جامعة الحدود الشمالية
NORTHERN BORDER UNIVERSITY

الاستدامة في جامعة الحدود الشمالية

Sustainability at
Northern Border University





Contents

03		About this report
04		Sustainability Team
05		University leadership and the SDGs
06		2025 at a glance
07	3	Good Health and Well-being
11	8	Decent Work and Economic Growth
16	10	Reduced Inequalities
22	11	Sustainable Cities and Communities
31	17	Partnerships for the Goals
36		SDG research contribution 2023–2025



Five goals, one university: Northern Border University's 2025 contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in line with Saudi Vision 2030.

INTRODUCTION

About this report

This report presents Northern Border University's 2025 initiatives under five UN Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 3, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 11 and SDG 17.

It draws on the University's own records of its SDG activities, organised by the indicators of the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings.

NBU operates from its main campus in Arar and its branches in Rafha, Turaif and Al-Uwayqilah. Its work is aligned with Saudi Vision 2030 and, from 2025, with the University's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan.

Arar	Rafha	Turaif	Al-Uwayqilah

SDG	INDICATOR AREAS COVERED
	**Good Health and Well-being** 3.3 Collaborations and health services
	**Decent Work and Economic Growth** 8.2 Employment practice · 8.5 Secure contracts
	**Reduced Inequalities** 10.2–10.5 Access and inclusion · 10.6 Measures against discrimination
	**Sustainable Cities and Communities** 11.2 Arts and heritage · 11.4 Sustainable practices
	**Partnerships for the Goals** 17.2 Relationships · 17.3 SDG reports · 17.4 Education for the SDGs

GOVERNANCE

Sustainability Team

Northern Border University has established a Sustainability Team to advance environmental and social sustainability across the institution.

The team is part of NBU's commitment to sustainable development, as set out in the University's development goals. It works across four areas, from environmental policy and training to equality, knowledge exchange, and health and wellbeing.

- **Environmental Impact**
- **Equality**
- **Knowledge Exchange**
- **Health and Wellbeing**

HOW THE SUSTAINABILITY TEAM WORKS



LEADERSHIP

University leadership and the SDGs

Prof. Ahmed bin Ali Al-Rumaih

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

- Opened the "Amal" (Hope) exhibition on preventing suicide and self-harm, Othaim Mall, Arar SDG 3
- Received Dr. Yousef bin Sultan Al-Ruwaili, Director of the Public Health Authority's regional office, to strengthen health awareness SDG 3
- Visited the University's services for pilgrims at the Jadidat Arar border crossing SDG 3
- Sponsored the tennis tournament for blind players, Summer Festival 1447 AH SDG 3
- Patron of the International Students' Day celebration SDG 10
- Inaugurated the Founding Day celebrations and patron of the 2026 Founding Day SDG 11
- Inspected the accommodation of international scholarship students SDG 11

Prof. Dr. Firas bin Mohammed Al-Madani

ACTING PRESIDENT

- Toured the colleges at the start of the academic year, encouraging male and female students to stay committed and engaged SDG 10

Dr. Saud Al-Muqhim

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

- Inaugurated "Our Elders, Our Blessing", honouring senior citizens in the Ramadan Festival 1446 AH SDG 11

Dr. Jihan Abdel-Wahhab Al-Andijani

HEAD, WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT UNIT

- Leads the unit supporting female staff and women's participation in the workplace SDG 8



The University President, Prof. Ahmed bin Ali Al-Rumaih, opens the "Amal" exhibition



The University President meets international scholarship students in their accommodation

HIGHLIGHTS

2025 at a glance

1,859 — SDG 17
SDG-tagged research publications in 2025, up from 451 in 2023

286 — SDG 17
courses and subjects related to sustainability in 2025, up from 192 in 2021

50 — SDG 11
free zero-emission shuttle buses serving students and staff

20,000+ — SDG 17
native seedlings planned in the campus afforestation project (launched April 2025)

4,500 — SDG 17
seedlings planted with national partners (3,000 and 1,500)

11 — SDG 17
student projects in the "Our Green Energy" initiative

100+ — SDG 3
runners in the Turaif branch 5 km summer marathon

959 — SDG 8
faculty members across 15 faculties, with 656 staff

231 — SDG 10
external scholarships

Faculty, staff and scholarship figures: NBU Facts and Figures page. Research figures: Clarivate Web of Science Core Collection, SDG filter.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



The University President, Prof. Ahmed bin Ali Al-Rumaih, opens the "Amal" (Hope) exhibition on preventing suicide and self-harm at Othaim Mall, Arar.

GOAL 3

Collaborations and community health outreach

COLLABORATIONS WITH HEALTH INSTITUTIONS 3.3.1

- **"Amal" (Hope) exhibition.** Opened by the University President at Othaim Mall in Arar to raise awareness about preventing suicide and self-harm, as part of the Deanship of Student Affairs summer festival.
- **Public Health Authority.** The President received Dr. Yousef bin Sultan Al-Ruwaili, Director of the Authority's regional office, to review health indicators and strengthen their partnership in health awareness.
- **"Walk 30".** A walking event organised with local health authorities on 26 April 2025 at Al-Musa'idiyah Park and Walkway, Arar.

COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH 3.3.2

Programme	Topic
College of Medicine community service	World Sight Day, breast cancer awareness, Anti-Smoking Day
"Your Medicine in Ramadan", Rafha	Safe use of medicines, nutrition and chronic disease, with the Northern Borders Health Cluster, the municipality and the College of Pharmacy
Mental health awareness event (July 2025)	Mental and behavioural health
University Health Center	Periodic awareness programmes on campus
Service to pilgrims, Jadidat Arar crossing	Student volunteers, healthcare staff and a mobile medical convoy

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting with the Public Health Authority regional office



Reviewing the Authority's report on health indicators



University services for pilgrims at the Jadidat Arar border crossing



The "Amal" awareness exhibition, Arar

GOAL 3

Sport, health services and mental health support

SPORTS FACILITIES SHARED WITH THE COMMUNITY 3.3.3

- Turaif branch 5 km marathon in the summer festival, with more than 100 runners from across the community.
- Tennis tournament for blind players, sponsored by the University President (Summer Festival 1447 AH, July 2025).
- Participation in the national "Walk 30" event (April 2025).

HEALTH SERVICES AND SCREENING 3.3.4

- NBU took part in the "Check for Your Health" initiative, offering preventive screenings and medical consultations across several specialties.
- The College of Applied Medical Sciences held an awareness workshop on infectious diseases.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT 3.3.5 · 3.3.7

- Students receive free, confidential counselling, with referral to specialist mental health care when needed.
- The NBU student guide (November 2025) sets out the counselling administration's mission: helping students overcome difficulties and grow in self-awareness.
- Staff receive free, confidential support through the University Health Center and counselling services, with referral to Ministry of Health care.

