



Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2025



TOP 301-400

SDG4: Quality Education
Ranked 20th Worldwide
SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
Ranked 69th Worldwide

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Development and Qu

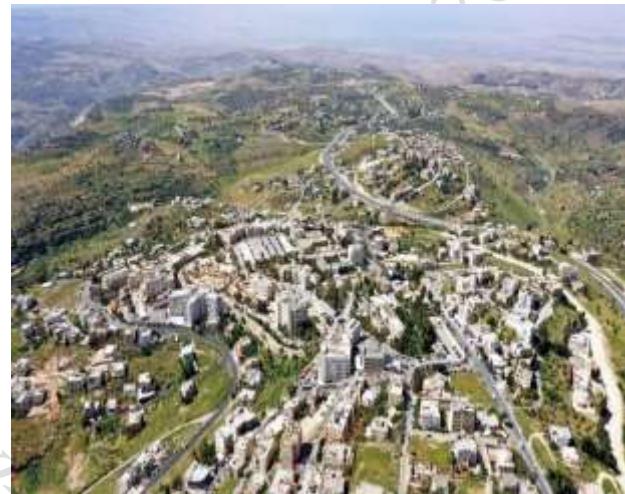
Sustainable Development Goal_02 (Zero Hunger) Report

**Al-Balqa Applied University
2025**

Foreword

Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU) is a prominent public university in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, with a student body of over 60,000 and multiple satellite campuses across the country. BAU's vision is to excel as a globally competitive applied university, renowned for creativity, innovation, applied scientific research, and leadership. The university is dedicated to fostering Jordan's knowledge economy and society, delivering high-quality education that equips students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

Spanning an estimated **11,100,000 m²**, BAU's campuses are home to a wide array of educational, research, medical, sports, and cultural facilities. Additionally, the campuses feature extensive green spaces and recreational areas, creating a vibrant, supportive environment for student development and engagement.



BAU's main campus is located in the ancient city of [As-Salt](#), in Al-Balqa' Governorate, home to a number of important cultural and historical sites, and a [UNESCO world heritage](#) site. Built by Macedonians, [As-Salt](#) occupied an important trading position by Roman, Byzantine, and Mamelukes. Along with its historical value, As-Salt city is located 20 minutes from the lowest point on earth, the [Dead Sea](#) and is very close to the [holy baptism site of Jesus Christ](#) on the East bank of the Jordan River. A sunny day at As-Salt rewards visitors with a breathtaking view of the holy lands.

Alongside BAU's main campus, the university's satellite campuses are hubs for quality education and research and offer students the opportunity to explore Jordan's rich cultural heritage. For example, [Aqaba University College](#) located in Jordan's only port, offers maritime transport technology programs as well as easy access to the golden triangle of [Petra](#), [Wadi Rum](#) and [Aqaba](#). And Shoubak University College, which is located close to the

stunning [Dana Biosphere Reserve](#), and [Huson University College](#) in the north, which closest to [Jerash](#) which is the second to Petra on the list of favorite destinations in Jordan. Al-Balqa Governorate is a province of intellectual heritage and folklore, and it is popular for recreational and religious tourism; traveler may visit many ruins and sacred shrines for Prophet Shu'ayb (Maqam Nabi Shu'ayb), Prophet Joshua Ben-nun, Prophet Gad Ben Jacob, Prophet Ayub, Prophet Hazir, and Prophet Gilad (May Peace Be Upon Them), as well as the shrines of two of Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him) Companions: Abu Obeida Al-Jarah and Dirar Ibn Azwar.

Such an integral role along with other cities of the Kingdom was deeply rooted during the establishment of the Emirate of Jordan in 1921 moving towards developing the country. Salt City was prominent with its scientific and educational legacy, which was marked by the founding of Salt School, inaugurated by His Majesty King Abdullah the First – may God rest his soul – (Prince at that time) in 1923, to be the first school in the kingdom having its graduates as great officials and leaders of the nation.

Upon firmly acknowledging the educational and scientific long history of Salt City along with its leading role in the field of education by the Hashemite leadership, Late King Hussein Bin Talal – May God rest his soul – honored Balqa' governorate by the issuance of the royal decree to establish Al Balqa Applied University in Salt city on the 22nd of August 1996. This has enhanced the city's role, commemorated the pioneers of its early graduates, and scientifically empowered its legacy which we hope to continually flourish.

