

# Yarmouk University



## Sustainability

## RepOrt 2025

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"Today's University.. Tomorrow's Legacy: A Sustainable Roadmap."

"جامعة اليوم ... أمانة الغد: خارطة طريق مستدامة"

<https://aqac.yu.edu.jo/Sustainability/index.php/en/>





# Sustainability Report 2025



**Y**armouk University proudly aligns itself with

the 2035 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by all UN member states in 2015. These goals outline a transformative roadmap for eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, and fostering peaceful, just, and sustainable societies by

2030. Achieving these ambitious goals requires the joint efforts of all sectors of society.

As a leading national university, Yarmouk University plays a central role in promoting sustainability through its research, academic programs, and community engagement. Through cutting-edge research, our scholars generate knowledge and innovative solutions to address the complex economic, social, and environmental challenges embedded in the SDGs. In our classrooms, we prepare students with the skills and awareness necessary to become proactive contributors to a sustainable future.

Beyond teaching and research, Yarmouk University is committed to embedding sustainability in its institutional policies and daily operations. We strive to lead by example, demonstrating best practices in governance, energy efficiency, inclusion, and social responsibility.

In this report, we highlight selected initiatives and projects that reflect our ongoing contribution to achieving the SDGs. While we cannot capture all the impactful work of our faculty, staff, and students, these examples reflect our steadfast commitment to a more sustainable and inclusive future for Jordan and the world.

*"Our institutional progress is rigorously monitored by our dedicated Sustainability Office and Quality Assurance frameworks to ensure every initiative translates into measurable impact."*

***President of Yarmouk University***

***Prof. Malek A. Alsharairi***





## Introduction

Universities are catalysts for transformative education that empowers individuals and strengthens societies. At Yarmouk University (YU), we believe our core mission is to foster a culture of collaboration to tackle global challenges and drive meaningful progress.

While the world recently emerged from the pandemic, it continues to face unprecedented geopolitical tensions, energy crises, and climate-related disasters that have stalled developmental gains. In Jordan, a nation managing limited resources and regional displacement, these pressures are acutely felt. Despite this, Yarmouk University remains steadfast, leveraging its research and community endeavors to drive positive change for the common good.

In our second sustainability report, “Sustainability is not an Option: It is the Way,” we document our impact across teaching, operations, and research. Our commitment goes beyond global rankings; we are reshaping university systems toward holistic, sustainable practices.

From achieving carbon neutrality through solar expansion to protecting Jordan’s terrestrial and marine biodiversity, YU is committed to a future that is environmentally sound, socially just, and inclusive ensuring opportunity and well-being for all

## Sustainability Officer





## Strategic Executive Summary

Yarmouk University (YU) has integrated the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its core **strategic DNA**, governing teaching, research, and campus operations. Sustainability at YU has evolved from individual initiatives into a **robust institutional framework** managed by the Sustainability Office – Ranking Department, ensuring accountability and data-driven impact.

## Key Performance Highlights (2024-2025)

- **Energy Sovereignty & Climate Action (SDG 7 & 13):** YU has achieved a landmark milestone by sourcing **100% of its electricity needs from its own solar power farm**. This transition to renewable energy has drastically reduced the university's carbon footprint and established YU as a regional leader in clean energy adoption.
- **Social Equity (SDG 1 & 10):** The university maintains a comprehensive financial aid system and inclusive policies that ensure high-quality education remains accessible to low-income students and marginalized groups, including refugees.
- **Institutional Excellence (SDG 17):** Through strategic partnerships with international organizations (e.g., USAID, UNHCR), YU bridges the gap between academic research and community empowerment.





## No Poverty

As part of its commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Yarmouk University actively works to support low-income students, staff, and members of the local community through targeted policies and initiatives aimed at reducing economic and social inequalities and ensuring fair access to education and essential services.

### Financial Support for Students

The university implements a clear policy of providing scholarships, low-interest loans, and direct financial aid to ease the financial burden on students from low-income backgrounds. Special support programs are also available for students from underprivileged and remote areas. Transparent criteria govern the distribution of financial aid to ensure equity and fairness.

### Community Engagement and Partnerships

Through the Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Forced Migration Studies Center and the Center for Women's Studies, the university offers awareness, training, and empowerment programs to vulnerable groups, including women, refugees, and marginalized communities. These programs are delivered in partnership with international organizations such as USAID and UNHCR, with a focus on economic and social empowerment.

### Fair Employment and Staff Empowerment

Yarmouk University applies inclusive employment policies that ensure equal job opportunities and professional development for all employees, particularly those in lower-income positions, contributing to improved living standards and long-term poverty reduction.

### Academic and Social Impact

Academic programs such as the Teacher Preparation Diploma, supported by the Ministry of Education, Queen Rania Teacher Academy, and USAID, aim to enhance





employment opportunities and empower communities, illustrating the direct link between education and poverty reduction.

## Data-Driven Governance

The university adopts a data-informed approach to assess students' financial needs and monitors key indicators of economic hardship. Yarmouk's participation in global rankings (e.g., THE Impact Ranking) reflects its transparency and accountability in achieving development goals.

**Yarmouk University firmly believes that the fight against poverty begins with inclusive and equitable education. Through its comprehensive efforts, the university ensures that financial limitations do not hinder access to quality education or opportunities for a better life.**

For More Information, Please



[Click Here SDG1](#)





## Zero Hunger

Yarmouk University (YU), located in the urban heart of Irbid, serves as a major higher-education hub in Jordan. In a national context marked by water scarcity and food security challenges, YU has positioned itself as a proactive leader in achieving **SDG 2**. The university integrates food security into its institutional fabric through the **Water–Energy–Food–Environment (WEFE) nexus**, linking academic excellence with national sustainability priorities.

