

# ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF LEBANON REPORT ON SDG 17

PARTNERSHIP FOR  
THE GOAL

16 PEACE AND  
JUSTICE



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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 16 – PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Institutions can only operate effectively and efficiently in environments that are peaceful. They can work effectively with institutions where it is easy to predict operating costs and where there exists stability in the working environments. Responsible business practices have to be implemented with integrity and professionalism so that additional risks and costs could be minimized or prevented (financial risk, credit risk, legal risk and reputational risk) not just to the business itself but also to the whole society where these businesses operate. The rule of law could never be undermined. Corruption is a main reason for inefficiencies in markets because it makes transaction costs uncertain leading to anti-competitiveness, and hampering businesses' abilities to develop and comply with human rights and many other obligations.

A responsible institution is a strong institution. It can through what it does as core business, its strategic and social investment, its engagement in public policy and collective action make a great contribution to peace, development and prosperity. This is all achieved in parallel with meeting the objectives of the institution. In addition, institutions need to commit to joining effort with the public sector and civil society to eliminate corruption in all its shapes and forms. They need to also support strengthening of the rule of law. By focusing on the ways responsible institutions operate such as fighting corruption, abiding and supporting the rule of law as well as fighting cronyism, societies will develop economically and prosperity will prevail and human rights will be more respected.

SDG 16 aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

IUL believes that strong institutions require new forms of governance based on participation and democracy. The university believes that in order to achieve progress, development and economic prosperity in Lebanon, there has to be an ultimate respect for the rule of law and the judicial institutions in the country. True democracy has to prevail. True representation and participation of people have to exist in institutions to make them more effective. Once they become more effective, the whole society will benefit and this will lead to more justice and more investment by businesses locally and internationally leading to economic development, higher standard of living and more human rights respect.

#### IUL and peace, justice and strong institutions:

The Islamic University of Lebanon has established several centers and committees to support its community such as INOVEC (Innovation and Entrepreneurship center), TLC, CBCC Training, Continuous learning and capacity building career center and TORC Tutorial and Orientation center. In addition, IUL guarantees the freedom of expression and the relevance of discussion and participation. For this reason, it has established a journal that covers many topics and it is open for all doctors to write and publish their works called the voice of the university (Sawt Eljameaa).

There are many Doctors that give their expertise in different fields in the governmental institution's ministries and public departments also in committees especially in the faculty of law.

Table 1. Doctors expertise

Enterprise	Field of work	Name
Private office	Lawyer	Ahmad Hajjal
Interior Security forces	Officer	Ahmad Hmede
Ministry of Justice	Judge	Asaad Bayram
Parliament	worker	Achraf Baydon
Ministry of Justice	Judge	Habib Mezher
Ministry of Health	consultant	Hsein Mhaydle
Private office	Lawyer	Samer Baalbake
Private office	Lawyer	Salam Abd Isamad
Dar aleftaa Aljaafare	Mufti al hermel	Abdo Kataya
Parliament	Consultant	Arafat Chamseldine
Private Office	Lawyer	Claude Mcheik
Ministry of justice	Judge	Kamal Almokdad
Social Security	Observer	Lara Alakom
Private office	Lawyer	Mohammad Halablab

Council of Ministers	Legal officer on a project concerning syrian refugees for UNDP	May Hamoud
Private office	Lawyer	Mohamad ALchami
Private office	Lawyer	Malak Daakor
Council for development and reconstruction	Legal consultant	Maysaa Chour
Ministry of Justice	Judge	Nidal ALchaer
Private office	Lawyer	Jinan Tfaily
BBAC	Bank manager	Wael Dbayse
South Lebanon water corporation	Department head	Hsien ELgoul
Ministry of Justice	Judge and previous General Manager	Khayreye Nwayre
MEAB	employee	Rola Assi
Private Office	lawyer	Abas Kabalan
Private Office	Lawyer	Ghada Sabra
Ministry of economics	employee	Nader Hamoud
Private office	Lawyer	Ghadi Mokaied
Private office	Lawyer	Rabih Jaafar
Private office Parliamentary journal	Lawyer Researcher and writer	Abas Jaber Khodr Yassin