Our Strategic Response

BAU operates through a network of campuses across Jordan, covering diverse climatic regions—from the highlands in the mid-west to the arid governorates in the south and far east. This geographical diversity has driven BAU to undertake extensive initiatives in climate variability and adaptation, establishing itself as a leader in climate resilience.

BAU is at the forefront of research and innovation in areas such as water conservation, drought management, capacity building, and technology transfer. Its initiatives span solar energy, wastewater treatment and reuse, and smart agriculture. The university has also introduced specialized academic programs in fields like smart agriculture, water treatment, smart buildings, and electric and hybrid vehicles, alongside conducting numerous climate

change awareness activities.

On another hand (BAU) adopts the United [Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(UN SDGs\)](#), and Paris Agreement goals which are adopted by all nations as a universal call to protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030 through ethical management of resources, openness to societies and contributing to their development and solving their problems, and creating a conscious generation of its students who adopt the dimensions of sustainable development in their lives, directing scientific research to contribute to achieving sustainable development, and strengthening national and international partnerships, also (BAU) became a member of [United Nations Academic Impact \(UNAI\)](#), and [United Nation - Sustainable Development Solution Network \(UNSDSN\)](#).



INTRODUCTION:

BAU has adopted a sustainability-driven approach rooted in continuous improvement, with a mission to fully integrate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its core strategies, policies, and daily operations. This commitment has inspired transformative initiatives, projects, and programs across all faculties and campuses. Through responsible resource management, innovative teaching, impactful research, and strong national and international partnerships, BAU continues to redefine its institutional identity as a leader in sustainability.

To strengthen its contribution to the SDGs, BAU established a [dedicated Sustainability Office](#) and implemented best practices that have earned international recognition. Remarkably, the university ranked **first nationally and 2nd in the Arab region, and 53rd**

globally in the 2023 UI GreenMetric World University Rankings.

These accomplishments align with the **17 Sustainable Development Goals**, which serve as a guiding framework for meaningful action toward people and the planet. By embracing these goals, BAU continuously assesses its progress and sets clear priorities for future advancement.

BAU remains steadfast in empowering students as agents of change, community leaders, and responsible global citizens. Faculty and students actively engage in sustainability-oriented education through diverse courses, academic programs, and research projects that advance SDG principles in teaching, learning, and innovation.

In alignment with its [Strategic Plan 2021-2025](#), BAU continues to pioneer innovative approaches through training programs, applied research, and community engagement initiatives—all designed to contribute effectively to the realization of the [UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.](#)

2 ZERO HUNGER



INTRODUCTION

The 2ND sustainable Goal aims to eliminate hunger and ensure everyone has access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food by 2030. However, global hunger has been rising since 2015 due to conflicts, climate change, the pandemic, economic pressures, and growing inequalities.

In 2024, about **8.2% of the world's population, 1 in 12 people** experienced hunger, while **2.3 billion people** were moderately or severely food insecure. Child malnutrition remains critical, with **23.2% of children stunted** and **6.6% of children under 5** affected by wasting. By 2030, projections estimate **over 600 million people** may still suffer from hunger.

Rising hunger is driven by conflict, climate shocks, high food prices, and declining agricultural productivity. Investing in agriculture is essential to reduce poverty, improve resilience, and increase food availability.

Achieving Zero Hunger requires transforming food systems, improving social protection programs, and ensuring that vulnerable people, especially children, have access to nutritious food.

Everyone has a role to play supporting local farmers, choosing sustainable food options, reducing food waste, and advocating for policies that promote food security and nutrition.

Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU) is dedicated to advancing natural resource management, particularly through diverse research projects focused on food conservation, a vital approach to ensuring sustainable food supplies for future generations. Through strong academic programs and high-quality scientific research, BAU provides integrated technical solutions to support the national economy.