### Food Security & Nutrition for the Campus Community

YU manages an integrated network of food services through a **specialized nutrition unit** that ensures the provision of healthy, affordable, and quality-assured meals. This is bolstered by a robust **financial-aid ecosystem**, including revolving loans, grants, and student employment programs. These initiatives ensure that economic hardship, especially for low-income and refugee students does not translate into food insecurity, effectively bridging **SDG 1 (No Poverty)** and **SDG 2**.

### Evidence-Based Research & Healthy Lifestyles

The university contributes significant empirical evidence to national nutrition goals. High-impact research, such as studies on dietary habits and hypercholesterolemia published in international journals (e.g., *Iranian Journal of Public Health*), informs campus awareness campaigns. YU’s research extends to food safety practices and lifestyle optimization for youth, ensuring that community outreach is grounded in **locally relevant scientific data**.

### Innovation in Sustainable Agriculture & WEFE Nexus

Despite its urban nature, YU embeds sustainable agriculture into its curricula and facilities. The **Greenhouse and Botanical Unit** serve as a "Living Laboratory" for experiments on climate-resilient crops. Furthermore, YU has pioneered the integration of the **WEFE Nexus** into engineering education through Royal Academy

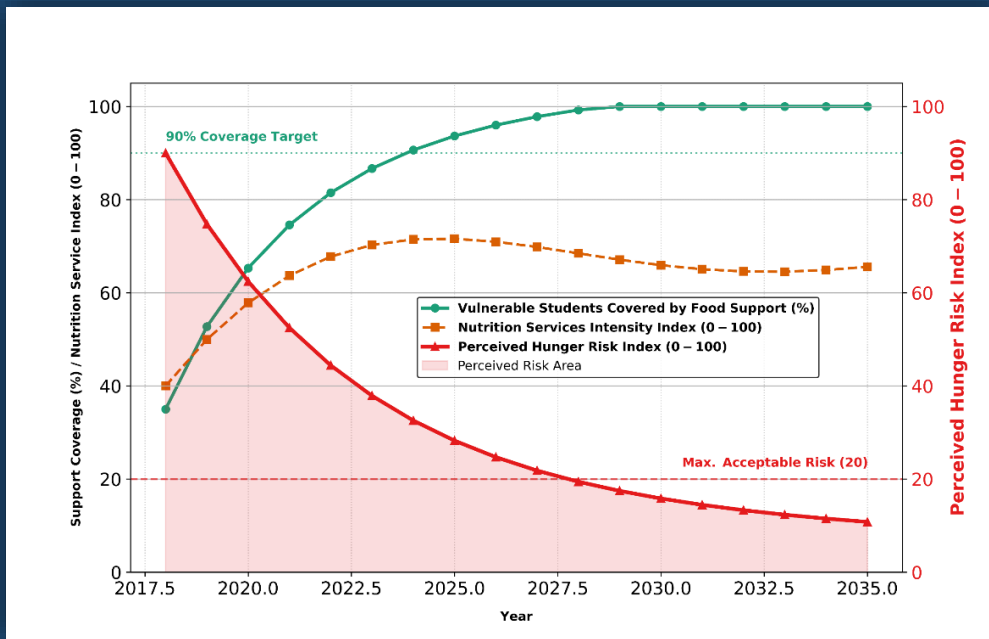




of Engineering-funded projects, utilizing technologies like **Digital Twins** to simulate food-security scenarios in vulnerable communities.

## Community Outreach & Partnerships

YU serves as a national platform for dialogue on **Urban Agriculture**, hosting symposia that empower women and local households to adopt small-scale farming and hydroponics. Through global partnerships (e.g., UN agencies, Monash University) and specialized centers like the **Refugees & Migration Studies Center**, YU addresses the food security of vulnerable populations. These efforts reinforce YU's status as a key convener for regional food-security solutions.



By combining student support, campus nutrition, cutting-edge research, and regional partnerships, Yarmouk University presents a coherent and evolving contribution to Zero Hunger, fully aligned with Jordan's national strategies and the UN 2030 Agenda.



"Yarmouk" organizes Ramadan Iftar initiatives in support of orphans in the city of Irbid

Food & Beverage Services (Cafeteria)

"Yarmouk Science" Organizes an International Scientific Symposium Entitled "The Water Reality in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan"





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"Yarmouk" organizes Ramadan Iftar initiatives in support of orphans in the city of Irbid

Yarmouk University Holds Ramadan Iftar for "Arabic for Other Speakers" Students from Around the World





## Good Health and Well-being

Yarmouk University (YU) operates as a primary health-service anchor in northern Jordan. The on-campus Comprehensive Health and Medical Center, established in partnership with the Ministry of Health, serves as an integrated hub providing emergency care, dental clinics, maternal and child health services, and a pharmacy that dispenses most medications free of charge to students and staff. This is supported by an extensive referral network including 24 hospitals, 130 pharmacies, and over 300 private doctors.

### Mental Health & Psychosocial Support

The university prioritizes mental well-being through the Department of Psychological and Social Counseling, offering confidential support for issues such as anxiety, depression, and PTSD. YU has also established a dedicated Social and Psychological Treatment Unit and partners with the International Medical Corps (IMC) for specialist care. Awareness campaigns, such as "We Care about Your Mental Health", work to destigmatize help-seeking behavior on campus.

### Academic Excellence & Health Workforce

YU contributes to the global health workforce through its Faculties of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing. In 2024, healthcare-related graduates represented over 23% of the total graduate body (2,010 students). Notably, 62% of students in these vital programs come from low-income families, reflecting the university's commitment to inclusive medical education. Additionally, several faculty members rank among the top 2% of researchers worldwide in health-related fields.

### Community Outreach & Healthy Campus

YU extends its health mission beyond campus through:

- Community Medical Days: Providing free consultations, screenings, and medications in underserved and refugee-hosting areas.