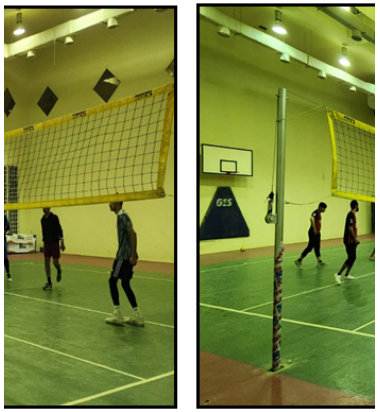
PHOTO GALLERY



"Check for Your Health": preventive screenings and consultations



NBU community sports events



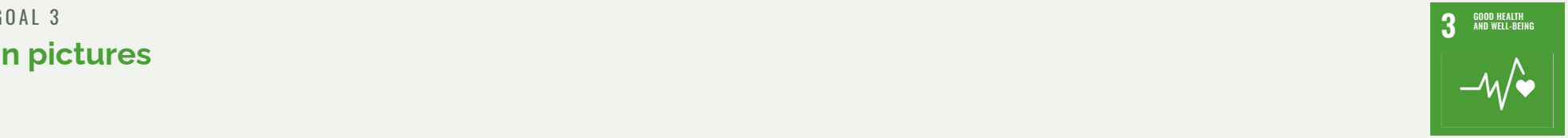
University sports facilities



"Walk 30" event, 26 April 2025

GOAL 3

In pictures





The University Recreation Center, part of the sports facilities shared with the community

SPORTS FACILITIES SHARED WITH THE COMMUNITY



Multi-purpose hall at the University sports facilities

SPORTS FACILITIES SHARED WITH THE COMMUNITY



"Germ Journey" infectious diseases awareness workshop, College of Applied Medical Sciences

HEALTH SERVICES AND SCREENING



News: the University President opens the "Amal" mental health awareness exhibition

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



The Employee Grievance Platform lets staff report and follow up work-related issues confidentially.

GOAL 8

Fair pay, equal treatment and labour rights

NBU's employment practice follows the standards of the Saudi Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development.

PAY AND BENEFITS 8.2.1

- A structured compensation system and health insurance cover all employees.
- Financial incentives for faculty attending conferences, seminars and study sessions, and financial backing and rewards for researchers.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND INCLUSION 8.2.2 · 8.2.9

- The Women's Empowerment Unit (Administrative Decision No. 412001486, 08/02/1442 AH) supports female staff in line with Vision 2030.
- Places on councils and committees are allocated by skills, knowledge and experience, not gender.

NON-DISCRIMINATION AND LABOUR RIGHTS 8.2.3 · 8.2.4 · 8.2.5

- The EDI Policy sets zero tolerance for discrimination and harassment; all employees are treated equally regardless of gender, race or nationality.
- NBU prohibits forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour, and has provided shaded areas across open campus spaces to protect staff from heat-related illness.
- Outsourced workers are entitled to valid contracts, fair pay, safe conditions and equal treatment under Saudi Labor Law.

PAY EQUITY 8.2.6 · 8.2.7

- Every position is open to men and women; the same role carries the same salary and grade.
- Leadership, administrative roles and decision-making committees include both genders.

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES 8.2.8

- Staff can contact HR in person or in writing and use the formal grievance process.
- The Employee Grievance Platform is an electronic service for confidential reporting.

SECURE CONTRACTS 8.5.1

959	656	15
faculty members	staff	faculties

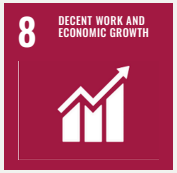
The Contracted Employees Affairs Unit prepares job offers and contracts for contracted faculty under established regulations.



Shaded areas across open campus spaces

GOAL 8

In pictures (1/3)





University Health Center: vision, mission and goals

PAY AND BENEFITS



University Health Center services for students, faculty, staff and their families

PAY AND BENEFITS



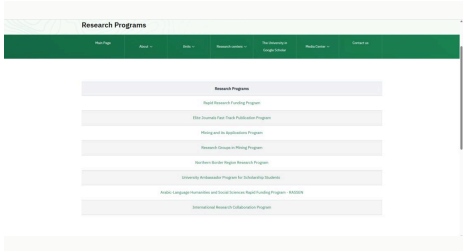
Financial provisions for faculty attending conferences and seminars

PAY AND BENEFITS



Research publication rewards by journal quartile (Q1 to Q4)

PAY AND BENEFITS



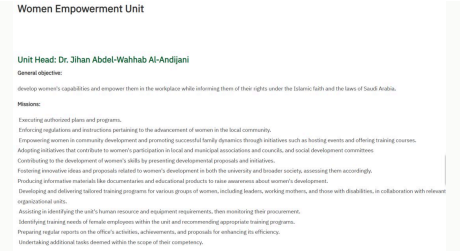
Research funding programmes of the Deanship of Scientific Research

PAY AND BENEFITS



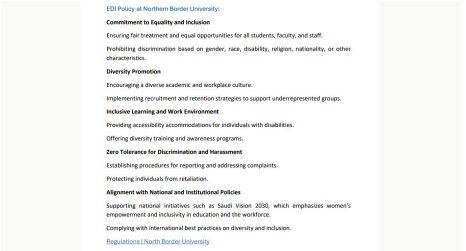
Rules for faculty excellence rewards

PAY AND BENEFITS



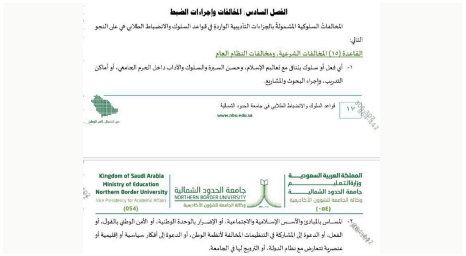
Women's Empowerment Unit, headed by Dr. Jihan Abdel-Wahhab Al-Andijani

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



NBU EDI Policy: commitment to equality and inclusion

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT



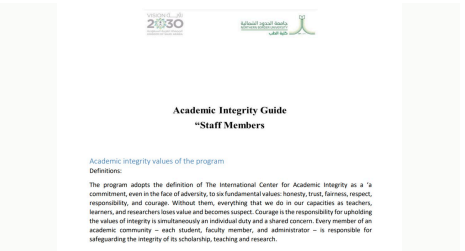
Students' Code of Conduct and Discipline Bylaws

NON-DISCRIMINATION



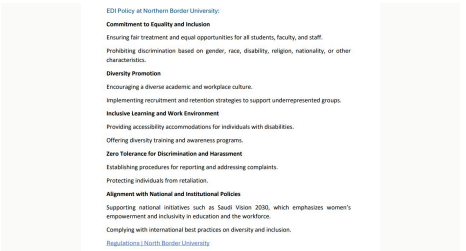
Rules of conduct and discipline, Vice Presidency for Academic Affairs

NON-DISCRIMINATION



Documents of the Students' Disciplinary Committee

NON-DISCRIMINATION

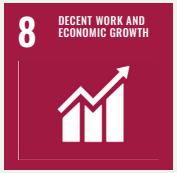


Academic Integrity Guide for staff members, College of Medicine

NON-DISCRIMINATION

GOAL 8

In pictures (2/3)





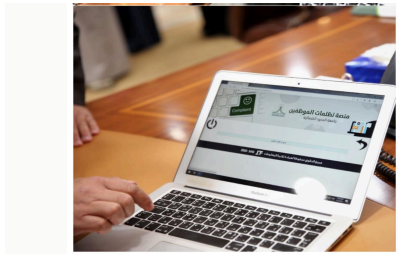
Heat-stroke risk assessment for outdoor work
LABOUR RIGHTS AND HEAT PROTECTION



Shaded parking and open areas protecting staff from the heat
LABOUR RIGHTS AND HEAT PROTECTION



Shaded areas across open campus spaces
LABOUR RIGHTS AND HEAT PROTECTION



Launch of the Employee Grievance Platform
LABOUR RIGHTS AND HEAT PROTECTION



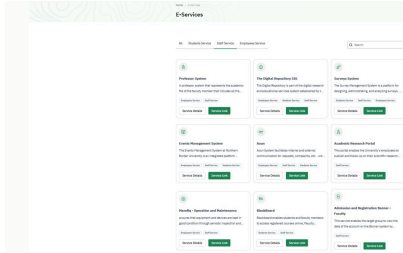
Launch of the "Tastahel" programme for University staff
OUTSOURCED WORKERS



Wasfaty service agreement to improve health services for beneficiaries
OUTSOURCED WORKERS