لدعم صندوق الطالب الشقيق تعاون بين جامعة البلقاء التطبيقية والبنك الأهلي الأردني
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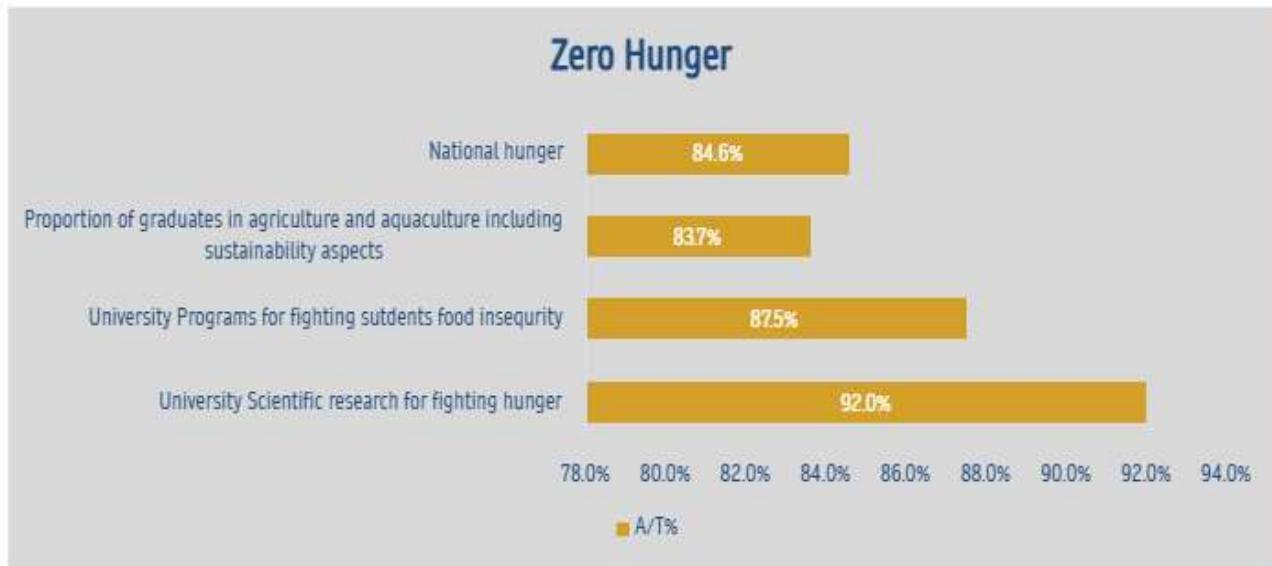
Additionally, the university is committed to creating an educational environment that develops skilled agricultural engineers, ready to meet the needs of local and regional job markets.

To increase sustainable food production, BAU has expanded land cultivation at Princess Tasnim Station and Shobak College, aligning this growth with rigorous quality standards to protect human and animal health, support agricultural industries, and enhance food safety.

In alignment with these objectives, BAU has outlined several key goals:

- **Enhancing university-led scientific research to address hunger.**
- **Expanding university initiatives to combat food insecurity.**
- **Making significant contributions to national food security efforts.**

Development and Quality



Strategic Achievement for SDG2 /2025

PRACTICES

BAU Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU) is actively advancing the Second Sustainable Development Goal (Zero Hunger) through a comprehensive strategy that integrates education, community engagement, and sustainable food production.

BAU operates productive agricultural stations, including the Princess Tasnim Agricultural Research Station, which cultivates a diverse range of fruits, vegetables, and livestock. These products are made available to the local community at affordable prices, ensuring access to fresh, nutritious, and locally sourced food.

To enhance food affordability and promote healthy eating habits, BAU oversees a network of cafeterias and kiosks across its campuses, where prices are continuously monitored to remain accessible for students and staff. In 2024, the university inaugurated a main campus restaurant offering balanced, healthy, and affordable meals, a major step in reinforcing food security across the university community.



In support of sustainable agricultural innovation, BAU established a Smart Agriculture Unit within the Faculty of Agricultural Technology. This unit functions as a hands-on training and research center for students, graduates, and community members. It provides practical training on establishing low-cost homes and community gardens, empowering participants to cultivate vegetables and enhance their food self-sufficiency. This initiative not only contributes to household income but also strengthens local resilience and nutrition.

