

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF LEBANON REPORT ON SDG 17

PARTNERSHIP FOR
THE GOAL

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



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SDG 17 - PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOAL

INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs, represent basic principles to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. They were gestated at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, replacing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG, 2000), to create a set of global goals related to environmental, political and political challenges. economic conditions that our world faces. They were launched in January 2016 and will guide the policies and funding of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the next 15 years.

The United Nations Development Program works with governments to integrate the SDGs into their national development plans and policies, and this in turn has led to the need to implement a new agenda to promote Sustainable Development, Agenda 2030. Agenda 2030, is a new tool for sustainable development, which aims to end poverty, promote prosperity and well-being for all people, in addition to protecting the environment by 2030.

More and more institutions are auditing their situation with respect to the SDGs to lay the foundations of the new agenda, Agenda 2030. Those most committed and more aware of this international need will be the best positioned to carry out necessary improvements in the current management model and infrastructures with technical and financial assistance from the United Nations Development Program.

Within these institutions are the universities, where the relationship between the SDGs and the universities can be seen as mutually beneficial and necessary for both parties. On the one hand, anticipating offering training on the SDGs is a way of demonstrating the institution's ability to adapt to these changing circumstances, and on the other, funding entities and sponsors are allocating more and more aid to meeting the Goals.

Sustainable Development Goal 17 "Partnerships for the goals" refers to the need for cross-sector and cross -country collaboration in pursuit of all the goals by the year 2030. SDG 17 is a vision for improved and more equitable trade, as well as coordinated investment initiatives to promote sustainable development across borders. It is about strengthening and streamlining cooperation between nation-states, both developed and developing, using the SDGs as a shared framework and a shared vision for defining that collaborative way forward.

At the Islamic University of Lebanon, we have a strong belief that in order for our country to develop sustainably, we have to abide by and follow these SDGs where people will enjoy a better life as well as a higher standard of living. The Islamic University has already implemented many

of the requirements of the SDGs and is much willing and able to implement the remaining and incorporate it in its programs and policies.

At the end, it is extremely important to note that we need as human beings living on earth to live happily and with dignity by partnering together. All of us have to have the ultimate respect and appreciation of each other's rights; the human right. However, to be able to enjoy that and develop our lives, many elements have to be taken with great consideration. We need as humans living on this planet to care for each other by providing assistance to the less fortunate ones. And what could be better to assist than a collaborative and joint effort among all countries under the United Nations umbrella. This is the reason behind the SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals.

We, countries of the world, need to assist in preventing hunger, stressing the importance of sustainable and drinkable water, being ready to face climate change, protecting life under water and on land, respecting the order of law, treating each other equally and without discrimination, continuously and relentlessly working on looking out for other sources of affordable and clean energy, sustaining city life without having to continuously run away to the suburbs, preserving justice among us all through a good and fair judicial system, consuming and producing responsibly, stressing innovation and creativity, promoting decent jobs and good work environments without any human trafficking or child labor or money laundering, promoting good health and well-being, making education affordable and reflective of the job market demand and assuring each other of zero tolerance for hunger.

When all of these are implemented then the world will be a much better place to live. The quality as well as the standard of living of people will be better leading to a decrease in the gap between the rich and the poor. There will be more respect for the human rights, lesser crime and extremism and finally peace will prevail.

SDG 12 – RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Responsible consumption and production are essential for the society. In fact, the humanity should control and regulate the consumption and production to sustain survivability. Efforts must be done by all the active bodies to ensure good consumption and production process. The sustainable management of the resources is one of the most important cultures to be taught and spread worldwide. Universities are charged to fulfill this mission, through collaboration with all potential communities and to organize events, in order to raise awareness about consumption and production.

Responsible consumption is the use of material products, energy, and immaterial services in a way that their use minimizes impacts on our environment, especially in our present time where our planet faces not one, but many obstacles that are affecting our environment. In order to achieve sustainable consumption, two developments must take place: the increase in the efficiency of consumption, as well as a change in the consumption levels in industrialized countries. Sustainable developments as well as sustainable consumption rely on certain premises such as, effective use of resources and minimization of waste and pollution, and fuller product life cycle. Sustainable consumption and development establish a better future not only for us, but also for our future

generations. Consumption does not refer only to individuals and households, but also to governments, businesses, and other institutions. For example, and in our universities, the new generation is paving its way to the outside world. We hold responsibility to teaching our new generation, about sustainable consumption and development in their day to day life, from energy and water saving within institutions, to recycling and waste management. Many consumers are aware of the importance of their consumption choices and care about environmental issues; however, most of them do not translate their concerns into their consumption patterns. Let us aim to implement frameworks, in order to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and development within our societies, as a sustainable lifestyle will minimize ecological impacts while enabling a flourishing life for individuals, households, communities and beyond.