Masar digital HR platform of the Ministry of Human Resources
OUTSOURCED WORKERS



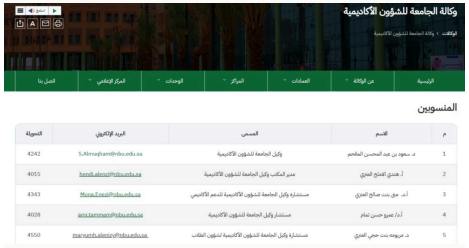
University e-services for staff
OUTSOURCED WORKERS



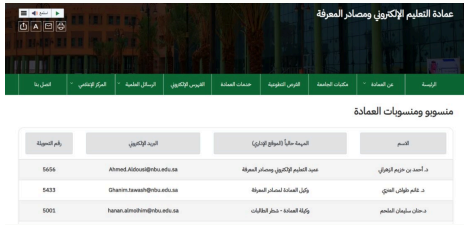
Male and female staff taking part in a University meeting
PAY EQUITY



Women and men sharing leadership in University committees
PAY EQUITY



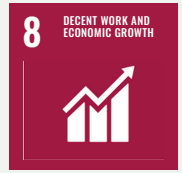
Leadership of the Vice Presidency for Academic Affairs, women and men
PAY EQUITY

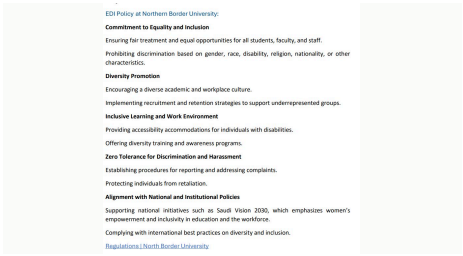


Leadership of the Deanship of E-Learning and Information Resources
PAY EQUITY

GOAL 8

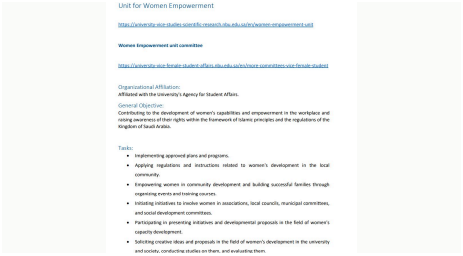
In pictures (3/3)





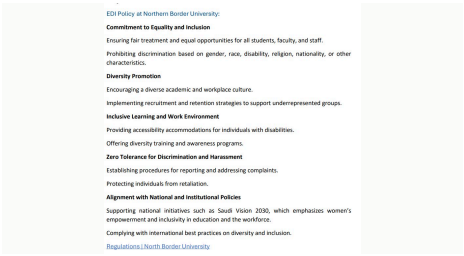
EDI Policy: equal treatment for all employees

PAY EQUITY



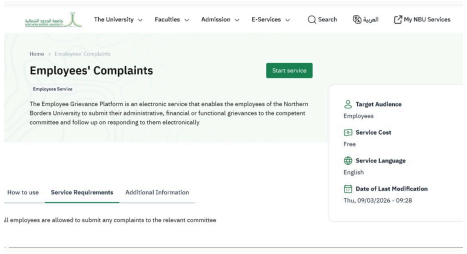
Women's Empowerment Unit and the women's committee

PAY EQUITY



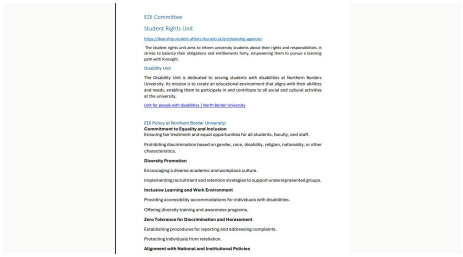
EDI Policy: equal opportunities in recruitment and promotion

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY



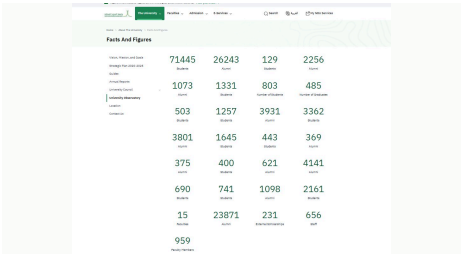
Employees' Complaints e-service

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES



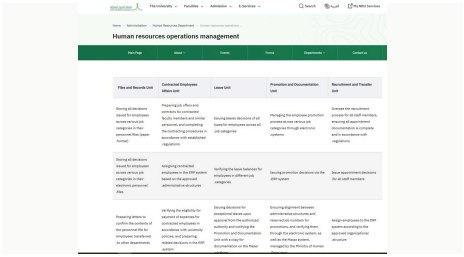
EDI committee, Student Rights Unit and Disability Unit

INCLUSION IN COMMITTEES



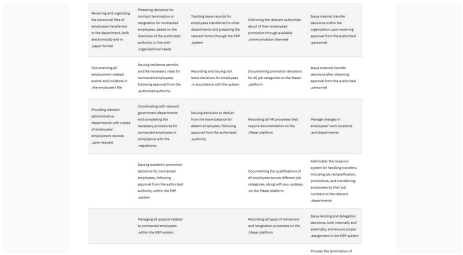
NBU Facts and Figures: students, faculty and staff

SECURE CONTRACTS



Human Resources Operations Management

SECURE CONTRACTS



Tasks of the Contracted Employees Affairs Unit

SECURE CONTRACTS

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



International students showcase the heritage and cultures of their countries at NBU's International Students' Day celebration.

GOAL 10

Access, non-discrimination and international students

ACCESS TO EDUCATION 10.2 · 10.3

- NBU welcomed male and female students at the start of the academic year across its main campus and its branches in Rafha, Turaif and Al-Uwayqilah.
- First-generation students are supported with opportunities and resources to start and complete their degrees.
- An admissions portal for scholarships for non-Saudi students, and an admissions guide for internal scholarships for non-Saudi residents (1446 AH).

NON-DISCRIMINATORY ADMISSIONS AND POLICY 10.6.1 · 10.6.4 · 10.6.11

- Every applicant has an equal opportunity for admission regardless of gender, nationality, disability, religion or social circumstances, in line with Ministry of Education standards.
- A clear policy prohibits sexual, verbal, physical and discriminatory harassment.
- An annual exhibition marks the International Day for Tolerance and International Students' Day.

RECRUITING UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS 10.6.3 · 10.6.5 · 10.6.6

- Planned actions to recruit women, disabled people, students from remote governorates and non-traditional learners, as students and as staff.
- The Departments of Psychology and Early Childhood Education ran "Etiquette in Dealing with Individuals with Special Needs to Promote Their Psychological Well-being".

PHOTO GALLERY



International Students' Day exhibition



Students present their countries' heritage



Celebrating tolerance and coexistence



Under the patronage of the University President

GOAL 10

Disability inclusion

NBU supports students and staff with disabilities through accessible facilities and its Educational Support Center.

