

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Sustainable Development Goal_16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) 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 is 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](#).

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



INTRODUCTION:

Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies promotes peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all, and strong institutions. Everyone should live free from violence and discrimination. However, conflicts are rising civilian deaths surged by over 50% in 2022 and continued to climb through 2024, with women and children disproportionately affected. Violence undermines development, fuels insecurity, and erodes human rights. Achieving this goal requires reducing armed violence, combating corruption, strengthening the rule of law, and ensuring inclusive governance. Peace and justice are essential for sustainable development and protecting human dignity worldwide.

Achieving sustainable development relies on peace, stability, human rights, and effective governance rooted in the rule of law. Unfortunately, our world is becoming increasingly fragmented. While some regions thrive in peace, security, and prosperity, others face ongoing cycles of conflict and violence. This divide is not inevitable and requires urgent action.

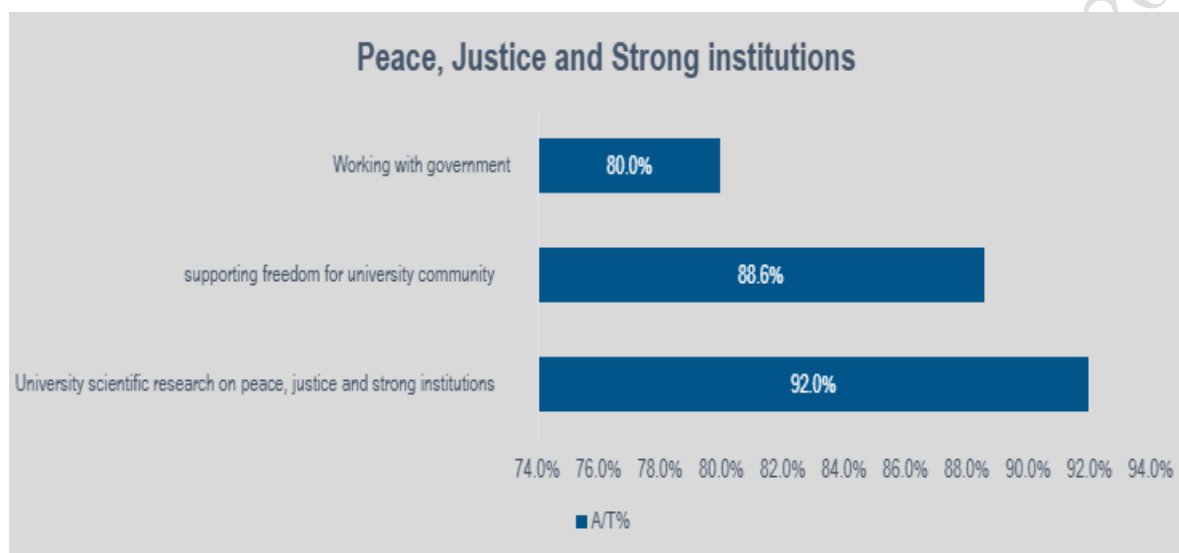
The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence and work with governments and communities to end conflicts and enhance security. At the core of this effort is the promotion of the rule of law and human rights, along with efforts to curb the illicit flow of arms and strengthen the participation of developing nations in global governance.

Jordan is committed to improving its regional and international standing by combating corruption across various sectors, eliminating all forms of abuse and violence, advancing the rule of law, and ensuring equitable access to justice for all. These efforts are essential steps toward creating a more peaceful and just world.

Al-Balqa Applied University (BAU) is dedicated to fostering inclusive and peaceful societies for sustainable development. It aims to ensure that everyone has access to justice and to build

inclusive institutions at all levels. BAU has set several objectives to support these goals, including:

1. **Conducting scientific research** on peace, justice, and strong institutions.
2. **Supporting the freedom** of the university community.
3. **Committing to transparency and combating corruption.**



[Strategic Achievement for SDG16/2025](#)

PRACTICES

Al-Balqa Applied University takes great pride in promoting diversity and equity among all members of its community, while steadfastly upholding the principles of peace and justice. This commitment not only involves recognizing past pain and loss but also embracing the possibilities of hope and new opportunities for growth, with the goal of benefiting others and, in turn, us.