#### Faculty of Engineering

- Mohammad Ayach, Executive committee member of computing colleges information system in the association of arab universities
- Samar Sindian, Member of program evaluation committee at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education
- Amthal Hakim, Member of the public safety –Engineers syndicate
- Ousama Mostafa, Member of the Universities Association of Lebanon UAL- Quality Assurance Unit.)
- Hassan Noura Member of program evaluation committee at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education



- Jamal Haidar, Advisor for the president of the Order of Engineers and Architects (OEA), Beirut
- Member of the board of directors of FISUEL (International Federation of the Safety of Electricity Users)
- Head of the Federal Committee of the Electrical Safety, Federation of Lebanese Engineers
- Head of the Lebanese Electrotechnical Committee for IEC
- Member of the Libnor Committee at OEA

#### Faculty of Economics & Business Administration Instructor's Name, Department, Job Description

- Dr. Hassan wazni, Management General Manager of Nabih Berri Governmental University, Nabatieh Lebanon
- Dr. Mohamad abdo, Management Court judge in Sidon.
- Dr. Faraj Hmedeh, Accounting Chartered Financial Auditor: Ministry of justice, Beirut-Lebanon.
- Dr. Hassan wazni, Management Coordinator of economics at the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Lebanon; the Directorate of Guidance and Orientation.
- Dr. Mohamad Ghadder, Accounting Senior auditor at the Audit Bureau in Lebanon.
- Mr. Mohamad Hadla, Management Information System Business Analyst; E-Declaration Forms Project for Ministry of Finance
- Mrs. Sarah Mahfouz Banking & Finance Chief of department at Ministry of Finance, Baalbak- Lebanon
- M. Hala Ghareeb, Banking & Finance Senior economist and statistician in the Qaraoun Master Plan project with the Ministry of the Environment, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and ELARD S.A.L.
- Mr. Mohamad Masri, Accounting Administrative and financial controller at EDL (Électricité du Liban-Établissement public), Beirut-Lebanon.
- Mr. Hicham Fawaz, Banking & Finance Chief of the Department of Hospitals at the Lebanese Ministry of Public Health
- Mr. Mohamad Bazzoun, Accounting Director of the Social Security Center in Tyr Lebanon

#### Faculty of Tourism Sciences

- Dr. Rayan Haidar, Hotel Management -Tourism Inspector-certifications Department -Head of Section-Youth and Local Bodies Department.

And also on the regional level we have participated in many regional competitions and the IUL strategy is to help law students in different fields and which was stated in decision no 1716/2008.

First Making many training sessions for law students to pass the Bar of advocates exam, the entrance exam to the Institute of Judicial Studies and also for the Notary Public and many public departments like embassies, ministries and the palace of justice in Lebanon.

Second participating in many competitions on the international, regional and national level stated below:

Participation in the Monroe E. Price media law moot court competition 7th Middle East Regional Rounds in Cairo regarding Human rights (freedom of expression and the right of privacy) which took place in the BUE in Egypt from 4-2-2018 till 13- 2 – 2018 [1].

Coach: Dr. Abas Jaber and Dr. Jinan Tfaily

Team: Sara Kanaan, Ruba Bou Khzam, Nermen Jaafar, Mohammad Jaber, Suzan Bedawi and Reem Araj.

We won on one team the Egyptian team.



Figure 1. Taken from [1]

Participation in the moot Arab court convening International Humanitarian law on February 2019, which took place in the Bar of advocates in Beirut. Participants Suzan Bedawi, Ayman Baraket, Ayman el Haj and Zeinab Hamze.



The Inter University Programme on International Criminal Law and procedures October 2018-2019. Our participants visited the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL) from 1 to 5 September 2019 as part of a three-day study visit to The Hague [2].



The visit enabled the students who have attended the Inter-University Program on International Criminal Law and Procedure (IUP-ICLP) to see first-hand some of the institutions about which they had been studying.



Figure 2. Taken from [2]

The graduation of the Inter University Program. Partitipants: Sara Kanaan, Suzan Bedawi ,Malak Mousa and Ayman Hajj.



