



## ***Sustainable Development Goal\_09 (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 m<sup>2</sup>**, 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Arab region, and 53<sup>rd</sup> 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](#).

## 9 INDUSTRIES, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Goal 9 focuses on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and fostering innovation. These elements are essential for economic growth, social development, and climate action. Despite progress since 2015 such as a 17.3% increase in global manufacturing value added per capita, growth in 5G connectivity to 51% of the population, and rising maritime freight volumes challenges remain. Trade disruptions, inflation, energy shocks, and regional inequalities continue to hinder inclusive industrialization, particularly in African least developed countries. Strengthening infrastructure, industrial development, and technological innovation is crucial for a sustainable and equitable future.

At Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU), innovation and entrepreneurship lie at the heart of its strategy to promote sustainable industrialization and build resilient infrastructure. Through **the Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship Center**, BAU plays a vital role in translating ideas into impactful solutions that support Jordan's socio-economic development. The center serves as a hub for students, researchers, and startups, offering mentorship, incubation programs, and training opportunities that foster a culture of innovation and technological advancement.

By connecting academia with industry, the center encourages the development of entrepreneurial projects in key sectors such as smart agriculture, renewable energy, and digital technologies. It also provides students and young innovators with access to resources, expert guidance, and funding opportunities to help transform innovative ideas into viable, market-ready enterprises. Through these efforts, BAU not only contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) but also strengthens Jordan's capacity for sustainable growth by empowering the next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators.

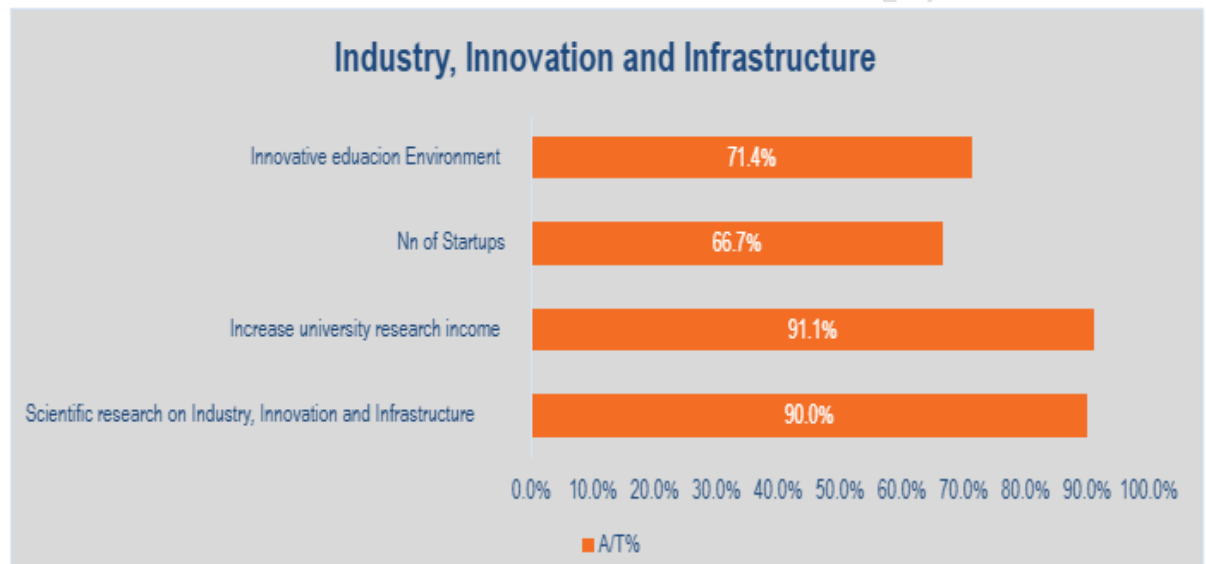
In alignment with Jordan's recent Economic Modernization Vision, which emphasizes strengthened collaboration with the private sector, BAU has outlined several key objectives



aimed at fostering resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrialization, and innovation. These objectives include:

- Supporting and advancing scientific research focused on resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrialization, and innovation.
- Increasing the university's research income.
- Expanding the number of startups supported by the university.
- Creating an innovative educational environment that nurtures creativity and innovation.

These goals reflect BAU's commitment to responding to global trends while contributing to Jordan's Economic Modernization Vision.