Area	What NBU provides
Accessible facilities	Designated parking near main buildings, accessible restrooms, chairs for left-handed students
Family support	A nursery and private lactation rooms for staff
Educational Support Center	Special testing conditions, extended exam time, early course registration, a personal assistant or shadow teacher in class
Access to programmes	Full access to all academic programmes, with guidance from academic advisors
Awareness	Seminar on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities: quality of life, inclusion, psychological support, anti-discrimination
Talent showcase	Open meeting on 11 March 2025 (11 Ramadan 1446 AH) in the 11th Ramadan Festival, Arar

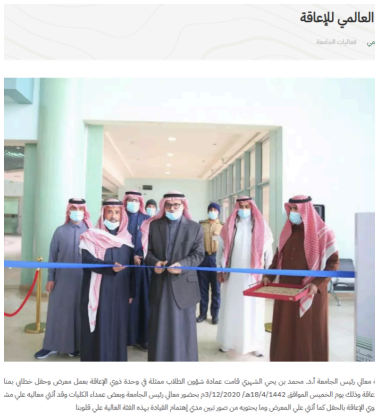
PHOTO GALLERY



Open meeting showcasing the talents of people with disabilities, 11 March 2025



Ramadan Festival, Arar



Seminar on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities



Celebrating social inclusion

GOAL 10

In pictures (1/3)



International students present their countries' heritage

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



Speech at the International Students' Day celebration

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



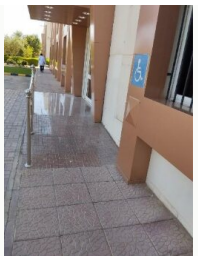
Admissions portal for scholarships for non-Saudi students

STUDENTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



Admissions guide for internal scholarships for non-Saudi residents, 1446 AH

STUDENTS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



Accessible walkway with handrails

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



Accessible restroom on campus

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



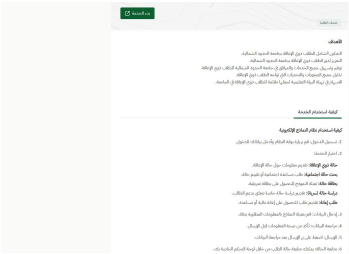
Designated parking for people with disabilities

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



Services offered to students with disabilities

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



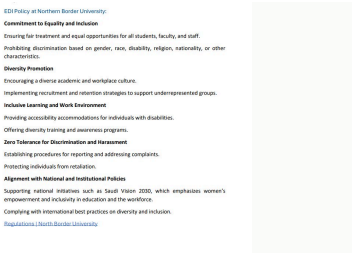
Disability services: objectives and how to apply

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



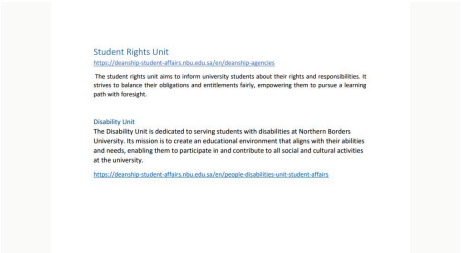
Survey links for students with disabilities

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES



EDI Policy: recruiting under-represented groups

RECRUITING UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS

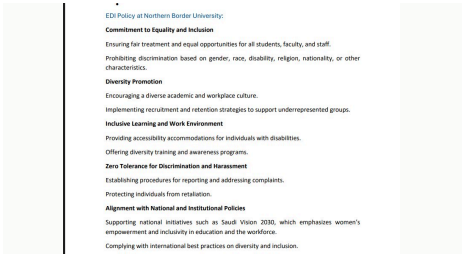


Student Rights Unit and Disability Unit

RECRUITING UNDER-REPRESENTED GROUPS

GOAL 10

In pictures (2/3)


EDI Policy at Northern Border University:

Commitment to Equality and Inclusion

Ensuring fair treatment and equal opportunities for all students, faculty, and staff.

Prohibiting discrimination based on gender, race, disability, religion, nationality, or other characteristics.

Diversity Promotion

Encouraging a diverse academic and workplace culture.

Implementing recruitment and retention strategies to support underrepresented groups.

Inclusive Learning and Work Environment

Providing accessibility accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

Offering diversity training and awareness programs.

Zero Tolerance for Discrimination and Harassment

Establishing procedures for reporting and addressing complaints.

Protecting individuals from retaliation.

Alignment with National and Institutional Policies

Supporting national initiatives such as Saudi Vision 2030, which emphasizes women's empowerment and inclusivity in education and the workforce.

Complying with international best practices on diversity and inclusion.

EDI Policy: zero tolerance for discrimination and harassment

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY


١٠- المشاركة في خدمة المجتمع، والأعمال التطوعية.
١١- توعية الطلبة بحقوقهم في علاقاتهم مع أعضاء هيئة التدريس، أو القسم، أو الكلية، أو أي وحدة من وحدات الجامعة، وفقًا للوائح والأنظمة.
١٢- حق الطلبة في توفير الضمانات القانونية اللازمة في أي مخالفة تأديبية ترفع ضدهم (تمكينهم من الدفاع عن أنفسهم -عدم صدور عقوبة عليهم إلا بعد سماع أقوالهم وحقهم في التظلم من القرار التأديبـــي الصادر ضدهم، وغير ذلك).
١٣- عدم التمييز بين جميع الطلبة في الحقوق.
١٤- توفير اشتراطات السلامة والإرشادات في داخل الجامعة بما يضمن عدم تعرضه للمخاطر الجسدية والنفسية.
١٥- وجود مجلس استشاري طلابي لمناقشة ما يخصه من قضايا وموضوعات.
١٦- توفير نسخة من هذا الميثاق من خلال موقع الجامعة الإلكتروني، أو من خلال الكلية /القسم.
١٧- تقييم الخدمات الطلابية المقدّمة له من خلال (الاستبيانات)، والعمل على تطويرها.
١٨- حق الطلبة في الحصول على، كامل حقوقهم غير الأكاديمية داخل الجامعة من خلال الجهات الإدارية والأكاديمية وفق اللوائح والأنظمة المعمول بها.

Students' rights under University regulations

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY


٦- التقيد بالسلوك القويم داخل الجامعة، وعدم ارتكاب أية أعمال مخلة بالأخلاق أو الآداب العامة، أو الأنظمة المنعة وفق ما قررته قواعد الانضـباط السـلوك والانضباط الطلابي لحين للمساءلة، وتطبيق العقوبة التأديبية.
٧- المحافظة على المظهر اللائق، والزي الجامعي المناسب، بما يتوافق مع عادات وتقاليد المجتمع السعودي.
٨- احترام حقوق ذوي الاحتياجات الخاصة.
٩- عدم التصـوير في الأماكن غير المسـموح بها داخل الحرم الجامعي، ويشـمل تصوير الأشخاص بغير رغبتهم احتراماً لحقوق الآخرين وخصوصياتهم.
١٠- الالتزام بالنظافة، والذوق العام، والتزام الهدوء داخل الحرم الجامعي، والحرص على عدم إزعاج الآخرين، وعدم القيام بأي عمل مخل بالدين أو الأخلاق، أو الآداب العامة المقرة داخل الحرم الجامعي.
١١- عدم إصدار نشرات، أو نوتيسات، أو توقيعات، قبل الحصول على ترخيص من الجهات المختصـة في الجامعة، ومن الجهات الحكومية ذات العلاقة.
١٢- الالتزام بالنظافة العامة، وعدم إلقاء المخلفات في غير الأماكن المخصصة لذلك.
١٣- احترام حريات وخصوصيات الآخرين، والمحافظة على حقوقهم، والتعامل معهم بالشكل اللائق.