BAU's governance model is rooted in the recognition of student unions and their active participation in university councils. By championing academic freedom and fostering an environment of diversity and equity, the university consistently engages local stakeholders and upholds the core values of peace and justice within the community.

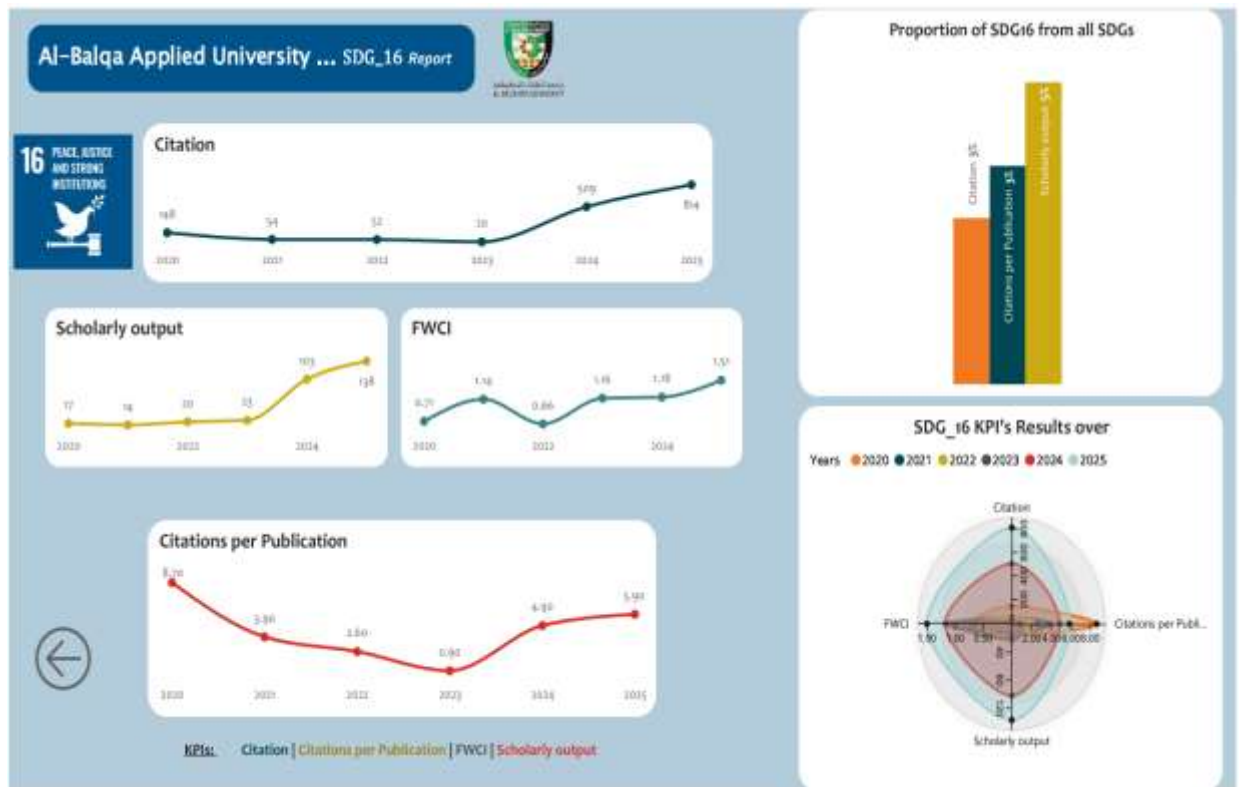


An awareness exhibition on the International Day Against Drug



The impact of hate Speech on Social Peace: A Seminar at Al-Balqa Applied University

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH



[Publications at Al-Balqa Applied University within SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institution 2021 to 2025](#)

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