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- Sports Facilities: Opening its Olympic Stadium and Swimming Pool to the local community to promote physical activity.
- Smoke-Free Policy: Strictly prohibiting smoking in all university buildings and open spaces since 2022 to ensure a safe academic environment.

For More Information, Please



[Click Here SDG3](#)





## Quality Education

Yarmouk university Established in 1976 as a cornerstone of Jordan’s human capital development, Yarmouk University (YU) has evolved into a regional hub for social mobility. Through the **Deanship of Student Affairs**, the university ensures inclusive access for students from 51 nationalities. Beyond higher education, **YU’s Model School** extends this mandate to K-12 levels, serving as a "Laboratory School" for innovative pedagogy and a primary training ground for future educators, directly supporting **SDG 4.1**



## Lifelong Learning & Community Outreach

The **Queen Rania Center for Jordanian Studies and Community Service** as YU’s primary interface for lifelong learning, offering high-quality training and consulting to the local community. Through a network of specialized centers (e.g., **Language Center, Refugees & Migration Center**), YU provides open learning opportunities for refugees and marginalized groups, advancing **SDG 4.3** and **SDG 4.7** by promoting global citizenship and sustainable development.



[Queen Rania Center](#)





## Digital Transformation & Quality Assurance

YU has pioneered digital resilience through the **E-Learning and Open Education Resources Center (ELC)**, managing a comprehensive ecosystem based on the Moodle platform. This digital shift is governed by the **Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center (AQAC)**, ensuring that innovative teaching methods meet international standards. This synergy ensures that digital transformation enhances educational quality and accessibility.



[eLearning Center](#)

## Research-Driven Graduate Education

Since 1977, the **Deanship of Scientific Research and Graduate Studies** has integrated research-based learning into YU's academic model. Graduate students are active contributors to funded projects in sustainability, engineering, and social sciences. This integration ensures that tertiary education is not only accessible but also provides students with the critical inquiry and communication skills necessary for regional development.



[Deanship of Scientific Research and Graduate Studies](#)

Yarmouk University stands as a flagship institution for **Quality Education** in Jordan. By aligning its structures, curricula, and partnerships with **SDG 4**, YU strengthens human capital and drives knowledge-based development at local, national, and regional levels.





## Gender Equality

Yarmouk University (YU) operates within a robust **Gender Equality Ecosystem**, anchored by the formal **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Policy** adopted in 2022. This policy explicitly prohibits discrimination and is supported by specialized committees for workplace protection and confidential grievance channels. The university’s commitment is further institutionalized through reserved quotas for women in the Student Union and a strategic focus on placing women in senior decision-making roles.



*EDI Committee*



*Policy link.*

### Princess Basma Center for Women’s Studies

A cornerstone of YU’s SDG 5 contribution, the **Princess Basma Center (PBC)** serves as both an academic hub and a community catalyst. Flagship initiatives like the “**Empowering Women for Leadership Roles**” (funded by Global Affairs Canada) have significantly enhanced the professional trajectories of female staff. The PBC’s role extends to national policy dialogue, aligning university efforts with Jordan’s **National Strategy for Women 2020–2025**.



*Princess Basma Center*

### Women in Academia & Global Leadership

YU has demonstrated steady growth in female academic representation, supported by initiatives like the “**She Leads Network**” (supported by the Canadian Embassy). This network focuses on preparing female faculty for leading international research projects and scientific networks. Furthermore, YU is a pioneer in signing MoUs with the **Jordanian National Commission for Women**, mainstreaming gender equality into its organizational culture.





*Awareness Workshop in Yarmouk on the Legal Framework for Children*



*Agreements*

## Research, Knowledge Production & Safety

The university is a leading regional producer of knowledge on gender issues. Scholarly work at YU addresses critical topics such as **Gender-Based Violence (GBV)**, cyber-violence, and workplace harassment. This research-driven approach informs internal awareness campaigns (e.g., “**Empower Her**”) and ensures that campus environments remain safe, supportive, and non-discriminatory for all female students and employees.

## Global Positioning: Women in Science

Reinforcing its international status, Yarmouk University is set to host the **9th International Conference “Women in Science Without Borders”** in 2025. This prestigious event positions YU as a regional convenor for global discussions on **STEM inclusivity** and gender-responsive research environments, showcasing the university’s influence on the international **SDG 5** agenda.



*Women in Science - Homer*



*Voice and Agency:*



*Princess Basma Center for Womens Studies*

Through its integrated framework of EDI policies, specialized centers, and international leadership networks, Yarmouk University presents a data-driven and policy-engaged contribution to **SDG 5**. It stands as a model for internal institutional reform and outward-facing partnerships in the Arab region.





## Clean Water and Sanitation

Jordan is one of the world's most water-stressed nations. In response, Yarmouk University (YU) has embedded **SDG 6** into its "Net Zero Carbon Campus" vision. Managed by the **Sustainability office**, the university adopts the **Water, Energy, Food, Environment (WEFE) nexus** as a guiding principle, acting as both an efficient institutional user and a national reference for water innovation.

### Sustainable Infrastructure: Harvesting & Reuse

YU's water management is grounded in engineering rigor. The campus utilizes local wells and is expanding its **Rainwater Harvesting** systems based on advanced modeling of rooftop catchments. As detailed in the university's sustainability and CO<sub>2</sub> reports, initiatives to integrate **Greywater Reuse** are underway, significantly reducing reliance on the municipal network and enhancing institutional resilience against supply shocks.

### Academic Excellence & Capacity Building

Through the **Hijjawi Faculty for Engineering Technology** and the **Faculty of Science**, YU prepares the next generation of water experts. Specializations in Water Resources, Wastewater Treatment, and Environmental Monitoring supported by **GIS technologies** equip graduates with the technical skills necessary to manage Jordan's vital water infrastructure in both public and private sectors.

