's food-security challenge: although the country has improved its standing on the Global Hunger Index, much of that progress rests on imports rather than domestic production — a dependency the university's agricultural work seeks to help redress.

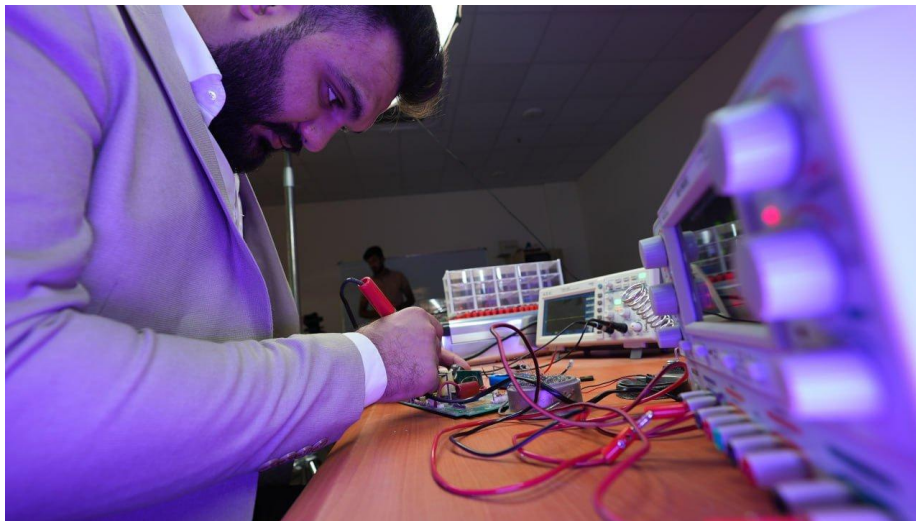
### 3 Good Health and Well-Being

*Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.*

With five of its eleven colleges in the health and medical field, the University of Al-Maarif makes one of its strongest contributions under Sustainable Development Goal 3, combining free clinical services for the public with health-promotion campaigns and specialist medical forums.



*Free dental services for the public, delivered by supervised dentistry students.*



*Medical laboratory training at the university's health colleges.*

#### **Free dental care for the community**

The Dentistry College operates clinics that provide free dental services to the public five days a week, from early morning until mid-afternoon. Services range from cleaning and whitening to extractions, delivered by dentistry students under the supervision of their lecturers. The clinics serve patients of all ages and both genders, with more than three thousand patients benefiting each month — combining a vital public-health service with high-quality clinical training.

### Children's cardiac health initiative

The university launched a humanitarian medical campaign to examine and diagnose children — particularly orphaned and low-income children — for congenital heart disease, free of charge. An integrated team of cardiac surgeons and echocardiography specialists conducted examinations, arranged surgical intervention for children who required it, and facilitated treatment abroad for complex cases that could not be managed within Iraq. The campaign was accompanied by specialist lectures on the prevalence, classification, and timing of intervention for congenital heart disease.

### Public-health awareness and specialist forums

The university's medical colleges run extensive awareness campaigns addressing both communicable and non-communicable disease, including cholera, COVID-19, rabies, malaria, cardiovascular disease, anaemia in pregnancy, and lymphoma early detection, as well as hand-washing education in primary schools. On World Diabetes Day the university convened a forum, in cooperation with the Anbar Health Department, under the theme of a future free of the burden of diabetes. On World Anaesthesia Day, the Department of Anaesthesia Techniques held its first international forum on medical technology and anaesthesia, attended by academics, physicians, and specialists.

