MUC TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

Since the presentation of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, they have served as guides for tackling social, environmental, and economical issues in both developed and developing countries. These issues are complicated in their nature and require numerous actors to find solutions. Eyeing this responsibility, Al-Mustaqbal University College, represented by its deanship, staff, and students, have endeavoured on tackling these issues to have a positive impact on our society. These efforts were made through research, social engagement, and our own actions within the campus. Implementing these Sustainable goals is of paramount importance to MUC. The first step towards sustainability was to legislate a number of policies that aim on putting MUC on the right path to achieve our sustainable vision.

Our sustainable impact on the society was made through initiatives and actions made by our staff and students. These efforts were a step towards raising the public’s awareness about the SDGs and also to prove that MUC is serious about implementing them. Although our efforts are small in scale, but their impact on our society was great. However, many sustainable efforts never reach the level of including them to any ranking methodology. Therefore, these efforts are brought here to make them seen and known by our local, regional, and global audience.

READING GUIDE

The goal of this report is to shed light on the sustainability activities made by the staff and students of MUC in all 17 Sustainability Development Goals. These activities involve awareness campaigns, donation campaigns, scientific workshops and lectures and other activities that help endorse the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
Since the establishment of Al-Mustaqbal University College (MUC), the administration as well as its staff had focused on making MUC a key influencer in the community both locally and regionally. The sustainable development goals initiated by the United Nations in 2015 were designed to tackle most of the problems that we face both as a society and as a country. We considered these sustainable goals as challenges to prove that we can put our positive mark on our society locally and regionally. Numerous actions and initiatives were conducted by both our staff and students to achieve these sustainable goals. These initiatives ranged from voluntary campaigns, awareness campaigns and donations to prove that we are determined to have that positive impact we seek. In addition to these initiatives, we have embarked upon implementing large scale projects to achieve the sustainable development goals in our local community in Babylon province.

Also, we focused on research that focuses on sustainability such as, research on health, green energy, water, and other SDGs.

In our pursuit of excellence, we achieved the 1st rank among the private Iraqi higher educational institutes in the Iraqi University Rankings (IRU) for the year 2021-2022. In addition, we achieved the 156th position in the year 2022 in the UI GreenMetric ranking. In addition, we achieved the 1st rank among the private educational institution in Iraq in the Times Impact Ranking for the year 2022.

Adding to these successes, Al-Mustaqbal University College achieved three stars in the QS stars university ranking.

This edition of the sustainability report highlights the various initiatives and activities that our college has conducted in achieving the UN’s Sustainability Development Goals in the year 2021-2022.

Prof. Dr. Hasan Sh. Majdi
Dean of Al-Mustaqbal University College
MUC DEPARTMENTS

Al-Mustaqbal University College (MUC) is a private educational institution that contains 21 departments in the disciplines of humanities, medical and engineering.

Humanity Departments

These six departments have the important role of contributing research, initiatives and activities that serve the Sustainable Development Goals that are concerned with societal development. Both staff and students of these departments support the SDGs by translating them into initiatives and activities that would ensure the greatest possible impact on our society through our education and knowledge collaborations. These departments are:

- Department of Law
- Department of Business Management
- Department of Accounting
- Department of English language & Literature
- Department of Physical Education & Sport Sciences
- Department of Media

Medical Departments

Medical departments in MUC thrive to be the best in their discipline through their teaching, research, and local and regional collaborations to serve their surrounding community. Our dental clinics welcome hundreds of patients everyday providing them with their dental needs free of charge. Awareness campaigns as well as scientific workshops are conducted on and off campus to spread knowledge about health issues, antibiotics, and communicable and non-communicable diseases. Our medical departments are:

- Dentistry
- Pharmacy
- Medical Physics
- Medical Laboratory Techniques
- Anesthesia Techniques
- Radiological Techniques
- Nursing
- Optics Technologies

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- Nursing
- Optics Technologies

Engineering Departments

Engineering and technical engineering departments at MUC are the work force for excellent research within their fields. These departments strive to deliver valuable research, and knowledge as an important contribution to creating sustainable solutions to the challenges that our society faces in climate change, energy needs and creating sustainable infrastructure. These departments are:

- Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Tech.
- Computer Engineering Techniques
- Building & Construction Tech.
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemical Engineering & Petroleum Industries
- Medical Instruments Technology Engineering
Tuition Fees Discount for Low-Income Students

In the efforts of MUC to attract as many as possible students from low-income areas around the college, the administration has set a programme to implement discounts reaching 100% for these students. The number of students that were included in these discounts for the year 2020-2021 was 4574 and in the year 2021-2022 the number was 8059 students. The students that benefited from the full waiver were 562 students for the two academic years.

Donations of Essentials and In-Kind Support

More than 500 families have benefited from the support donated by the staff and students of MUC through the year 2021-2022. Donations included essential house appliances such as heaters, refrigerators, and air-conditioning units. In addition, several visits were organized to orphan and elderly care homes through the last year.

Workshops & Case studies to eradicate poverty

Experts in the field of Business Administration have held a number of workshops that deal with poverty. These workshops where made in cooperation with NGOs that relate to this issue as well as government authorities. As part of our efforts in fighting poverty in Babylon province, numerous scientific case studies were conducted by our staff and students in order to study the obstacles that prevent long term solutions to this issue. Several statistic tools were adopted to give new insight towards the number of poor families and their income for the sake of assisting the government authorities for identifying them.

Extensive Projects
The Role of Economic Empowerment Strategies in Poverty Eradication

This project was conducted by the Department of Business Administration to study the effects of poverty in a rich country as Iraq and to focus on the multi-dimensional indicators of poverty in the society. The study was conducted back in the year 2019 and is still ongoing.

The project has focused on the effect the three current strategies implemented by the local government in Babylon Province and their impact on the society. These strategies are:

- Social development fund
- Food ration tickets
- National development plan

The project has concluded the following findings:

- Slumps are spots of severe poverty
- Development of agricultural lands for supporting the poor families in rural areas.
- Supporting vulnerable families through the creation of small projects.

Promoting work from home activities for people with disabilities to raise their chances of defeating poverty.

Eradicating poverty is not a task of charity, it’s an act of justice and the key to unlocking an enormous human potential.
EXTENDED PROGRAMMES to FEED POOR FAMILIES

MUC’s staff and students have worked extensively on programmes to feed the greatest number of families in the rural poor areas surrounding MUC. These programmes have covered more than 3000 families who are struggling to secure their daily food needs. Various types of food products were distributed as food baskets including rice, sugar, food oil and vegetables.

OUR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

MUC has conducted a number of sustainable agricultural projects for the sake of supporting the local farming community. These projects have helped the local farmers in attaining good quality seeds, and quality productive trees. Furthermore, helping the neighbouring farms to have access to irrigation water through digging wells and waste-water recycling. As a part of our initiatives, more than 2000 palm trees were planted in the neighbouring areas of MUC. In addition, seasonal fruits, and vegetables were also a part of our targeted plants. The produce of these projects was distributed free of charge to poor rural families that are located near MUC.

Al-Mustaqbal’s Forum for Sustainable Agriculture

In celebration of World Food Day, MUC has held the first International Forum for Sustainable Agriculture. The forum has been attended by national and international organizations such as the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture and the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Iraq. As a part of the forum’s activities, numerous agricultural and food products were exhibited by local farmers and food producers. The Forum’s objectives were as follows:

- Addressing the obstacles facing to achieve the sustainable development of agricultural areas in Iraq.
- Working on strategies that preserve agricultural lands.
- Prohibiting the use of chemical pesticides that have a negative impact on the environment.
- Strengthening the collaborations between the academic institutions and the government authorities to benefit from the knowledge and expertise in the field of sustainable agriculture.
- Raising the awareness of local farmers about the methods of sustainable agriculture.

the attendees valued their participation in this forum and assured their attendance in the coming forum next year. As a result, the FAO has agreed upon participating in MUC’s future agricultural projects and showed their appreciation to organizing this event in which it shows a clear concern about agriculture in Iraq in general and especially in Babylon Province.
GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