### Advanced Research & Digital Innovation

YU has emerged as a regional leader in **Digital Twin** technology and WEFE-nexus research. A landmark 2025 study led by YU researchers utilized digital twins to simulate integrated water scenarios in vulnerable settings like Irbid Camp. These research efforts, recognized by the **Royal Academy of Engineering**, link SDG 6 with food security and urban resilience, moving from traditional hydrology to system-level modeling.





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## Community Outreach & Policy Dialogue

Through the Center for Sustainable Development Studies (CSDS) and the Yarmouk Environmental Sustainability Group (YESG), the university fosters a culture of water conservation. YU hosts high-level national conferences that bring together ministries and international agencies to assess SDG progress. These platforms translate scientific research into actionable policy directions for Jordan's national water strategy.

Yarmouk University acts as a comprehensive operator, educator, and researcher for SDG 6. By integrating internal resource efficiency with cutting-edge environmental science, YU provides a robust, evidence-based model for long-term water security in the Arab world.



<https://shorturl.fm/qQgVa>



*Water Resources in Jordan: A Review of Current Challenges and Future Opportunities*



*Princess Basma Center for Womens Studies*





## Affordable and Clean Energy

In alignment with Jordan’s National Energy Strategy 2020–2030, Yarmouk University (YU) has transformed into a "Living Lab" for renewable energy. The university has committed to a **Net-Zero GHG target by 2035**, moving beyond individual projects to a managed institutional decarbonization program. This transition is documented in the **2024 and 2025 Carbon Reduction Report**, setting a benchmark for higher education institutions in the region.



### Carbon Reduction Policies and Results 2025

### 100% Solar Powered Campus: A Regional Milestone

As of early 2024 still now, YU has achieved a historic milestone by generating **100% of its electricity from solar energy**. The university operates a **3.59 MWp PV system** consisting of 28 operational solar stations. In 2024, energy generation reached **11.5 million kWh**, exceeding campus needs by **16%**. This surplus is exported to the national grid (NEPCO), making YU a net contributor to Jordan’s renewable energy supply.

### Academic Leadership & Innovative Research

YU’s PV plant serves as a research platform for AI-enabled power forecasting and **Smart Grid** optimization. Peer-reviewed studies by YU faculty (published in *De Gruyter* and *ScienceDirect*) achieve **95.7% forecasting accuracy**, optimizing grid interaction. Academically, the **Hijawi Faculty** provides specialized BSc/MSc programs in Electrical Power Engineering, graduating the human capital necessary for Jordan's energy transition.

Yarmouk University stands as a regional pioneer in **SDG 7**, achieving 100% solar self-sufficiency and moving towards a fully electrified, carbon-neutral campus by 2035. Its combination of operational excellence, data-driven reporting, and community-wide awareness





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Middle East - Fimer solar inverter solutions for Yarmouk University in Jordan



Solar PV power forecasting at Yarmouk University using ma....



Yarmouk completes solar energy project at Deirala archaeological station with Canadian support





## Decent Work and Economic Growth

Yarmouk University (YU) views "Decent Work" as an institutional culture rather than just an HR policy. Managed by the Accreditation and Quality Assurance and Excellence Center (AQACE), the university ensures fair, merit based hiring and continuous professional development. The training, workshop, conference and others reinforce this commitment, linking performance evaluation to creativity and modern management, ensuring a stable and stimulating environment for over 2,000 faculty members and staff.

### Student Employability: "Your Path to Work"

In 2025, YU expanded its employability infrastructure through the Career Development Unit (CDU) in the Hijjawi Faculty, a model now being replicated university-wide. Programs like "Your Path to Work" focus on non-curricular skills, CV building, and employer networking. Partnerships with global giants like Orange Academy and leading hotel chains (e.g., Hilton, Rotana) provide direct industry pipelines, with many internships culminating in immediate job offers.

### The Entrepreneurship Ecosystem (EIC)

The Entrepreneurship & Innovation Center (EIC) is YU's engine for job creation. It provides structured incubation through the iPARK/Royal Scientific Society partnership and the Orange Innovation Lab. By converting student ideas into viable ventures from Pharmacy to Engineering, the EIC fosters a "Capstone-to-Startup" pipeline. This ecosystem directly supports SDG 8.3 by equipping youth with the digital and entrepreneurial mindsets required for the modern economy



*Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation*



*Orange Lab - Yarmouk Creative Lab OYIL*





## Inclusive Economic Growth & Refugee Support

YU's commitment to SDG 8 extends to vulnerable populations through EU-funded programs like HOPES/RIADI. These initiatives have trained Syrian refugees and local Jordanian youth in entrepreneurship, helping them launch micro-enterprises and social ventures. This integration of refugees into the campus innovation ecosystem adds a unique social-justice dimension to the university's economic impact in northern Jordan.



*Refugee, Displaced Person, and Forced Migration Studies Center*



*Queen Rania Center for Jordanian Studies and Community Service*

## Research & Policy Dialogue

Through the Accreditation and Quality Assurance and Excellence Center (AQACE) and Sustainable Development Studies (CSDS), YU acts as a national policy actor. Symposia on "Population, Labour Supply, and Unemployment" quantify the gaps between academic output and market needs, directly influencing curriculum design. Faculty of Business conferences (e.g., ICNTBE 2023) further bridge the gap between academia and employers, focusing on digitalization as a driver for decent work.



*Center for Sustainable Development Studies*



*Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center*

Yarmouk's integrated approach—combining fair operations, employability, and inclusive entrepreneurship is reflected in its global standing in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings (Band 401–600) for SDG 8. YU remains a national driver of sustainable economic growth and a key talent supplier for Jordan's future.





## Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Yarmouk University (YU) serves as a strategic engine for Jordan’s industrial upgrading. With 16 faculties and over 12 specialized research centers, YU functions as an R&D partner for the regional industry. Through the Accreditation and Quality Assurance Center (AQAC), the university has institutionalized SDG 9, classifying and publishing all academic and industrial activities to ensure transparent, data-driven governance that aligns with national economic transformation goals.