Participation in the Organizing team of the ICRC - Geneva in the Second Regional Moot Court in International Humanitarian law held in Lebanon in the Lancaster Hotel on March 2019 [3].

Participants were: Sara kanaan, Reem Araj, Mohammad Jaber, Ruba Bou Khzam and Suzan Bedawi .



Figure 3. Taken from [3]

Participation in the Regional Arabic moot court which was organized by KILAW and was hosted by the Lebanese University in Tripoli on 13 April 2019. We got the third place over 17 teams that participated [4].

Coach: Dr. Abas Jaber and Dr. Jinan Tfaily.

Participants were: Sally Abd el khalek, Reem el Sayed ,Nathali Barake Mahd AlMokdad.



Figure 4. Taken from [4]

Participation in the Competition Interuniversitaire de Mediation en langue Arab and French DU CPM from 1 May till 5 May 2019 [5].

Participants were Majd Elmokdad, Julia Nasrallah, Lina Zorkot, Reina Hassaneye and we took the second place in the competition.



Figure 5. Taken from [5]

Participation in a Seminar that was held by the UNHCR in the ESCWA titled Political and Decision Making on June 2019.

Participants: Suzan Bedawi and Sara Kanaan.





Participation in the conference on International arbitration and investment contracts hosted by the International Justice Foundation for Judicial and Diplomatic Studies, on June 28-2019

Participants were: Sara Kannan, Suzan Bedawi and Rouba Bou Khzam.



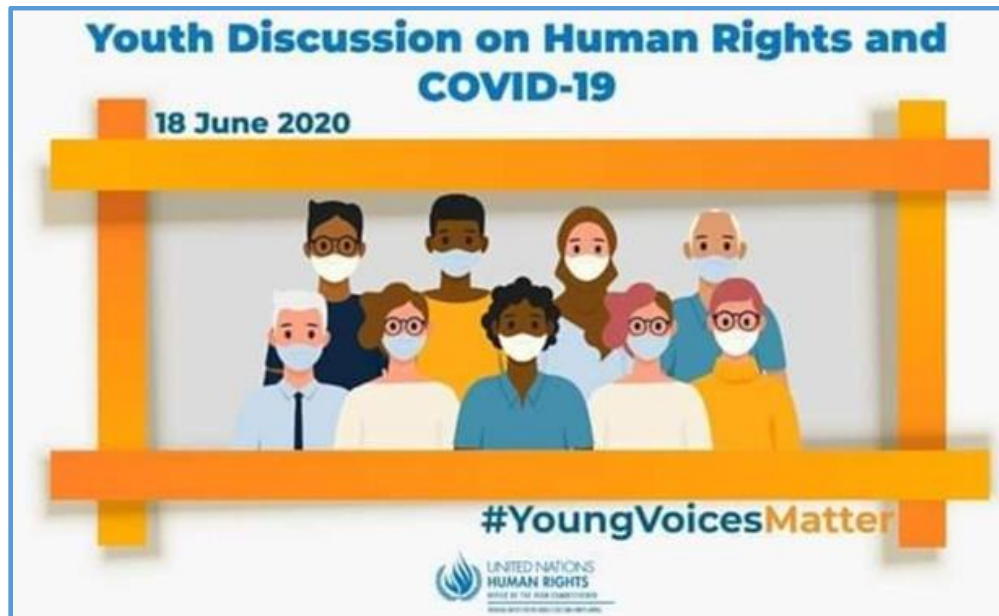
Participation in the Webinar with T.M.C. Asser Institute Netherlands, HILLAC Lecture about “How the Syrian conflict has changed International law” which was held on June 10-2020 [6].

Participants Sara Kanaan



Figure 6. Taken from [6]

Participation in the “Youth Discussion on Human Rights and COVID-19” on 18 June 2020 (Human Rights United Nations) Young Voices Matter, Participants were Sara Kanaan, Reina Hassaneye and Malak Mousa.





Participation in Mediate Guru – Lebanon as Campus Ambassadors for the IUL Khalde -Campus on 30 September 2020 [7].

Participants: Sara Kanaan, Ruba Bou Khzam and Nermeen Jaafar.