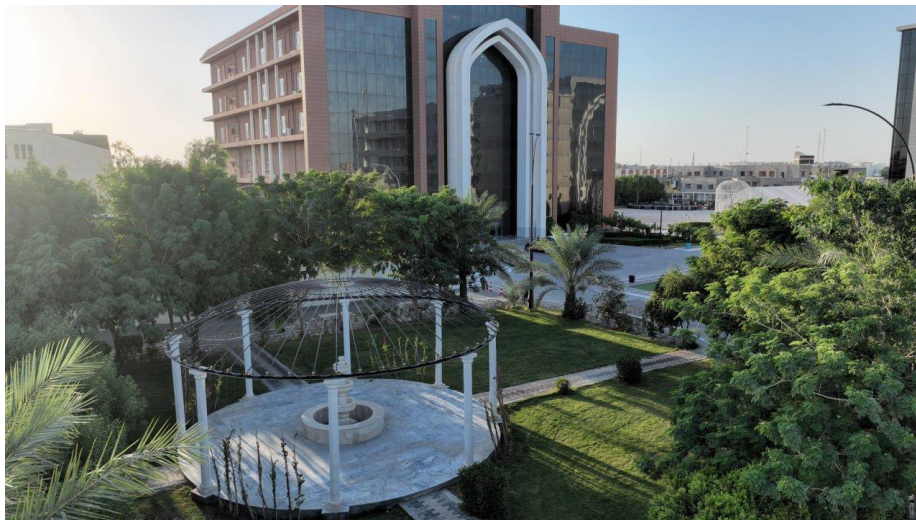
## 4 Quality Education

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

Sustainable Development Goal 4 sits at the heart of the university's mission. The University of Al-Maarif works to ensure inclusive, equitable, high-quality education and to promote lifelong learning, both for its own students and for the wider community.



*Modern lecture and learning facilities at the university.*



*The university illuminated for its thirty-fourth anniversary celebration.*

### **Inclusive education and community outreach**

Students of the Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, in cooperation with the Student Activities Unit, have led voluntary campaigns supporting local primary schools and creating better conditions for younger learners. The university views education as the means through which values and skills for a more sustainable society are formed, and directs its outreach towards strengthening the educational foundations of the surrounding community.

### **Advancing digital learning**

Following the disruption of the COVID-19 period, the university expanded its adoption of digital and artificial-intelligence-supported learning methods, investing in modern classrooms, laboratories, and e-learning facilities. This work aligns the university with global developments in educational technology and broadens access to quality teaching resources.

### **Recognising academic excellence**

On 1 October 2025 the university celebrated its thirty-fourth anniversary under the patronage of the President, Dr. Mahmoud Abdulrazaq, in the presence of senior academic, cultural and provincial figures, including the Chairman of the Anbar Provincial Council. The celebration honoured the university's "Ambassadors of Knowledge" — a group of young inventors embodying the creativity the university seeks to nurture — alongside outstanding members of staff recognised for their service.

## 5 Gender Equality

*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.*

The University of Al-Maarif promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through a dedicated Women's Empowerment Unit, recognition of women's achievements, and active campaigns against gender-based violence, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 5.



*Women's sport at the University of Al-Maarif.*



*Female students working in the university laboratories.*

### Recognising and empowering women

The university's Women's Empowerment Unit organised the institution's celebration of International Women's Day on 8 March, recognising women among the staff for their achievements and contributions. On the same occasion, the Department of Physical Education and Sports Sciences, with the Student Activities Division, held a badminton championship for female students across the university's departments — reinforcing women's full participation in academic, sporting, and leadership life.

### Campaigning against violence

In partnership with its Women's Empowerment Unit, the university took part in the global 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, the United Nations campaign running from 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day. The university adopted the campaign's orange theme as an expression of hope for a future free of violence against women and girls.

## 6 Clean Water and Sanitation

*Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.*

Recognising water scarcity as one of the defining challenges facing Iraq, the University of Al-Maarif contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 6 through research, national forums, public-awareness campaigns, and campus conservation.



*Campus green space supporting the university's water-conservation strategy.*

### Water-sustainability forums and research

On World Water Day the university convened its first forum on water sustainability, dedicated to the provision of clean drinking water and sanitation for all. The forum drew senior figures, including an advisor to the Minister of Water Resources and the Director General of the National Centre for Water Resources Management, and addressed groundwater in the Western Desert, modern water-harvesting techniques, water quality, and the protection of water sources from pollution. University research in this area spans modern irrigation and the rationalisation of water consumption, industrial water treatment in oil refineries, the use of aquatic plants as biofuel, and the application of artificial intelligence to water-resource management.

### Protecting rivers and conserving water

Staff and students have conducted awareness and clean-up campaigns to protect Iraq's rivers, educating citizens on the dangers of industrial, plastic, and chemical pollution of coastal and river waters. A dedicated forum on water sustainability and climate change brought together senior environmental and water-policy experts to examine climate change in light of the COP26 outcomes, preventive water policy, and hydrological assessment for Iraqi water security. The university's own conservation strategy promotes simple, repeatable measures across the campus to reduce consumption and protect supply.

### National recognition

The National Initiative to Support Energy, Water and Reduce Emissions formally recognised the university's President and senior staff for their support of the initiative, including the hosting of scientific events and the production of awareness materials on water, energy, and climate change.

## 7 Affordable and Clean Energy

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

The University of Al-Maarif advances Sustainable Development Goal 7 through forums, international conferences, a dedicated energy research centre, and applied research on energy efficiency and emissions reduction.