Centers



Departments

### Advanced Infrastructure

The Hijjawi Faculty for Engineering Technology anchors YU’s technical capacity. Its extensive lab estate covering mechatronics, embedded systems, power systems, and biomedical instrumentation is equipped for both advanced teaching and contract research. These facilities enable standards testing and prototyping, converting institutional investment into a mission-oriented infrastructure that responds directly to the needs of Irbid’s industrial sector.

### The Innovation Pipeline: Incubators & Patents

YU’s innovation ecosystem has moved from concept to commercialization. The Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center, in partnership with TjDeeD Technology (UAE), operates a tech incubator that scales digital solutions. A landmark achievement is the U.S. Patent filed by a YU team for a sustainable concrete composition (thiol/sulfide-modified), highlighting cross-faculty innovation between Pharmacy and Engineering to create lower-carbon infrastructure materials.



Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation





## Digital Transformation: The Smart Campus

Resilient ICT infrastructure is a horizontal enabler at YU. The Computer & Information Center has digitized administrative and academic workflows, creating a "Smart Campus" backbone. This digital resilience improves data quality and enables analytics-driven management, which is essential for managing large-scale industry partnerships and international research collaborations (e.g., DAAD-funded projects for innovation pedagogy).



*International Relations & Projects Department*



*Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation*



*E-Learning and Open Learning Resources Center*



*Computer and Information Center*

## Student-Industry Synergy

SDG 9 at YU is deeply student-centered. Through the IEEE Industrial Applications Society (IAS) student chapter, learners gain direct shop-floor exposure. Students actively participate in energy-efficiency hackathons and global design challenges like Geo-Wall. Recognition programs for patent winners and innovators have normalized "Innovation" as a core part of the student identity and market readiness.

### Impact & Evidence

Component	Evidence/Outcome
R&D Output	U.S. Patent (Sustainable Materials)
Incubation	Leadership & Innovation Center (TjDeeD Partner)
Capacity	Hijjawi Labs (Mechatronics, RF, Power Systems)
Digital	Bilingual Platforms & E-Systems (Digital Resilience)
Awards	Queen Rania National Award for Entrepreneurship





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Collectively, these elements position Yarmouk University as a national flagship for SDG 9, where resilient infrastructure enables innovation and partnerships accelerate the diffusion of technology.





## Reduced Inequalities

Yarmouk University (YU) operates at the intersection of youth unemployment and refugee concentration in northern Jordan. Within its internal governance, SDG 10 is a cross-cutting mandate managed by the Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Forced Migration Studies Center and the Deanship of Student Affairs. The university treats inequality not just as a social issue, but as a structural barrier to development, guiding access policies, fee support, and research to ensure no one is left behind.

### Refugee Empowerment: From Aid to Integration

Since the 1990s, YU has been a regional reference for refugee studies. Through nearly 20 international projects (e.g., HOPES/Madad), the university has created structured pathways for Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanians. Key initiatives include:

- Vocational Diplomas: 250 fully funded diplomas in partnership with UNESCO in fields like health and hospitality.
- Entrepreneurial Hubs: The RIADI incubator, providing mentorship and venture support for refugee-led startups.
- Policy Impact: Participation in regional networks (e.g., MENASP) to advocate for better social protection and urban integration for displaced populations.



Refugee, Displaced Person, and Forced Migration Studies Center



The College of Educational Sciences Hosts an Interactive Theater Show to Embody Jordan's Leading Role in Embracing Refugees - Photos



Strengthening cooperation between Yarmouk and UNHCR in supporting research efforts on asylum issues



The Refugee Centre participates in the meeting of the "Multi-Mission Network" at the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees in Irbid





## Disability Inclusion & Physical Accessibility

YU's disability model is built on rights-based inclusion. The Disabilities Support Center and the Learning Disabilities Support Department ensure barrier-free participation through:

- **Accessibility Mapping:** A published map helping students navigate a campus equipped with elevators, adapted parking, and restrooms.
- **Exam Accommodations:** Tailored registration and testing services to ensure academic equity.
- **Infrastructure Audits:** Rigorous review of all new construction projects to enforce universal design standards.



Disabilities Support Center



Learning Disabilities Support



Map for People with Disability



Visual Impairment Lab

## Inclusive Education & Teacher Training

YU addresses inequality at its roots via the Faculty of Educational Sciences. In 2024, the university launched the PROMISE project (in partnership with GIZ), which scales the Inclusive Education Diploma. This program trains national school leaders in Universal Design for Learning (UDL), sign language, and parent training, creating a ripple effect that improves school cultures across Jordan.



*(EDI) Policy*



*Education Diploma*



*00001.pdf*

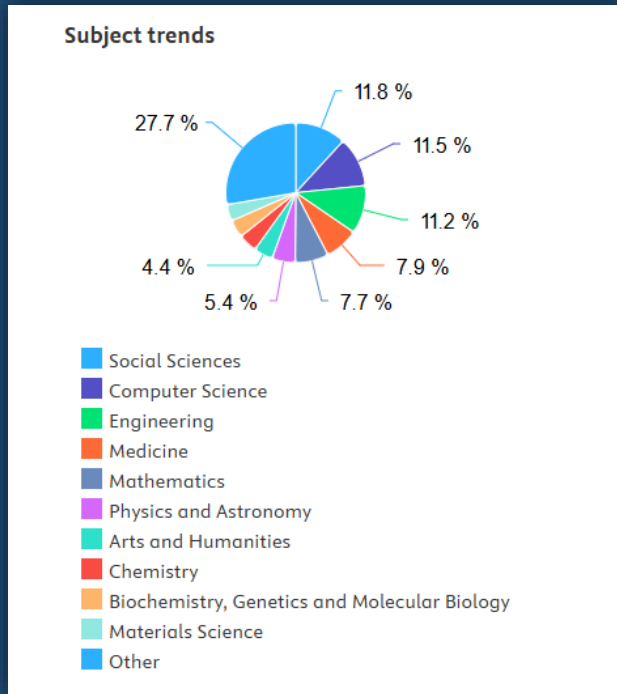
## Research & Intersectionality

Research at YU tackles the complexities of inequality through an intersectional lens. Studies cover the impact of gender-based violence on refugee education and the





structural barriers faced by gifted refugee students. Collaborations with European entities like AFD and projects like TRAFIG analyze mobility and social protection, positioning YU as a key knowledge producer for regional social policy.