OUR FREE DENTAL CARE
Our teeth have such an important role to play in our lives. They help us chew and digest food, they help us to talk and speak clearly and they also give our face its shape. Good oral health can have so many wonderful life-changing benefits. By keeping our teeth and gums healthy we are more likely to reduce our risk of certain cancers, particularly in women, as well as some forms of dementia.
The department of Dentistry provides through our clinics free of charge dental services to the local public. Hundreds of patients with a wide range of ages from both genders visit these clinics daily. Numerous services from cleaning, whitening, and teeth extraction are conducted by our dentistry students and supervised by their lecturers. The clinics are open five days a week from early morning until 3pm in the afternoon. These clinics not only they provide these free of charge services to the local society but also is a great opportunity to engage with our public and provide the best training possible to our students.

EXTENSIVE AWARENESS PROGRAMMES
Diseases communicable and non-communicable, require not only the treatment but the awareness in order to take precautions not to extract them. Therefore, and as a part of our responsibility towards our community, numerous awareness campaigns have been conducted by our medical departments. The list below is to name some of them:

- Awareness campaign about Cholera
- Awareness campaign about COVID-19.
- A voluntary campaign to teach primary school student the correct way to wash hands to prevent infectious diseases.
- Awareness workshop on rabies, its risks, methods of prevention and treatment, and the necessary measures to be taken in case of infection.
- Awareness campaign about the risk of contracting Malaria.
- Awareness campaign to prevent cardiovascular diseases.
- Awareness campaign about the harmful effects of excessive use of smart phone by children.
- The psychological healthiness of autistic patients
- Protecting pregnant women from Anemia
- Lymphoma and early detection method
- A voluntary campaign to teach primary school student the correct way to wash hands to prevent infectious diseases.

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (ISCPS 2022)
The department of pharmacy has held its 1st International Scientific Conference for the period of 28-29 September 2022. The objectives of these conferences were:

- Enriching the scientific research in the field of pharmaceutical and medical sciences.
- Enhancing the scientific collaboration among the participating academic institutions.
- Discussing the latest pharmaceutical research findings to build a sustainable health development.

The conference discussed the following topics:

- Pharmacology and therapeutics
- Clinical pharmacology and medicinal chemistry
- Chemistry and pharmaceutical chemistry
- Pharmacometrics and the pharmaceutical industry
- Biology and pathogenesis
- Pharmaceutical sciences and their role in building a healthy environment.

THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND ANESTHESIA
In celebration of World Anesthesia Day, the department of Anesthesia Techniques held the 1st International Forum on Medical Technology and Anesthesia on the 16th of October 2022. The event was attended by several medical academics, physicians, and experts in the field of medical anesthesia. The forum dealt with many aspects and the latest findings of medicine and anesthesia techniques. The activities of the forum were accompanied by activities for students of the Department of Anesthesia Techniques, such as the presentation of paintings on the history of anesthesia and the human profession offered by this type of specialization.

The aim of the forum is to keep pace with the progress in medicine and anesthesia techniques to provide good knowledge about medicine and anesthesia and its techniques.

SEMINARS & SCIENTIFIC WORKSHOPS
As part of our efforts in spreading the knowledge of public health and safety, our medical departments have taken the responsibility to conduct numerous lectures and workshops.
We are listening to and engaging with our community to support and inspire advances in health, well-being, and social care through our extended programmes of public workshops and seminars.

- Awareness seminar on therapeutic methods to replace missing teeth.
- Awareness lecture for oral and dental health care.
- Drug habit among adolescents.
- Typhoid disease: symptoms, treatment, and prevention methods.
- Teaching students to use the appropriate radiation dose for each organ.
- Sports and Obesity.
- Psychological effects of drug addiction.
- Misuse of antibiotics and its harms.
- The phenomenon of drug spread in society.
- A scientific workshop entitled the importance of using electromagnetic waves in medicine and diagnosis.
- A scientific workshop entitled (Eye Safety).