*Energy and innovation activities at the College of Engineering.*

### Forums and international conferences

On World Energy Day the university held its Forum for Sustainable and Alternative Energy Research and Studies, under the theme of investing in clean energy as a path to sustainable development, in collaboration with the Scientific Association for Energy Studies and Research. The forum brought together figures from the Ministries of Oil, Electricity, and Environment alongside researchers and industry. The university subsequently convened the First International Conference on the Future of Sustainable Energy (ICFSE), held over two days, with closing sessions attended by senior provincial officials, experts, and researchers presenting peer-reviewed papers.

### Energy Research Centre and applied research

The College of Engineering established an Energy Research Centre dedicated to renewable energy and energy conservation, with the goal of securing an advanced position for the university in the energy field, supported by international scientific and technical consultation. University research, conducted with international partners, has examined the impact of carbon-dioxide emissions on energy efficiency in sustainable buildings, demonstrating that diagnosing and managing building energy use — and shifting towards gas, wind, and other new energy sources — can deliver significant savings in both energy and emissions, alongside improved building performance and design.

## 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

*Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.*

Under Sustainable Development Goal 8, the University of Al-Maarif connects graduates with employers, fosters entrepreneurship, and supports the localisation of jobs and decent work in the regional economy.

### **The Al-Maarif Career Fair**

The university's Career Fair, organised by the Rehabilitation and Follow-up Unit with the Central Student Activities Division, brought together some eighty companies and institutions — including the Chamber of Industry, banks, pharmaceutical and telecommunications companies, the electricity sector, and the Syndicate of Engineers — in the presence of government and academic figures, graduates, and students. The fair generated approximately one hundred job openings matched to the specialisations sought in the labour market, establishing a direct link between graduates and employers and advancing the localisation of jobs.

### **Entrepreneurship and the Riyadh initiative**

Through the Riyadh Development and Employment Initiative, the university delivered a five-day programme of workshops for a cohort of twenty young women and men selected via the initiative's electronic system. Participants studied the management and establishment of small and micro-enterprises, individual skills, networking, and financial management, and learned to prepare economic feasibility studies — combining theoretical learning with hands-on, interactive work to turn business ideas into viable projects.

## 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

The University is promoting innovation, technology and digitalisation.



Engineering is a key pillar of our sustainable development strategy.

A wearable glove developed at the university that translates sign language.



Student-developed remote-sensing drone system.

### Student innovation for social good

University innovators have developed a wearable glove that translates sign language into spoken output through a dedicated application, bridging the communication gap between deaf and hearing communities. The device uses flexible sensors to capture hand gestures, converts them into electrical signals via a microcontroller, and transmits them wirelessly to an application. A second project developed an autonomous drone system for remote sensing in disaster and emergency environments, supporting civil-defence efforts to protect people and property.

### Engineering graduation-projects forum

The Faculty of Engineering and Engineering Technologies convened its second engineering forum for graduation projects under the theme of creativity and innovation towards a sustainable university. The forum addressed mechanical and thermal applications, renewable and clean-energy applications, the reduction of fossil-fuel use, environmental protection and the reduction of global warming, carbon-footprint reduction, electronic sensors and remote sensing in power systems, and the oil and petrochemical industries — with nearly sixty projects from the participating departments.

## 10 Reduced Inequalities

*Reduce inequality within and among countries.*

The University of Al-Maarif works to reduce inequality through inclusive policies and sustained support for vulnerable groups, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 10.



*Community support programmes for vulnerable groups.*

### Inclusive policies

The university has adopted policies designed to achieve zero discrimination across its operations — in employment, student admission, and student support — welcoming individuals of all backgrounds and ethnicities. Particular attention is given to vulnerable groups, including children, the elderly, people with disabilities, widows, and divorcees, and to the large numbers of orphans and displaced people affected by years of conflict.

### Support programmes

The university delivers a set of interconnected support programmes covering food and subsistence (financial assistance, food parcels, and hygiene kits), education (school fees, books, and supplies), health (check-ups and specialist referrals), social inclusion (extracurricular activities and national-day celebrations), and child protection (home and school visits to safeguard children and provide intervention where needed), as well as the provision of school uniforms.

### Care for the elderly

University teams visit care homes for the elderly, providing clothing, food, and needed medical equipment, and conducting planting campaigns to improve the homes' gardens — ensuring that older members of the community are supported and not forgotten.

## 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

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

The University of Al-Maarif contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 11 through community clean-up and infrastructure initiatives and through forums on sustainable urban planning.



*Public spaces on the university campus.*

### Community environmental action

Under the patronage of the University President, students and staff launched a major cleaning and rehabilitation campaign in the Street 80 area, clearing solid waste, improving waste disposal, providing a safe road through the neighbourhood, and resurfacing the street. The initiative focused on protecting people living in vulnerable conditions and on reducing the negative environmental impact of the urban area, including through improved municipal waste management.