## Future Trajectory (2025-2030)

Strategy	Implementation
Entrepreneurship	Expand incubator-backed ventures for low-income youth.
Systemic Inclusion	Hard-wire accessibility KPIs into all digital and physical platforms.
National Scaling	Deploy the Inclusive Education Diploma across all Jordanian governorates.
Data Governance	Launch dashboards to track success rates of vulnerable student groups.





## Sustainable Cities and Communities

Yarmouk University (YU) acts as a "living urban laboratory" for the city of Irbid. Through partnerships like the "Clean and Energy-Saving Public Buildings" project with Irbid Municipality and the EU, YU leads initiatives to reduce the city's carbon footprint and improve air quality. On campus, YU has achieved a total energy transformation, with 100% of electricity supplied by solar energy, saving approximately 2.48 million JOD annually and eliminating Scope 2 emissions.

### Preservation of Cultural & Natural Heritage

YU is a national leader in heritage preservation, housing the Museum of Jordanian Heritage, which offers free public access to researchers and local residents. The university systematically documents intangible heritage, including oral histories, folk songs, and the traditions of displaced and refugee communities (Palestinian and Syrian). Additionally, it hosts the Jordanian Natural History Museum and numerous art galleries, turning the campus into a vibrant cultural district.

### Public Access to Knowledge & Green Spaces

The university integrates itself into the urban fabric by providing:

- **Public Library Access:** Non-university members can access the Main Library and electronic databases through simplified registration.
- **Open Green Spaces:** YU offers free access to its landscaped gardens and pedestrian routes, providing a safe environment for walking and social interaction for the residents of Irbid.
- **Arts and Performances:** Hosting over 30 public performances annually, including theater and music festivals, many of which are free to the community.

### Sustainable Mobility & Digital Transformation

To combat urban congestion, YU promotes sustainable commuting through safe pedestrian paths and upgraded bicycle infrastructure. It has also institutionalized





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flexible and remote work policies and advanced e-learning platforms, reducing the daily commuting carbon footprint and traffic pressure on Irbid's roads.

For More Information, Please



[Click Here SDG11](#)





## Responsible Consumption and Production

Yarmouk University (YU) treats SDG 12 as a scientific and ethical mandate. Led by the Sustainability Office ([AQACE](#)) in strategic coordination with specialized units Center, the university integrates resource efficiency into its core operations. Through open sustainability dashboards, YU ensures that its consumption patterns are transparently monitored, aligning with its mission to reduce environmental and social costs while enhancing regional competitiveness.



Sustainability

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### Circular Waste Management: From Waste to Resource

YU operates a sophisticated multi-stream waste system. Key highlights include:

- Source Separation: Permanent agreements with specialist recyclers for paper, glass, and plastics.
- Circular Organic Flows: Repurposing tree leaves and animal house residues into organic fertilizer for campus greening.
- Hazardous Waste Control: Strict protocols for laboratory chemicals to minimize residues at source and ensure safe disposal through licensed partners.
- Plastic-Free Initiatives: Replacing plastic folders with paper envelopes and promoting refillable containers in campus outlets.



Co2 Report 2025

Sustainable Purchasing Policy





## Sustainable Procurement & Production

The Sustainable Procurement Policy operationalizes SDG 12 by prioritizing local suppliers and mandating recycled materials in maintenance and construction. By linking purchasing power to life-cycle principles, YU models responsible consumption for the region. This is coupled with "Responsible Production" of energy, where the university generates 116% of its electricity needs from solar PV, exporting the surplus to the national grid and decoupling campus growth from fossil fuel dependence.

## Digital Transformation & Paperless Operations

A cornerstone of YU's SDG 12 strategy is the aggressive digitization of administrative and academic workflows. By shifting to electronic correspondence and digital exams (90% reduction in paper waste by 2024), the university has significantly lowered its material footprint, proving that digital infrastructure is a key enabler for responsible consumption.

## Education for Circularity

YU integrates SDG 12 into its curriculum through programs like Smart and Sustainable Cities Engineering and modules on Solid Waste Management. Research on student recycling behavior closes the loop between evidence and practice, while student-led teams win awards for projects on solar-powered amenities and environmental outreach, embedding circular habits in the next generation of leaders.

## Future Milestones (2025-2035)

Initiative	2026-2030 Goal	2035 Vision
Waste Diversion	100% sorting across all faculties.	Zero Waste to Landfill.
Procurement	Universal adoption of sustainability clauses.	100% Circular Procurement.
Energy Loop	Expand battery storage for resilience.	Net-Zero Operations.
Digitalization	Full paperless administrative system.	100% Digital Campus.





# Sustainability Report 2025



Report



Sustainable Purchasing Policy





## Climate Action

Yarmouk University (YU) has moved beyond policy to direct action, setting an ambitious target to reach Net-Zero Carbon Emissions by 2035. This is managed through the Sustainability Office (AQACE) and is fully aligned with Jordan's National Climate Change Policy (2022–2050). The university's "Climate Action Policy" integrates mitigation and adaptation into every facet of campus life, from energy systems to academic curricula.