Rules of student conduct

ANTI-HARASSMENT POLICY


القاعدة (١٣) اللجنة الفرعية للسلوك والانضباط الطلابي في الكلية

تُشـكّل لجان فرعية للسـلوك والانضـباط الطلابي في كل كلية بقرار من رئيس اللجنة الدائمة للسلوك والانضباط الطلابي، بناء على ترشيح من عميد الكلية، وتتكون من:

أولاً: شطر الطلاب

- وكيل الكلية للشؤون الأكاديمية — رئيساً
- ثلاثة من أعضاء هيئة التدريس، ومن في حكمهم — أعضاء
- المشرف على وحدة التوجيه والإرشاد الطلابي — عضواً ومقرراً

ثانياً: شطر الطالبات

- وكيلة الكلية شطر الطالبات — رئيساً
- ثلاثة من أعضاء هيئة التدريس، ومن في حكمهم — أعضاء
- منسقة وحدة التوجيه والإرشاد الطلابي — عضواً ومقرراً

College sub-committees for student conduct and discipline

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



"Etiquette in Dealing with Individuals with Special Needs" awareness activity

AWAWARENESS ON SPECIAL NEEDS



Accessible entrance to a college building

ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES



Faculty of Computing and Information Technology building

ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES


وحدة ذوي الإعاقة

التعريف بالوحدة:

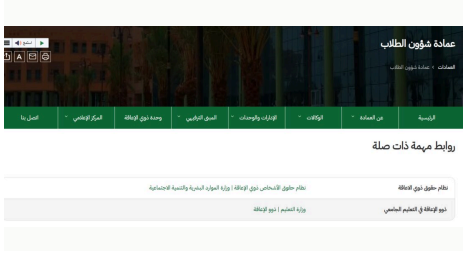
الرؤية:

الرسالة:

الأهداف:

Disability Unit: definition, vision and goals

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



Deanship of Student Affairs: links for people with disabilities

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



Seminar on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



Speaker at the International Day of Persons with Disabilities seminar

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



Attendees at the disability awareness event

SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

GOAL 10

In pictures (3/3)



Seminar on the crime of harassment and its penalties
TOLERANCE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Founding Day exhibition at NBU, featuring traditional attire, handicrafts and Saudi heritage.

GOAL 11

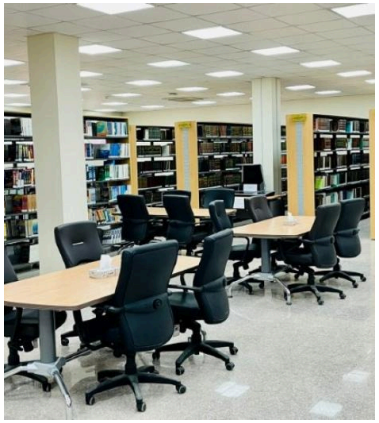
Arts, heritage and public access

- **Public facilities.** The sports complex offers an indoor gym, a swimming pool, hot and cold jacuzzi pools, and a recreational hall for table tennis, chess and cultural activities.
- **Library and open data.** The library is open to students and visitors for reading, borrowing and study; NBU also publishes an open data library through its Open Data Management Office.
- **Exhibitions.** Cultural and artistic facilities give students, staff and the public access to exhibitions, artworks and artefacts.
- **Founding Day.** The President opened the celebrations in Arar, with sections on traditional attire, painting and photography, handicrafts, culinary arts and a marketplace. The 2026 celebration on 26 February included contributions from international scholarship students.
- **Royal Institute of Traditional Arts.** MoU signed on 11 November 2025 in Arar on education, training, research and heritage preservation; the Faculty of Design and Art launched short remote courses in traditional arts.
- **Community arts events.** The "Refuge" (Malath) initiative in the summer festival, and "Our Elders, Our Blessing" in the Ramadan Festival 1446 AH honouring senior citizens.
- **Intangible heritage.** An "Arabic Calligraphy" workshop by the Art Activity Unit, and traditional crafts such as glass painting and stencil printing.

PHOTO GALLERY



Signing the MoU with the Royal Institute of Traditional Arts, 11 November 2025



The University library, open to visitors



Art exhibition at the College of Designs and Arts



Founding Day celebrations, Arar

GOAL 11

Sustainable commuting, housing and campus

SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING 11.4.1 · 11.4.2

- 50 zero-emission shuttle buses serve students and staff within and between campuses, free of charge, managed by NBU and monitored with ICT systems designed by a government partner.
- Signage across campus and the NBU Walkers Club encourage walking.
- The Climate Action Plan encourages public transport, carpooling and cycling, with designated parking for carpoolers and cyclists and investment in EV charging.

FLEXIBLE WORK, HOUSING AND CAMPUS DESIGN 11.4.3 – 11.4.9

- **Flexible work** where it suits the position, in line with the Civil Service HR Regulation's remote-work provisions.
- **Housing:** residential facilities for faculty and staff; subsidised student housing, including for international scholarship students, and a list of affordable apartments near campus.
- **Pedestrian access:** wide, accessible walkways with zebra crossings, signage and walking zones.
- **Buildings and land:** rooftop solar panels; previously developed sites used where possible; open green spaces free to the public.

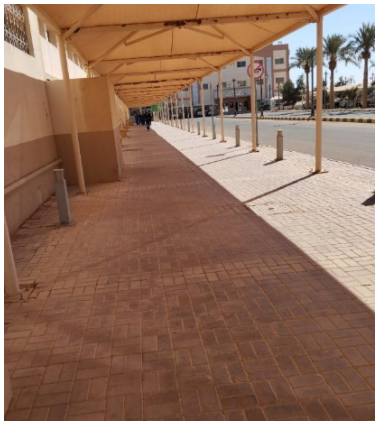
PHOTO GALLERY



NBU's free shuttle bus service



The President inspects accommodation for international scholarship students



Campus pedestrian walkways



Rooftop solar panels on campus

GOAL 11

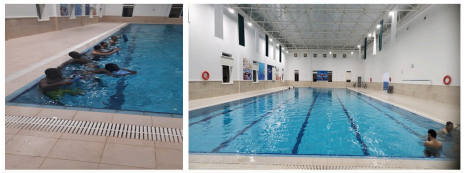
In pictures (1/6)



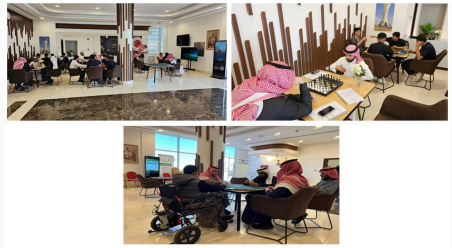
Sauna at the University sports complex
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Cold plunge pool at the University sports complex
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



The University swimming pool
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Recreational hall for chess, table tennis and cultural activities
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Founding Day: traditional Saudi cuisine section
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Founding Day celebrations, inaugurated by the University President
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Visitors at the Founding Day food market
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Founding Day heritage section
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Indoor gym and table tennis at the sports complex
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Founding Day painting exhibition
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



Founding Day handicrafts section
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



College of Designs and Arts invitation to the Founding Day celebrations
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

GOAL 11

In pictures (2/6)





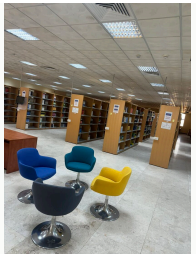
Heritage photography exhibition
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



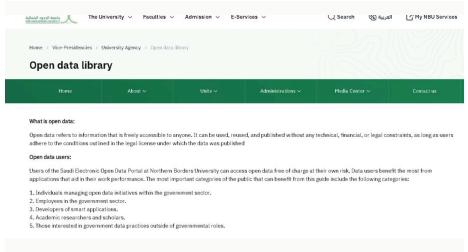
Traditional Saudi majlis display
PUBLIC ACCESS TO BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES



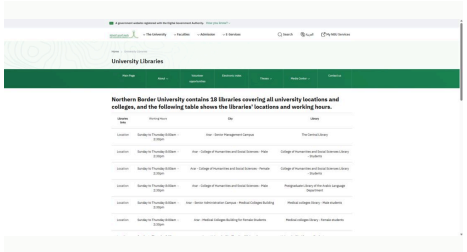
Students studying at the University library
PUBLIC ACCESS TO LIBRARIES



Reading area at the University library
PUBLIC ACCESS TO LIBRARIES



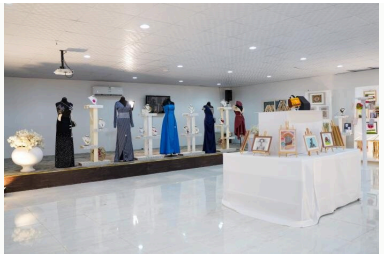
NBU Open Data Library
PUBLIC ACCESS TO LIBRARIES