### Forum for urban planning

The university organised its first Forum for Urban Planning under the theme "Smart City for a Better Life," with lectures on urban and sustainable architectural planning and on the preservation of cultural heritage and historic sites. The forum, which included a poster exhibition and the participation of provincial government departments, was led on the university's behalf by the Head of the Department of Building and Construction Technology Engineering.

## 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

*Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.*

The University of Al-Maarif promotes responsible consumption and production through recycling programmes, a formal waste-management policy, campus waste sorting, and the elimination of single-use plastics, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 12.

### Recycling and awareness

The university has run awareness campaigns on the benefits of recycling, distributing materials to students on the importance of recycling waste — particularly plastics — and on converting waste into reusable resources. Its broader programme includes campaigns on recycling polymers and plastics, workshops on modern recycling methods, and research on using solid agricultural waste to remove heavy metals from groundwater.

### Eliminating single-use plastic

The university has transformed its campus to eliminate single-use plastic bags, replacing them with recycled paper bags. To extend the practice beyond the campus, it has distributed thousands of paper bags to shops and markets across Ramadi.

### Waste-management policy and sorting

The university operates a formal waste-management policy built on four principles: waste recycling, reduction of paper use, reduction of plastic use with composting, and research in waste management. To support recycling, separate bins for glass, paper, plastic, and food waste are distributed across the campus, ensuring that waste is sorted at source.

## 13 Climate Action

*Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.*

Climate action is the organising theme of this report. The University of Al-Maarif contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 13 through large-scale campus greening, afforestation and seed-distribution campaigns, and high-level partnerships against desertification.



*Green areas across the campus, part of 223,535 m<sup>2</sup> of planted and absorption space.*



*A tree-planting campaign against desertification.*

### Campus greening and carbon absorption

The university maintains a deliberate strategy of planting open spaces with palm trees and low-water plants to conserve water while increasing vegetation that purifies the air and helps reduce warming. The campus green

areas have tripled in size since the institution was founded, and the total campus area dedicated to water absorption, forest, and planted vegetation stands at 223,535 square metres, with the palm — Iraq's national tree — given particular priority.

### **Afforestation and anti-desertification campaigns**

As part of its adaptation to climate change, the university has run extensive planting campaigns to mitigate desertification, including planting on campus, in the vocational education department in Ramadi, and in the gardens of elderly-care homes, alongside activities marking the international day for combating desertification. The Department of Central Student Activities organised an afforestation campaign on the Ramadi Corniche, planting a variety of evergreen trees and seasonal seedlings with student participation.

### **National initiatives against desertification**

The university supported a national seed-distribution campaign promoting tree-planting and combating desertification across Iraq's governorates. Under the "Let's Make It Green" initiative — held under the patronage of the Minister of Agriculture and attended by members of the House of Representatives, the Governor of Anbar, and senior agricultural officials — the university inaugurated an agricultural exhibition involving private-sector companies, nurseries, students, and faculty, with the aim of building a greener future for Anbar Province.

## 14 Life Below Water

*Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources.*

Although located inland, the University of Al-Maarif contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 14 through research and awareness on the health of Iraq's rivers and freshwater ecosystems and through contributions to fish stocks.



*River clean-up and water-life awareness campaign.*

### Studying aquatic life in Iraq's rivers

The university held a scientific symposium on life below water, examining the current condition of species in Iraq's rivers, the importance of the aquatic environment, and the impact of the COVID-19 period — including the environmental damage caused by discarded pandemic waste — together with proposed solutions. The symposium underscored that healthy freshwater systems regulate water, climate, and much of the food chain, and that pollution and acidification threaten ecosystems, biodiversity, and small-scale fisheries.

### Restoring fish stocks and tackling illegal fishing

The university contributed to the restocking of fish populations and raised awareness of the damage caused by illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, which undermines conservation efforts, harms responsible fishers, and threatens food security for communities dependent on fishery resources. According to the FAO, such fishing accounts for a substantial share of seafood losses worldwide and weakens small-scale fisheries in particular.

**Evidence & public examples.** *scientific symposium on life below water in Iraq's rivers; fish-restocking contribution and awareness on illegal fishing.*

## 15 Life on Land

*Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss.*

The University of Al-Maarif advances Sustainable Development Goal 15 through a dedicated wildlife sanctuary, partnership with the regional agriculture directorate, and active care for birds and pollinators on campus.