### Decarbonization & Energy Leadership

YU is a regional leader in energy transition. By early 2024, renewable energy generation reached 11.5 million kWh, covering 100% of campus electricity consumption with a 16% surplus exported to the national grid. This transition led to a significant 23.2% reduction in Scope 1 & 2 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in just one year (2024-2025), demonstrating a robust and measurable decarbonization trajectory.

Through its 100% solar-powered operations, innovative curricula, and strategic national partnerships, Yarmouk University has transformed from a traditional academic institution into a Regional Climate Action Beacon. Its data-driven approach ensures that progress toward the 2035 Net-Zero target is visible, verifiable, and impactful for Jordan and the Arab world.

For More Information, Please



[Click Here](#)





## Life Below Water

The Gateway to the Red Sea , Yarmouk University (YU) plays a pivotal role in protecting Jordan's sole coastline through its co-management of the Center for Marine Science Research (CMSR) in Aqaba. Established as a national center of excellence, the CMSR serves as a hub for marine observation and coral reef protection. Notably, its laboratories are the first and only in Jordan to achieve ISO/IEC 17025 accreditation for seawater quality measurement, making YU the primary scientific reference for national efforts in monitoring marine pollution and reef health.



Marine Science Station: The University of Jordan: Aqaba Branch



### Specialized Marine Education

YU bridges the gap between inland science and marine conservation. The Master's in Environmental Sciences offers specialized courses like ENV 652 (Oceanography), covering chemical element cycles, the marine carbon cycle, and human impacts on coral bleaching. This is complemented at the undergraduate level





by modules in GIS and Remote Sensing, training students to map coastal habitats and monitor land-sea interactions from catchments that drain into the Red Sea.



climate courses

## Research Impact: Baselines & Scientific Diplomacy

YU faculty maintain a high-impact research record on the Gulf of Aqaba. Key contributions include:

- **Water Quality Baselines:** Co-authoring assessments on inorganic nutrients and trace metals in coastal waters.
- **Water-Mass Dynamics:** Analyzing seasonal current patterns to inform the placement of monitoring stations.
- **Scientific Diplomacy:** Partnering with world-class institutes like the Leibniz Center (Germany) and Mote Marine Laboratory (USA) to align local monitoring with global standards for coral reef conservation.

## Public Awareness: The Living Laboratory

Beyond research, YU engages the public through the CMSR Public Aquarium in Aqaba and the Jordan Natural History Museum on campus. These institutions serve as educational destinations, showcasing the interconnectedness of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Annual visits from school groups and tourists fulfill SDG 14 targets on awareness and sustainable tourism, translating complex marine data into relatable conservation messages.

## Performance Indicators & Indicators of Growth

Indicator	Evidence
Accreditation	ISO/IEC 17025 for Seawater Quality Labs.
Scientific Output	Peer-reviewed papers on Nutrient Fluxes & Radionuclides.
Outreach	Public Aquarium & Jordan Natural History Museum exhibits.
Partnerships	Collaborative research with German & American marine institutes.





# Sustainability Report 2025



Marine Science Station :: The University of Jordan :: Aqaba Branch

MDPI - Publisher | The Jordan Journal of Earth and Environmental Sciences





## Life on Land

Yarmouk University (YU) is a scientific anchor for Jordan’s terrestrial ecosystems. Hosting the Jordan Natural History Museum, the university manages the most comprehensive collection of flora, fauna, and geodiversity in the region. With an academic herbarium containing over 32,000 specimens, YU serves as the national custodian of plant-diversity data, which is essential for red-listing, habitat assessment, and conservation planning across Jordanian ecosystems.

### The Green Lung of Irbid

Despite its urban location, YU functions as a vital open green zone for the city of Irbid. The university’s Public Services Department maintains dedicated tree belts and wildlife-friendly corridors. A unique operational highlight is the composting of organic waste from the animal house into high-quality fertilizer, which is reused for campus re-greening. This circular practice supports soil health and provides a sanctuary for urban biodiversity.





## Academic Excellence in Land Science

The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences builds national capacity for land-rehabilitation. Curricula cover environmental geology, soil science, and GIS/Remote Sensing for monitoring land-cover change. Research led by YU academics focuses on eco-sustainable afforestation and desertification mitigation, using museum and herbarium datasets to evaluate wildlife trends in Jordan's arid and semi-arid "Badia" regions.



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## Public Education & Heritage Connection

YU bridges the gap between science and society through its two major public museums: The Museum of Jordanian Heritage and the Jordan Natural History Museum. These spaces serve as "Living Laboratories" for school groups and citizens, illustrating the deep connection between Jordan's natural history and its cultural landscapes. Through these platforms, the university strengthens environmental literacy and encourages responsible interaction with land and wildlife.



Click Here SDG11



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Jordan Heritage Museum

## Strategic Indicators & Future Trajectory

Metric	Achievement
Scientific Archives	32,000+ Plant specimens (Largest in Jordan).
Global Recognition	Registered in global collections under code "YU - JNHM".
Sustainability	100% Composting of campus organic waste for soil health.
Community Reach	Hosting national educational tours for biodiversity awareness.





# Sustainability Report 2025



Looking forward, YU is upgrading its museum infrastructure and expanding its GIS-based monitoring of regional biodiversity. This confirms the university's trajectory as a regional hub for land and biodiversity stewardship.





## Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Yarmouk University (YU) serves as an anchor institution for accountable governance in northern Jordan. The university has embedded transparency and anti-corruption into its core operations. A standout initiative is "Integrity Week", organized with Transparency International Jordan, which empowers youth to lead on accountability and civic engagement, ensuring that ethical practice is standardized across all administrative and academic units.

### Rule of Law & The Legal Talent Pipeline

EN: The Faculty of Law at YU is a primary supplier of talent for Jordan's justice system. With a rigorous curriculum covering Public, Private, and International Law, the faculty produced 400 graduates in 2024 alone—directing high-caliber legal reasoning and human rights expertise into courts, regulatory bodies, and security institutions. This steady pipeline is a quantifiable contribution to the national rule-of-law framework and institutional capacity.