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BETTER PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASSES
In Babylon, there are 525 schools that are required to be built to fulfill the province’s needs. Therefore, we have taken the initiative to rehabilitate a number of the existing schools to provide a better teaching environment for pupils. The list of schools that were covered by our rehabilitation project can be as follows:
- Renovating the electrical fittings for caravan schools in rural areas of Hilla city.
- Establishing new classes in Al-Adala Primary School in Al-Mahaweel city. Six standard classes were built equipped with whiteboards, 102 stools and electrical appliances.

DIGITAL INTERACTIVE EDUCATION
As a part of our continuing efforts in providing our staff and students with the latest methods of education, MUC has established a digital interactive lecture hall. This lecture hall is provided with the latest technological tools to improve the interaction between students and their lecturers. The lecture hall is equipped with twenty computers linked through an advanced network technology that provides flexibility in undertaking exams and assessments.

CELEBRATING THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR EDUCATION
The right to education is enshrined in article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The declaration calls for free and compulsory elementary education. For the purpose, MUC has endeavoured to generate debate around how to strengthen education as a public endeavour and common good, how to steer the digital transformation, support teachers, safeguard the planet and unlock the potential in every person to contribute to collective well-being and our shared home.

We have celebrated this day through a wide range of activities that target poor rural areas in our community by donating in-kind educational stuff such as bags, stationary, textbooks and uniforms.

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

BOOK DONATION CAMPAIGN
In our continuous efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, the Department of Business Administration has endeavoured on donating a huge number of books to libraries across Babylon, and one of these libraries was our own library that had its share of donated books. The donated books varied in their genre from textbooks to short stories and novels.

AWAWARENESS CAMPAIGNS
To ensure that our audience is aware of the importance of learning and its role in the development of the society, numerous awareness campaigns were undertaken by the staff and students of MUC.
- I have the right to learn
- Aims and ways to learn English language by using modern means
- Urging students to develop reading and writing skills
- An awareness campaign to distribute brochures (readiness to teach)

LECTURES, SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS ABOUT LEARNING AND ITS IMPORTANCE
- A lecture to introduce the safe handling of laboratory chemicals
- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Field of Education Development
- Methodology of scientific research and the mechanism of writing graduation projects
- Education for Sustainable Development: Challenges and Opportunities
- Improving students’ learning styles
- Develop thinking skills
- Develop computer science software to develop students’ capabilities in using computers and technology
- Distance learning and education between need and effectiveness
- What is the mammogram device for simple X-ray mammography?
- How to use modern methods in learning English
- English language skills
RECOGNISING WOMEN’S ROLE IN SOCIETY THROUGH THE CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

The role of women in our society and their contributions was celebrated by our students and staff through organizing the celebration of international women’s day on the 8th of March this year. The celebrations were organised by the Women Empowering Unit at MUC. Several women from our staff were recognized for their achievements and contribution to MUC. These leading women figures were donated with a certificate of gratitude by the Deanship.

HUMAN COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Interpersonal communication is the interaction and exchange of information between two or more people. This can be verbal and/or non-verbal communication. Effective interpersonal communication skills are required to form connections and establish relationships. This workshop has encouraged woman through finding her voice, identify and build her strength, whilst also equipping her with the skills and tools required to address any weaknesses and become a more effective communicator demonstrating confidence, composure, and credibility.

YOU DESERVE TO BE STRONGER

The best self-defense strategies and techniques work equally well for men and women, but let’s face it: Women really need them because they’re assaulted more often than men. Statistics indicate that one in three women will be the victim of some type of violent attack in her lifetime. Women also endure more incidents of verbal and sexual harassment. Although most women’s self-defense courses focus on skills for quickly and efficiently destroying an attacker, self-defense training also should include methods for preventing a confrontation from turning physical in the first place. A series of training sessions were given to female students in order to increase their self-defense capabilities in the face of any aggression.

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL FAIR FOR GIRLS IN ICT DAY

With technology playing a role in all kinds of careers, from art and history to law, primary teaching, and graphic design, learning tech skills at a young age will set girls up for economic independence. In addition, the ICT sector needs more girls and women.

We have celebrated this important day on the 24th of April by organizing the first Fair for girls in the field of information and communication technology (ICT).