University libraries: locations and opening hours
PUBLIC ACCESS TO LIBRARIES



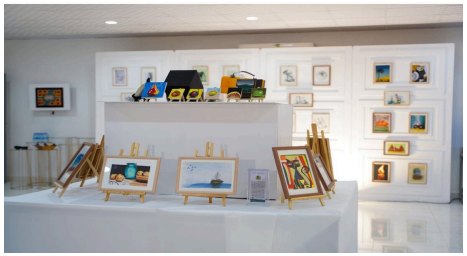
Invitation to the first annual exhibition of the College of Designs and Arts
PUBLIC ACCESS TO MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



Fashion and design exhibition, College of Designs and Arts
PUBLIC ACCESS TO MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



Artworks on display, College of Designs and Arts
PUBLIC ACCESS TO MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



Art and craft exhibition open to visitors
PUBLIC ACCESS TO MUSEUMS AND EXHIBITIONS



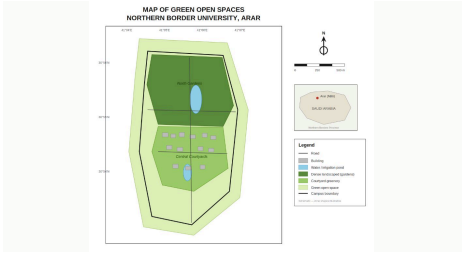
Green space and walkway on campus
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Shaded green area with mature trees
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES

GOAL 11

In pictures (3/6)



Map of green open spaces, NBU campus, Arar
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Map of green open spaces, NBU University City (new campus), Arar
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



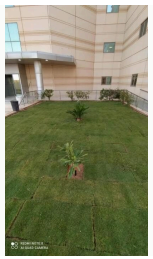
Campus building and landscaped lawn
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Main campus building with palm trees and green lawn
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Care of campus green spaces
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Lawn and planting beside a campus building
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Main campus building and green lawn
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



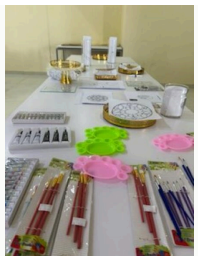
Trees and green area on campus
PUBLIC ACCESS TO GREEN SPACES



Traditional Saudi folk performance
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Glass painting by students
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Materials for the glass painting workshop
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



"Glass Painting Craft" workshop, College of Designs and Arts
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS

GOAL 11

In pictures (4/6)



Stencil printing artwork
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Stencil printing on fabric
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Founding Day "Our Story" heritage exhibition
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Traditional crafts at the Founding Day exhibition
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Summer Festival 1447 AH
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



"Our Elders, Our Blessing", inaugurated by Dr. Saud Al-Muqhim, Vice President for Academic Affairs
ARTS AND HERITAGE CONTRIBUTIONS



Course on the basics of craft entrepreneurship, with the Royal Institute of Traditional Arts
RECORDING AND PRESERVING HERITAGE



Lecture on handicrafts and their role in preserving heritage
RECORDING AND PRESERVING HERITAGE



"Arabic Calligraphy Between Authenticity and Modernity" workshop, Deanship of Student Affairs
RECORDING AND PRESERVING HERITAGE



Students at the Arabic calligraphy and art activity
RECORDING AND PRESERVING HERITAGE



Arabic calligraphy workshop participants
RECORDING AND PRESERVING HERITAGE



"Recycling Environmental Materials" workshop, College of Designs and Arts
RECORDING AND PRESERVING HERITAGE

GOAL 11

In pictures (5/6)



"Walk 30": your health starts with the first step (26 April 2025)
SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING



Walking promotion sign on campus
SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING



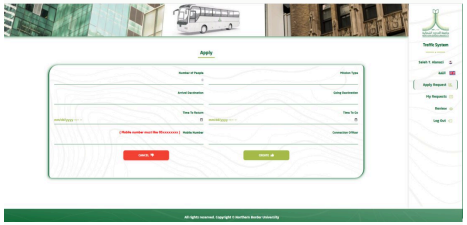
Signage encouraging walking
SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING



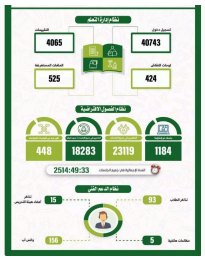
Benefits-of-walking sign on campus
SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING



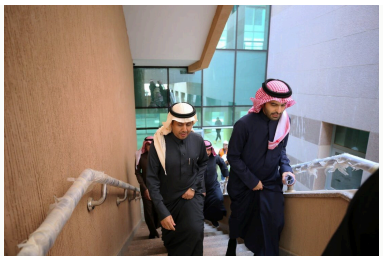
Registration for the University transport service, 1446 AH
SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING



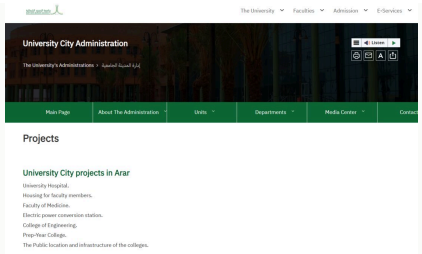
Online application for the University transport service
PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE COMMUTING



Learning management system dashboard supporting flexible and remote work
FLEXIBLE WORK



Inspection of University residential facilities
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STAFF



University City projects in Arar, including housing for faculty members
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STAFF



The University President meets international scholarship students in their accommodation
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STUDENTS



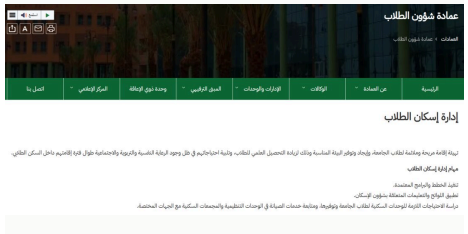
Online application for University student housing
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STUDENTS



Leasing a building for female student housing at the Rafha branch
AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STUDENTS

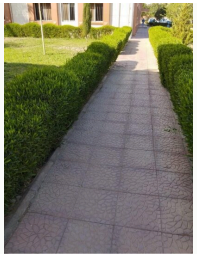
GOAL 11

In pictures (6/6)



Student Housing Administration, Deanship of Student Affairs

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR STUDENTS



Pedestrian path on campus

PEDESTRIAN PRIORITY ON CAMPUS



Slow sign and covered walkway prioritising pedestrians

PEDESTRIAN PRIORITY ON CAMPUS



Shaded parking on campus

PEDESTRIAN PRIORITY ON CAMPUS



Maintenance works in existing campus buildings

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES



Renovation of an existing campus building

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES



Repainting interiors in existing buildings

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES



Maintenance works on campus

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES



Road works on previously developed land

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES



Ceiling maintenance in existing buildings

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES



Interior renovation works

BUILDING ON BROWNFIELD SITES

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



NBU brings researchers, government and industry together on renewable energy and sustainability.

GOAL 17

Partnerships, policy and collaboration

- **SMRE 2026.** The Sustainability in Mining and Renewable Energy Conference brings together researchers, government, policymakers and industry on sustainable mining, renewable energy and the SDGs.
- **Strategic Plan 2025–2030.** Aligns institutional priorities with national development goals and Vision 2030, with a framework for monitoring performance.
- **Data and international cooperation.** The Data Management Office monitors data governance indicators; the International Cooperation Unit works with universities and research institutions abroad.
- **NBU-IRC.** The Deanship of Scientific Research funds joint projects that include a researcher from a top-100 university (Shanghai or QS).

COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS 17.2.5

Partner	Initiative
King Salman bin Abdulaziz Royal Reserve	Volunteers for environmental initiatives
National Center for Vegetation Cover Development and Combating Desertification	Planting 3,000 seedlings
Net Zero Company	Planting 1,500 seedlings
WEQAA Center	Workshops for farmers in Rafha Governorate
Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture	MoU signed during Environment Week 2026

PHOTO GALLERY



University leadership reviews the 2025–2030 Strategic Plan



SMRE 2026 call for papers



Sustainable environmental initiatives with national partners



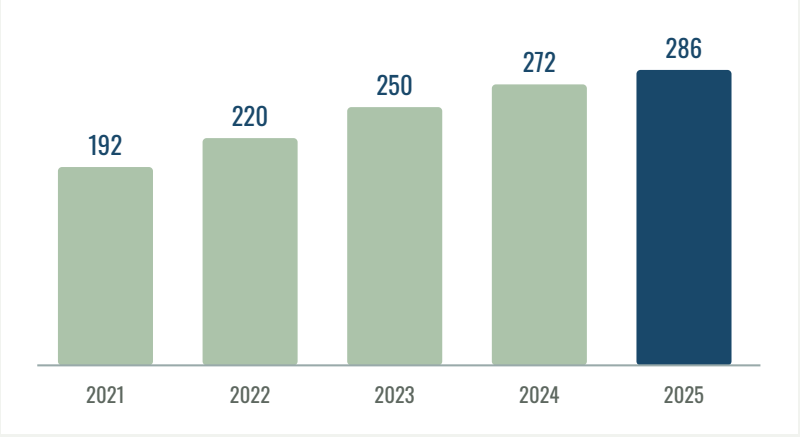
Strategic planning meeting

GOAL 17

Education for the SDGs

- **Commitment.** The Climate Action Plan commits NBU to integrating sustainability and climate topics into curricula across disciplines.
- **Core course.** "Ecology and Sustainable Development" is required for College of Science students and an elective for all other colleges, covering sustainability, the SDGs and Vision 2030 indicators.
- **Training and diplomas.** Sustainability training is open to students from all colleges; the Applied College offers diplomas in Renewable Energy Technology and Environmental Protection Technology.
- **Community outreach.** The Community Partnership Development Administration delivers programmes for local residents and farmers; the Graduate Career Employment Office supports graduates entering the labour market.
- **"Our Green Energy".** The Gifted Students Unit and the College of Science presented 11 student projects in environmental sustainability and electrical energy.
- **Sustainability literacy.** A "Principles of Sustainability" workshop for female students at the College of Designs and Arts; sustainability indicators in course learning outcomes are monitored; the Student Sustainability Literacy Survey 2025 has been prepared.

SUSTAINABILITY-RELATED COURSES, 2021–2025



Courses and subjects related to sustainability rose from 192 in 2021 to 286 in 2025.



"Our Green Energy" student projects

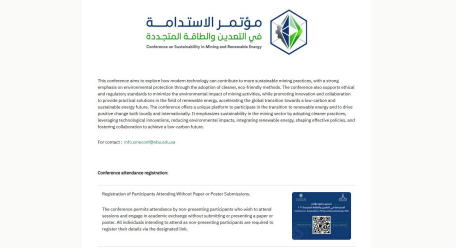


Graduate Career Employment Office at the Student Support and Empowerment Forum

GOAL 17

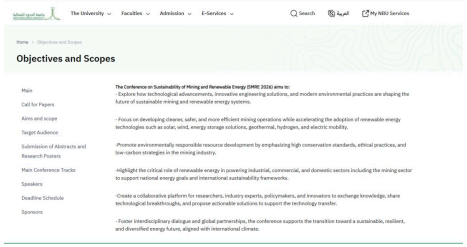
In pictures (1/2)





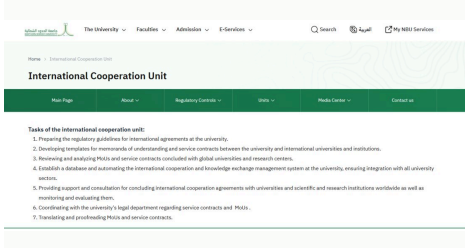
Conference on Sustainability in Mining and Renewable Energy (SMRE 2026)

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025–2030



SMRE 2026: objectives and scope

STRATEGIC PLAN 2025–2030



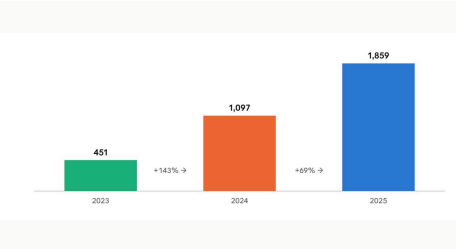
International Cooperation Unit: tasks

DATA AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION



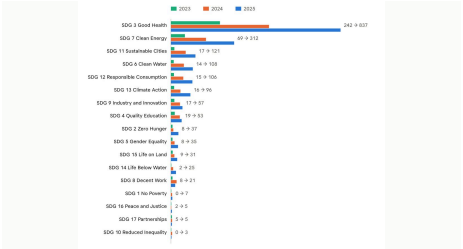
SMRE 2026 call for papers (deadline 15 February 2026)

COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS



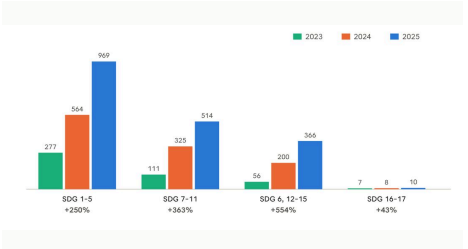
SDG-tagged publications: 451 (2023), 1,097 (2024), 1,859 (2025)

SDG RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION REPORT



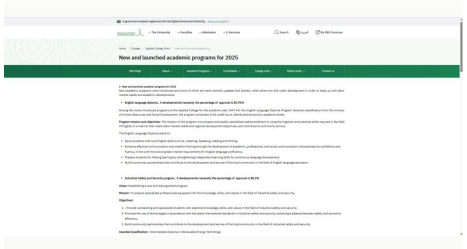
SDG-tagged publications by SDG, 2023 to 2025

SDG RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION REPORT



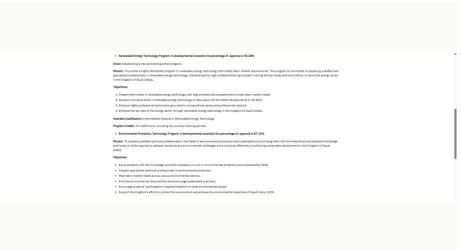
SDG-tagged publications by SDG group, 2023 to 2025

SDG RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION REPORT



New academic programmes launched in 2025

EDUCATION FOR THE SDGS



Renewable Energy Technology programme

EDUCATION FOR THE SDGS



م	اسم المقرر	رقم المقرر ورمزه	الوحدات المعتمدة	طبيعة الوحدات		المتطلب السابق المقرر	Course Title
				نظري	عملي		
1	المملكة ودورها الريادي	GNCR103	2	2	0	---	Kingdom & Its Pioneering Role
2	مهارات الكتابة الأكاديمية	ARAB103	2	2	0	---	Academic Writing Skills
3	اللياقة البدنية وعلوم الرياضة	GNCR104	2	2	0	---	Fitness and Sport Science
4	التنمية المستدامة	BIO104	2	2	0	---	Sustainable Development
5	مهارات التعلم مدى الحياة	CUET101	2	2	0	---	Lifelong learning skills

University requirement courses, including Sustainable Development (BIO104)