*The green campus and wildlife habitat.*

### The Wildlife Sanctuary at Al-Maarif

Established in 2020, the university's Wildlife Sanctuary provides students and the community with a place to observe local biodiversity and offers a safe environment for rare animals threatened with extinction. It is home to species including Iraqi deer, desert fox, rabbits, and thoroughbred Arabian horses, alongside bird species such as ostrich, peacocks, and pigeons. Beehives distributed across the green areas further support the university's rewilding efforts.

### Partnership for terrestrial ecosystems

A delegation from the Genetic Resources Division of the regional Animal Wealth Department visited the university's wildlife reserve and conducted a scientific training course at the university's horse stable on the description and census of horses, delivering a specialist lecture as part of a partnership to advance the protection of life on land in the Ramadi area.

### Care for birds

The university extended its care for wildlife through an extensive campaign distributing bird nests, feeders, and water containers among the trees across the campus, supporting nesting birds and local biodiversity.

## 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

*Promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable institutions.*

The University of Al-Maarif contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 16 through public seminars on safety and justice, human-rights activities led by its Law College, and community awareness on drugs and cyber-crime, delivered in partnership with national institutions.



*A community-awareness seminar delivered with national partners.*

### Public safety and cyber-crime awareness

In collaboration with the Ministry of Interior, the university held a seminar on electronic extortion, presented by the head of the security media cell and the director-general of the Ministry's Department of Relations and Media, with the participation of the Head of the Law Department. Attended by officers, faculty, and students, the seminar set out the measures citizens should take to protect themselves and the authorities to approach for assistance. A further seminar on drug abuse and cyberbullying, delivered with the federal intelligence agency and the provincial directorate for narcotics affairs, examined the health hazards of drug abuse and the methods used by dealers, and called for stronger legislation, the role of families in prevention, and action on youth unemployment.

### Human rights and civic engagement

On International Human Rights Day, the Law College held a ceremony including the signing of the human-rights book and a dialogue session with the Director of the regional Human Rights Commission office and a senior police representative on the reality and challenges of human rights. On Iraqi Army Day, a student delegation from the Law College, with the Student Activities Division, visited military units to offer honorary tributes. The Law College also delivers awareness lectures on reducing drug-related harm, contributing to both Goal 16 and Goal 3.

## 17 Partnerships for the Goals

*Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development.*

Partnership is the means through which the University of Al-Maarif delivers its sustainability agenda. Under Sustainable Development Goal 17, the university maintains national and international academic agreements, government and NGO partnerships, and a substantial record of research collaboration.

### National and international academic partnerships

The university has signed scientific and academic cooperation agreements with a range of institutions, including the University of Anbar, the University of Technology, the Central Technical University in Baghdad, and Wasit University. These agreements provide for the exchange of faculty and students, joint research and joint supervision of graduation projects, the development of curricula and laboratories, and a focus on publishing research that serves sustainable development in the Scopus and Clarivate indexes.

Internationally, the university signed a memorandum of understanding with Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), a highly ranked institution, including a preliminary agreement to deliver a master's programme in electronic systems design engineering accessible to students at Al-Maarif. Academic staff also completed an intensive training course at the Multimedia University of Malaysia (MMU) on modern teaching methods and scientific-research skills.

### Government and NGO partnerships

The university collaborates with national governmental bodies including the Ministries of Agriculture, Science and Technology, Oil, Planning, Health and Environment, Water Resources, and Electricity, as well as with non-governmental organisations supporting its community and environmental work.

### Research partnerships — by the numbers

The university's commitment to Goal 17 is reflected in its research-collaboration profile. The table below summarises the University of Al-Maarif's research output by subject area, drawn from the Scopus-powered SciMago Institutions Rankings (World edition 2026). Positions are given within each territorial domain.

Subject Area (Scopus)	World	Iraq	Arab region	Strength
Engineering	4334	35	225	Strongest
Mathematics	4357	36	261	Strong
Computer Science	4386	37	258	Strong
Pharmacology & Pharmaceutics	4686	39	261	Moderate
Chemistry	5155	44	262	Moderate
Environmental Science	5566	51	330	Moderate
Medicine	6110	30	265	Developing
Biochemistry, Genetics & Mol. Biology	6545	52	306	Developing

*A subject area appears only where the university exceeds the minimum output threshold for that field, so the areas shown reflect genuine research strength. The university's output is concentrated in engineering, mathematics, and computer science.*

*In the Pathology and Forensic Medicine category, the university ranks 5th in Iraq — its highest subject-category placement nationally.*

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# Sustainability Report

University of Al-Maarif · 2025 – 2026

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*Advancing the Efforts to Tackle Climate Change Through Partnerships*

Prepared by the Sustainability Office at the University of Al-Maarif

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