Faculty of Law

### Centers of Excellence: Displacement & Gender

YU hosts regional reference points for social justice and inclusion:

- RDFMSC (Refugee Center): Established in 1992, it provides evidence-based research and practitioner training on protection frameworks for displaced populations, fostering institutional resilience in host settings.
- Princess Basma Center (PBC): Advances gender-responsive governance and digital citizenship. Through the EU-funded Nazaha Project, the PBC strengthened municipal accountability, providing practical mechanisms for local good governance and citizen oversight.



Center for Refugee, Displaced and Forced Migration Studies



Princess Basma Center for Jordanian Women's Studies





## Academic Freedom & Civic Participation

EN: The university fosters a democratic institutional culture by affirming academic freedom and encouraging active civic participation. Students are represented in the University Council and the Student Union, gaining authentic experience in institutional decision-making. International partnerships managed by the DIRP ensure that global best practices in governance are embedded in YU's outreach and campus life.



Deanship of Student Affairs



International Relations & Projects Department



Legal Affairs Department

## Performance & Future Trajectory

Key Metric	Data/Achievement
Legal Professionals	505 Graduates (Annual) supplying the Justice Sector.
Social Cohesion	Host of "Integrity Week" & EU "Nazaha" Project.
Regional Leadership	Refugee Center (RDFMSC) as a regional policy reference.
Inclusion	Independent Student Union participation in governance.

YU is set to expand its impact by launching specialized tracks in Compliance and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and scaling municipal accountability programs, reinforcing its role as a national engine for peace and justice.





17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



## Partnerships for the Goals

Yarmouk University is committed to playing an active role in shaping Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) policies and strategies at both the national and regional levels, in collaboration with governmental bodies, academic institutions, and community stakeholders.

This includes sharing expertise, exchanging knowledge, and contributing strategic insights to address the challenges and opportunities linked to SDG implementation.

To support this mission, the University expands its partnerships with national and international institutions to advance specialized research in sustainable development.

An electronic platform has been developed to publish university-produced reports and studies related to the SDGs, ensuring transparency and open access to information.

Additionally, the University organizes regular workshops for faculty, students, the local community, and external partners to strengthen awareness of the SDGs and Yarmouk's role in advancing them underscoring its dedication to impactful policy engagement and sustainable development leadership.



Sustainability Policy



Sustainability



International Relations & Projects Department



International Relations & Projects Department

No	Activities	Link
	Yarmouk University's Board of Trustees approves the "Development and Review of Policies and Procedures" policy at the university.	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
	Yarmouk University: Conclusion of the "Rights-Based Approach from Local to Global" project in the transportation sector and its impact on women's economic participation	<a href="#">Click Here</a>





# Sustainability Report 2025



	Yarmouk University holds a seminar on "Policies for Employing Artificial Intelligence in Research and University Theses"	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
	Yarmouk Educational Institute organizes an awareness seminar on the developed practical training program, its policies, and components.	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
	Yarmouk University approves policies for the use of generative artificial intelligence applications in academic and research work.	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
	"Economic Policies and Their Impact on Poverty and Unemployment" Symposium at Yarmouk University	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
	The "Women as Public Policy Makers" project concludes at Yarmouk University.	<a href="#">Click Here</a>
	A student dialogue at Yarmouk University examines the role of political parties in promoting electoral participation.	<a href="#">Click Here</a>

## International Collaboration for SDG Data Collection

Yarmouk University is committed to strengthening international collaboration in the collection and analysis of data related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), by actively engaging in global initiatives and projects that promote progress toward these goals.

Utilizing its institutional resources and expertise, the University contributes to developing evidence-based solutions for sustainable development.

Key efforts include offering specialized training and continuous support for academic and administrative units to effectively participate in international data projects, creating an electronic platform to facilitate data and knowledge exchange with global partners, and establishing dedicated task forces to support international studies and initiatives in SDG-related data gathering and analysis.

Through these actions, Yarmouk University reinforces its role as an impactful contributor to global SDG collaboration.



Center for Sustainable Development Studies

Refugee, Displaced Person, and Forced Migration Studies Center

International Relations & Projects Department





## SDG Progress Reporting and Publication

Yarmouk University is committed to enhancing transparency and accountability by preparing and publishing comprehensive reports on its progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These reports document the University's contributions to sustainable development at local, national, and international levels, increasing awareness of its impact.

Key actions include regularly updating and publishing accessible progress reports on the University's website, expanding distribution to reach external entities and partners, and organizing workshops to educate the university community on the importance of these reports in supporting SDG efforts.

Through these initiatives, Yarmouk University reinforces its commitment to transparent SDG reporting and active engagement with stakeholders.



Reports 2025



Assessment Tools



Engagement with Community

## SDG Education and Sustainability Culture Development

Yarmouk University is committed to fostering a deep understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and cultivating a culture of sustainability within and beyond the campus community. This commitment includes developing educational and outreach programs focused on the SDGs, increasing knowledge of sustainability concepts, and encouraging sustainable practices among students, faculty, staff, and the local community.

Key initiatives involve expanding partnerships with local and international institutions to exchange expertise and develop sustainability-focused academic courses, organizing conferences and workshops that address SDG topics featuring international experts, and utilizing digital technology to enhance environmental awareness through applications and educational platforms.





# Sustainability Report 2025



These efforts contribute to a robust culture of sustainability, empowering the University community and surrounding region to actively support and advance SDG goals.

For More Information, Please



Click Here SDG17



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<https://aqac.yu.edu.io/Sustainability/index.php/en/>



*This report has been compiled and structured with the assistance of advanced AI language models (Gemini AI). The technology was utilized to ensure alignment with international sustainability benchmarks, optimize data presentation, and maintain high-quality academic translation for all institutional evidence and training descriptions."*