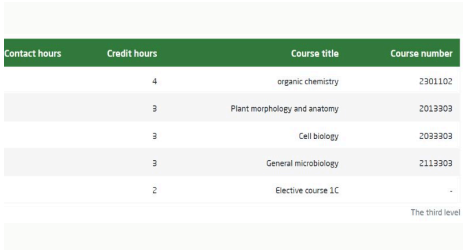
SUSTAINABILITY COURSES



Credit hours	Course title	Course number
3	General zoology	2023303
3	General ecology	2043303
3	Fungi1	2123303
3	Viruses 1	2133303
3	Bacteria1	2143303
		fourth leve

Study plan courses including General Ecology

SUSTAINABILITY COURSES



Contact hours	Credit hours	Course title	Course number
	4	organic chemistry	2301102
	3	Plant morphology and anatomy	2013303
	3	Cell biology	2033303
	3	General microbiology	2113303
	2	Elective course 1C	-
			The third level

Study plan courses in biology and microbiology

SUSTAINABILITY COURSES

GOAL 17

In pictures (2/2)

Credit hours	Course title	Course number
3	Micro-industrial biology	4113303
3	Micropathobiology	4123303
3	Microbiology of soil and water	4133303
3	Plant diseases	4173303
2	Elective course 2c	-
		Seventh level

Courses including Microbiology of Soil and Water
SUSTAINABILITY COURSES

Credit hours	Course title	Course number
3	Microbial environment	4143303
3	Graduation Project	4923303
8	Elective course 4T	-
		Eighth level

Credit hours	Course title	Course number
2	field traning	4913303
		Field Training

Courses including Microbial Environment
SUSTAINABILITY COURSES

Credit hours	Course title	Course number
2	Parasitology	4013303
2	world of insects	4023303
2	Specialized readings and terminology	4033303
2	Host-parasite relationship	4213303
2	Immunity and serums	4223303
2	Fundamentals of microorganisms division	4233303
2	Secondary microbial metabolism	4243303
2	Food microbiology	4253303
2	Yeasts	4263303
2	Algae environment	4273303
2	Microbiology genetics	4283303
2	Archaea	4293303

Courses including Algae Environment
SUSTAINABILITY COURSES

Credit hours	Course title	Course number
2	Construction management	1401421
3	Environmental engineering	1401460
3	Graduation Project (1)	1401491
2	Elective course (1)	14014xx
		Eleventh level

Courses including Environmental Engineering
SUSTAINABILITY COURSES



Sustainability research poster on a digital display
COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND STUDENT INITIATIVES



Visitors at the sustainability exhibition
COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND STUDENT INITIATIVES



Sustainable environmental initiatives with national partners
COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND STUDENT INITIATIVES



Graduate Career Employment Office, Student Support and Empowerment Forum 1448 AH
COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND STUDENT INITIATIVES



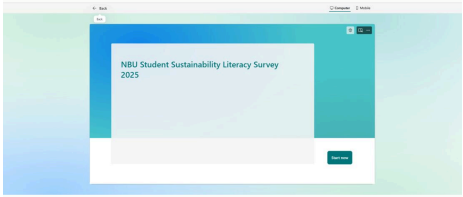
A student presents a sustainability research poster
COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND STUDENT INITIATIVES



"Principles of Sustainability" workshop for female students, College of Designs and Arts
SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY



Workshop slides on the Sustainable Development Goals
SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY



NBU Student Sustainability Literacy Survey 2025
SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY

17.3 PUBLICATION OF SDG REPORTS

SDG research contribution, 2023–2025

2023	2024	2025
451	1,097	1,859

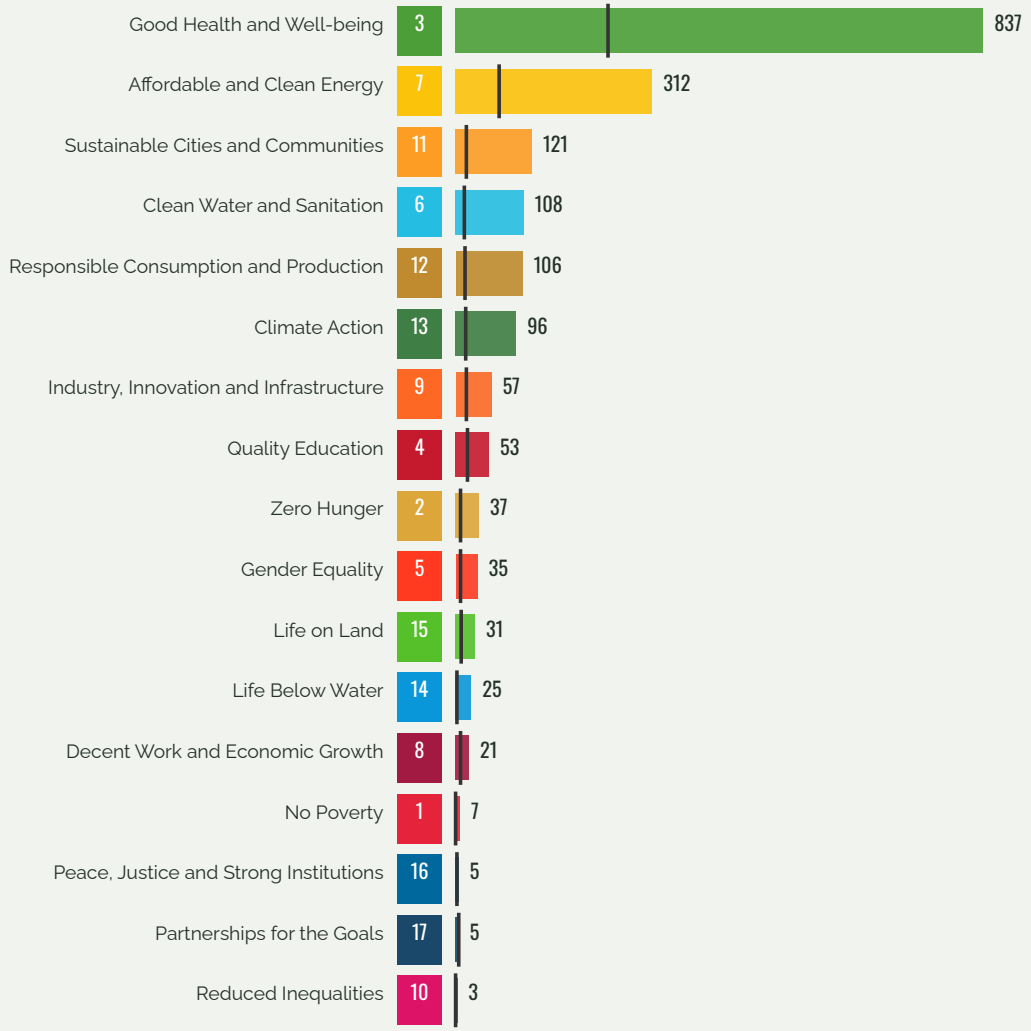
NBU's SDG-tagged publications rose by 312% in two years, and since 2024 its research has covered all 17 SDGs.

- **Fastest growth:** SDG 6 (+671%), SDG 11 (+612%), SDG 12 (+607%) and SDG 13 (+500%).
- **Broader portfolio:** SDG 3's share fell from 54% in 2023 to 45% in 2025; planet goals rose from 12% to 20%.
- **To strengthen:** SDG 17 held at 5–6 publications a year; SDG 8 and SDG 10 fell in 2025, to 21 and 3.

Counts are SDG tags; one publication can map to more than one SDG. Source: Clarivate Web of Science Core Collection, SDG filter, retrieved 22 November 2026.

PUBLICATIONS BY SDG, 2025

bar = 2025 · line = 2023





جامعة الحدود الشمالية
NORTHERN BORDER UNIVERSITY

SDG Initiatives Annual Report 2025

Northern Border University · Arar · Rafha · Turaif · Al-Uwayqilah