Figure 7. Taken from [7]

The Islamic University of Lebanon has hosted the Monroe E. Price media law moot court competition 8th Middle East Regional Rounds –in Wardeneye Campus for 2 days On February 6 and 7-2020. In this competition we took the second place between the 4 teams that participated [8].

Coach: Dr. Jinan Tfaily

Participants: Sally Abd elKhalek, Ola bou Naser eldin, Mohammad Amro, Sara Ajab, Maggie Matar and Nerjes Adib.



Figure 8. Taken from [8]

Participation in the competition of the Hult prize on 10-2019. Participants were: Shirin Sharaf el din, Suzan Bedawi, Sandra Ahmad and our project was to stop poverty, how to get benefit from old clothes and how to provide work for many persons as much as we can named (She design) [9].

We were from the top six teams.



Figure 9. Taken from [9]

IUL is in continuous collaboration with public actors. To illustrate, there are many Doctors that give their expertise in different fields in the governmental institutions, ministries and public departments also in committees especially in the faculty of law. IUL also organizes many training sessions for law students to pass the Bar of advocates exam, the entrance exam to the Institute of Judicial Studies and also for the Notary Public and many public departments like embassies, ministries and the palace of justice in Lebanon. The university students, especially in the faculty of Law, participate in many events and conferences to strengthen their skills and abilities in better understanding how the system works in order to better make decisions later on that will affect their societies.

Moreover, the Islamic University of Lebanon undertakes policy-focused research in collaboration with government departments such as CNRS and provides a neutral platform and ‘safe’ space for different political stakeholders to come together to frankly discuss challenges.

Also, IUL made many treaties with the Lebanese General Security dated 17-4-2019, the Lebanese Army dated 24-1-2020, AUF, IUF, UNESCO, CNRS dated 7-2-2019, and we have a strategic partnership with the National Association for science and research dated 12-11-2018 ([iul.edu.lb](http://iul.edu.lb))

- Implication de l’Université Islamique du Liban (IUL) envers le programme SAFAR de l’Institut français du Liban (IFL) Note rédigée par Sylvie Devigne et mise à jour le 20/10/2020
- Implication de l’Université Islamique du Liban (IUL) avec les projets de Médiation, de Droit, d’égalité et de RSU&ODD de l’Agence universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) en 2020 Note rédigée par Sylvie Devigne et mise à jour le 20/10/2020
- Implication de l’Université Islamique du Liban (IUL) avec la Chaire UNESCO de Bordeaux Note rédigée par Sylvie Devigne et mise à jour le 20/10/2020

### Conclusion and perspectives:

The Islamic University of Lebanon understands very well that through student’s collaboration in the decision-making process at the university, the students’ voices will be better heard and their demands will be better met. As such, the university will activate students’ unions and student governments and allow the students to participate in the process of decision making. For this reason, IUL will implement a new system based on the technology of crowd mapping which allows students to raise their voice. It is worth mentioning, though, that the university currently utilizes the open-door-policy where students can cast their needs and concerns anytime. However, students’ governments are believed to be more efficient as they are better organized and more professional. Not only that, IUL is working on to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. For this reason, IUL is trying to find the convenient way(s) to integrate the community members (teachers and students) in the decision-making process.

In addition to the above, IUL is currently working to increase the network of collaborations with public and private actors. It will also launch a forum concerned in transparency and good governance. Moreover, IUL will foster the collaborations with local and national stakeholders and

implement new policies that guarantee students and teachers complete freedom of speech and freedom in research.

Moreover, the university will be ensuring public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements and it will promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development. The Faculty of Law at IUL will organize webinars on Lebanese laws and policies and will form committees that help people in judicial issues.

In addition to what is stated above, IUL strongly believes and willing to cooperate on all issues related to reducing violence and death rates anywhere, ending all abuse and exploitation to children, promoting the rule of law, reducing illegal financial activities and flow of illegal arms, reducing bribery and corruption, developing accountable institutions, participating in global governance, helping in birth registration, ensuring public access to information, promoting international cooperation for institutions and promoting and enforcing non-discriminatory policies and laws.

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