At national scale the industrial sector in Lebanon plays a major role on both, financial system and sustainable employment, also it represents a major contribution on the Lebanese exports. And on the behalf of the Lebanese country, the Ministry of Environment (MoE) in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry (MoI) and other partners (Governmental institutions, academic institutions and NGOs), proposed a SCP Action Plan for the Industrial Sector in Lebanon. Lebanon has developed an array of policies and plans covering sustainable development issues at national and sectorial levels and providing Lebanon with an important understanding of sustainable development challenges to be addressed in the wake of socio-economic and environmental challenges facing Lebanon. As a part of a 10 years' project duration, Lebanon SCP Action Plan for the Industrial Sector in Lebanon has identified 3 Operational Objectives which are the following:

- Adopt Best Available Techniques to promote SCP in the industrial sector
- Introduce SCP approaches related to the industrial sector in the policy and institutional frameworks
- Educate and raise awareness of consumers on SCP in the industrial sector as part of the 2015 adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Particularly the twelve's goal (SDG12), LEBANON's SCP plan will contribute to poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability and the development of a green economy.

IUL and responsible consumption and production:

The Islamic University of Lebanon (IUL) has the intention of improving the outcomes of operational waste on campus, but we still in an early phase of adopting strategies around Sustainable consumption and development.

The university has a verbal policy on ethical sourcing of food and supplies and waste disposal.

According to Lebanese government policies and recommendations, and on a daily basis, the wastes are sorted into different categories: plastics, papers, organic, and other general waste.

Fiber wastes (papers, cartons, etc..) are sold to private factories in order to be treated and recycled following standard regulations. Based on student initiatives that help deaf persons, the idea of collecting empty plastic bottles in order to be recycled later has become a new project. For this purpose, dedicated baskets were distributed inside the buildings which encourage all students to

be involved in this act. Collected bottles are sold to factories in order to be recycled, whereas all the program benefits are used to help deaf persons.

The Islamic university (Wardenieh campus) generates around 50-60 tons of waste annually. On a daily basis, the wastes are sorted into different categories: plastics, papers, organic, other general waste. Once sorted, part of these waste is stored within large containers.

On a weekly basis, organic wastes are collected by the Wardenieh municipality. Following the Lebanese government policies and recommendation, the wardenieh municipality is in charge of burying organic wastes in specific landfill, while other types of wastes are recycled.



Figure 1. Recycling in IUL

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Figure 2. Plastic bottles for recycling

At the invitation of the Islamic University in Lebanon and the cultural movement in Lebanon, the Minister and Deputy Dr. Inaya Ezz El-Din a lecture entitled "Approach to Waste Management: Between Sustainability Principles and Practical Reality" this morning in the university branch hall in Tire, attended by the Secretary-General of the University, Prof. Hussein Badran, and the Dean of the College of Political Science and Diplomacy, Prof. Ramez Ammar, the organizational officer of the Jabal Amel region in the Amal Ali Ismail movement, the director of public relations at the university, Dr. Hisham Al-Husseini, educational and social events, heads of municipalities, university professors, students, and interested persons [1].



Figure 3. Taken from [1]

According collected data and statistics, amount of wastes is depicted in the table below.

Table 1. Percentage of waste recycled

Percentage of waste recycled	
Amount of waste generated	50-60 Tons
Amount of waste recycled	30-38 %
Amount of waste sent to landfill	62-70%

Conclusion and future perspectives:

The management of the consumption and production is a very important to well use the resources. To reduce the asymmetrical consumption of resources, this problem requires collective efforts of all the active bodies, such as policy makers, educational institutions, etc. In order to reduce the consumption and to enhance the production, the Islamic University of Lebanon (IUL) takes important care to spread the awareness concerning these issues. In order to be part of the worldwide efforts regarding the consumption and production, some activities are done to sort and recycle the wastes.

References

- [1] Approach to Waste Management: Between Sustainability Principles and Practical Reality, "Islamic University of Lebanon," 2018. [Online]. Available: <https://www.facebook.com/IULOfficial/videos/1453973361401063>.