The event was attended by several women figures in the ICT field, NGOs, and the IEEE Chapter representative in Iraq. The fair included workshops on entrepreneurship, information technology, and projects for the students of the Computer Technology Engineering Department, which contribute to the goals of sustainable development. This fair was well received and appreciated by all the participants for the distinguished efforts and presentation of MUC and its keenness to make this technology available to everyone to build stronger societies and economies.

ENDING VIOLENCE & DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Violence negatively affects women’s general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society. It impacts their families, their community, and the country at large. It has tremendous costs, from greater strains on health care to legal expenses and losses in productivity.

Focusing on these negative impacts, MUC has held a symposium on this important topic. Inviting female speakers that well-known activists against violence against women.

THE ANNUAL WOMEN’S BAZAAR

Talented women can create a successful environment. Women have made great strides in all walks of life. Some of them have done well in the corporate world and have risen to leadership positions in some of the largest companies across the world. Though women start their careers with the same level of skills and education as their male counterparts, only a few of them rise to the top echelons. Hence, we have taken the initiative to organise an annual bazaar for women who have handmade products to commercialise. The bazaar which witnessed the participation of several women from our staff and students such as knitting, embroidery, cooking, painting on glass and mini objects. The idea of the bazaar came to support the talented women to develop and benefit from them to communicate and empower young people with small projects to market their products and obtain customers.
SUSTAINABLE WATER PRACTICES ON CAMPUS

Water conservation has been adopted by MUC through a number of fundamental activities. These can be listed as follows:

- **Water conservation policy**
  Al-Mustaqbal University College (MUC) has set a policy that requires both staff and students to follow in order to achieve the sole purpose of this policy, water conservation.

- **Water conservation appliances**
  Water appliances with motion sensing capabilities have been used widely throughout the campus. These appliances have been distributed to all W/C units within the campus. These water conservation appliances are censored water faucets (CF), water conserving flushing basins (FB) that use 1.6 gallons of water per flush and shut-off shower sprays (SOSS) that use a valve to control the spray.

- **Drought tolerant vegetation**
  Increasing green areas require increased amounts of water for its irrigation. Citing the water conservation policy and its implementation, the Engineering Unit has endeavoured on using sprinkler irrigation systems to provide a sufficient irrigation process with the least amount of water

- **Continuous maintenance procedures**
  The engineering Unit is determined on implementing the water conservation policy. Therefore, it conducts regular maintenance campaigns on the buildings' water pipelines, tanks, and fittings.

Constant procedures are being conducted to check for the existence of leaks, major or minor. This procedure is done through regularly checking the meters on each building in which it provides the Engineering Unit with data that enables to isolate the leaks and fix them.

- **Water conservation campaigns, events and workshops.**
  Al-Mustaqbal University College has been a major player in leading water conservation campaigns on and off campus. Signs that encourage water conservation near water fountains and W/C units in all buildings are installed. In addition, numerous campaigns lead by staff members and students addressing the need to reduce water consumption and cleaning water sources were conducted.

- **Water sustainability & climate change**
  Everyone can play a role in helping to save water and fight climate change. From taking a shorter shower or washing at a lower temperature, small changes add up to make a big impact. Activities like this demonstrate our strong belief that adapting to the water-related effects of climate change will protect health and save lives. Changing the way we use water will help reduce floods and droughts, prevent water scarcity and support the fight against climate change. The science is clear: We cannot afford to wait. The time for positive action to save water and protect our climate is now.

  The first scientific forum was held under the title (Water Sustainability and Climate Changes). The forum included three scientific themes:
  - The first theme: climate change in light of the outcomes of the Glasgow Conference COP26. This theme was introduced by Prof. Dr. Ali Al-Lami, consultant, and an expert for environmental and climate change issues in Prime Minister’s office.
  - The second theme: preventive water policy and it was introduced by Prof. Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim, Senior Political Consultant in the Ministry of Water Resources.
  - The third theme: hydrology assessment for Iraqi water security and was presented by Prof. Dr. Kadhim Al-Ta’ey, Former Dean in Mosul University.