[Strategic Achievement for SDG9/2025](#)

## PRACTICES

The university is deeply committed to fostering a dynamic and forward-thinking environment through active collaboration and strategic partnerships. These initiatives support students, faculty, researchers, and the local community by providing them with cutting-edge knowledge tools and advanced technological resources. These resources not only fuel innovative thinking but also encourage scientific research, while inspiring the development of entrepreneurial ventures.

BAU hosts several centers, including the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which offers a wide range of programs dedicated to entrepreneurship, innovation, and



commercialization. These programs are pivotal in nurturing an entrepreneurial mindset and skillset among students and staff. As a result, the Center has significantly boosted student participation in entrepreneurship initiatives.

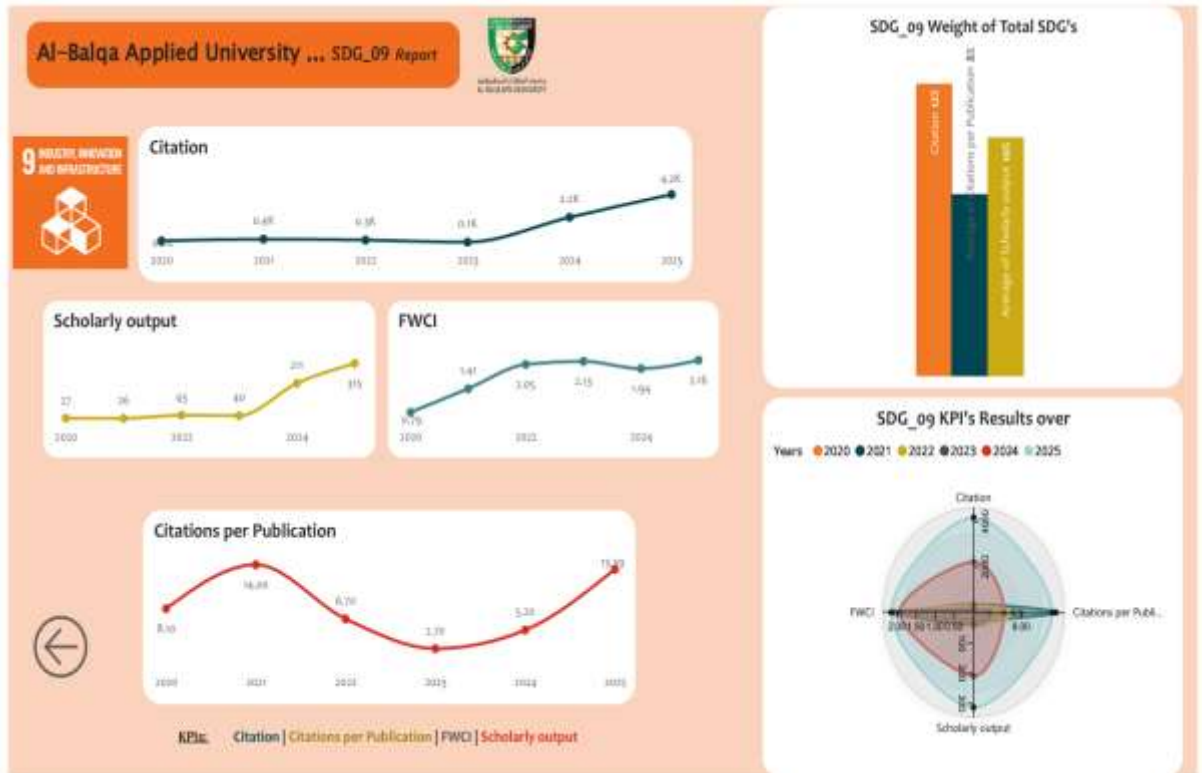
In addition to its internal efforts, BAU serves as a bridge, connecting governments, industries, and leading researchers to collaboratively address real-world challenges. Through these partnerships, the university plays a crucial role in developing practical solutions that drive innovation and help companies create new services and products. These solutions not only meet market demands but also contribute to the goals of sustainable industrialization.





Sample of Activities of Center for Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH



[Publications at Al-Balqa Applied University within SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure 2021 to 2025](#)

The SDG 09 report for Al-Balqa Applied University reflects remarkable progress in research linked to Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure. Scholarly output increased from 27 publications in 2020 to 211 in 2025, while citations surged from 0.3K to 4.2K, indicating significant growth in research visibility and impact. FWCI values remained stable, suggesting consistent quality. Citations per publication peaked in 2021 (40.00) and again in 2025 (19.30), highlighting periods of strong influence. These trends underscore the university's commitment to fostering innovation and infrastructure development through impactful research.

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