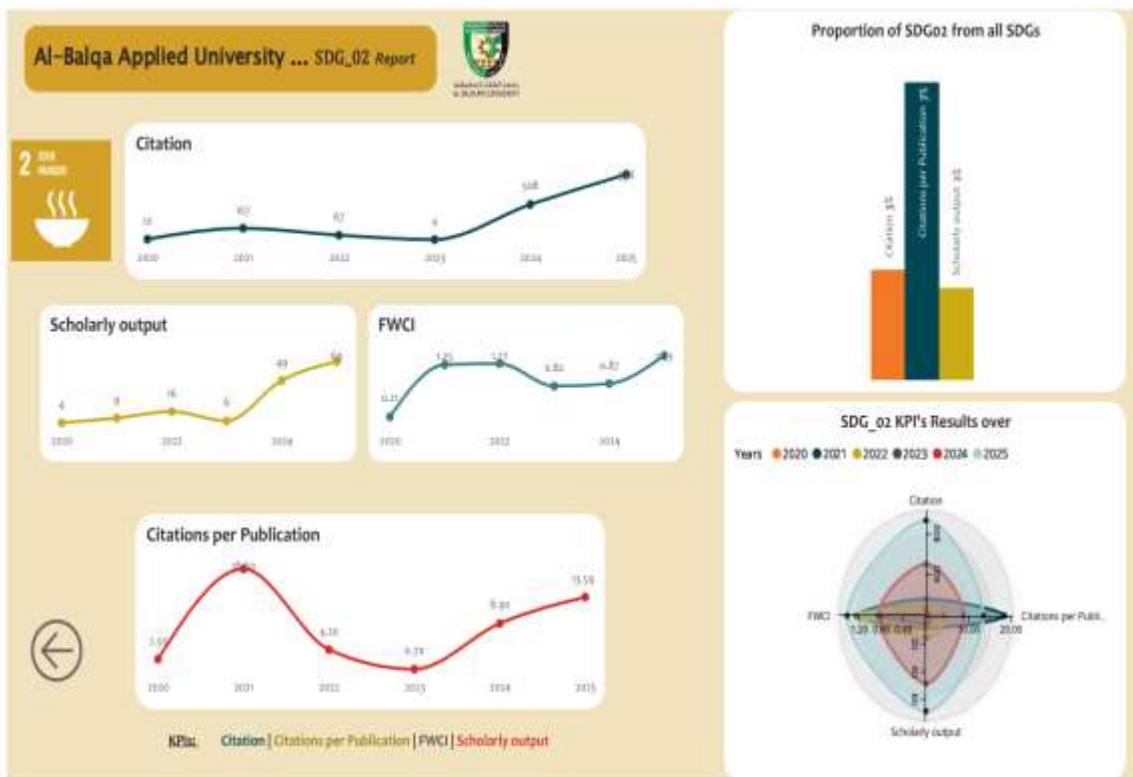


Through these integrated and practical initiatives, BAU plays a vital role in combating hunger, promoting food security, and fostering sustainable agricultural practices that directly benefit both the campus and the wider community.

Notably, BAU's leadership in sustainability and food security has earned it shortlisting at the Times Higher Education (THE) Arab University Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Leadership, recognizing its impactful and innovative environmental and agricultural initiatives across Jordan and the region.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH SOLUTIONS

In addition to the **Princess Tasnim Agricultural Research Station**, which plays a vital role in implementing both local and international projects and transferring global knowledge, best practices, and research in food and agricultural security, the university also oversees extensive **protected natural areas**. These areas serve as living laboratories for conservation and sustainability, preserving valuable plant and animal genetic resources. They encompass diverse ecosystems that host medicinal plants, wild species, and important bird habitats. All sites are carefully monitored and managed to prevent hunting, disturbances, and other forms of human intervention, ensuring the long-term protection and ecological balance of these natural environments.



BAU's Publications SDG02: Zero Hunger 2021 to 2025

The SDG 2 dashboard highlights steady improvement in BAU's research performance related to Zero Hunger. Citations and scholarly output show consistent growth from 2023 to 2025, reflecting increased research visibility and productivity. The FWCi trend remains stable, indicating that BAU's publications are maintaining their global impact. Notably, citations per publication rise sharply again in 2025, demonstrating enhanced research quality and stronger contribution to the academic community. Overall, the indicators illustrate positive progress and a strengthening research footprint in support of SDG 2.

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