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
CLEAN ENERGY TRANSFORMATION IN OUR CAMPUS

Sunlight is one of our planet’s most abundant and freely available source of energy. The amount of solar energy that reaches the earth’s surface in a single hour is more than the planet’s total energy needs for a year. Although it sounds like a perfect renewable energy source, the amount of solar energy we can use varies according to the time of day and the season of the year as well as geographical location. Clean energy sources are those that do not release pollutants like carbon dioxide, and green energy is that which comes from natural sources.

Iraq is blessed with long seasons of sunlight exposure; therefore, using this clean energy source is a good alternative to depending on the electrical national grid. MUC’s clean energy team are leading the endeavour to transform all our energy needs from the sun. The department of HVAC and the energy research centre at MUC have introduced several clean and sustainable energy projects through the utilization of many solar and wind energy units. To this day, 34% of our energy has been produced using solar energy. However, we are aiming to transform 70% of our energy consumption to clean energy by 2030.

We have transformed around 58% of our buildings on campus to smart buildings through depending on energy efficient appliances such as LED lights, eco-friendly building design that utilize the maximum amount of natural light and air circulation, using double glazing for all the university windows which reduces about 70% of energy wastage. In addition, all A/C units fitted in the campus are inverter A/C types that reduce energy consumption by 20%.

CENTRE FOR CLEAN ENERGY RESEARCH (CCER)

CCER is our dynamic force for sustainable energy research and our transformation endeavour to cleaner energy sources. The research activities that are conducted by the CCER are as follows:

- Conduct directed research in emerging energy technologies and system integration.
- Proof of concept of emerging energy technologies and systems.
- Demonstrate energy technologies and systems in Iraq and support their local industrialization and commercialization.
- Conduct directed research on how to optimally design, build and operate cost-efficient, reliable, and sustainable energy systems.
- Find optimal pathways for the expansion and operation of energy systems through modelling and simulation.
- Provide policymakers with a scientifically based analysis of market design and regulatory concepts for the integration of new energy technologies.

OUR CLEAN ENERGY OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

As part of our public outreach programmes that are concerned with providing clean energy, we have extended our impact to reach rural areas which are struggling to secure their basic energy requirements. A number of clean energy appliances were installed in these regions, such as:

- Installing a solar dish collector and the energy research centre at MUC.
- Starting a water heater powered by solar power to a number of buildings in Babylon Province such as the Shrine of Prophet Abraham.
- Organizing an awareness campaign on the use of solar energy.
- Installing an irrigation system powered by solar energy. The system was first installed in the gardens of MUC to see its feasibility and efficiency in providing irrigation without consuming energy.
- Since its success, it has been installed in a number of farms located in rural areas surrounding MUC.
- Production of hydrogen from refinery off-gas.

INNOVATIVE ENERGY PROJECTS

As part of our motivation towards the transformation to cleaner energy, our staff at the departments of HVAC and chemical engineering and petroleum industries are continuously encouraging undergraduate senior students to undertake project that will have a positive impact on cleaner energy applications. Many applicable projects have been conducted and are listed below:

- Development of a novel solar dish collector.
- Thermal energy storage device based on phase changing materials.
- A cooling system based on energy recovered from automobile exhaust gases.
- Solar photovoltaic power system using solar panels prepared from recycled materials.
- Manufacturing of an Eco Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration system.
- Production of hydrogen from refinery off-gas.

AL-MUSTAQBAL’S FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESEARCH

In the light of the World’s energy day, MUC has celebrated this day by holding its forum for sustainable energy research. This year’s event slogan was “Investment of Clean Energy is Our Route towards Sustainable Development”. This Forum, indeed, represents an opportunity to raise awareness about energy and its importance, in addition to investigating the challenges that might face this sector to ensure the provision of safe and sustainable energy for all. Besides, there is a necessity to work on developing national policies that could reflect the global energy perspective. Influential personalities in the energy sector have participated in this event.

Representatives from Ministries of Oil, Electricity and Environment, in addition to Researchers and Academics as well as owners of companies specialized in the field of energy. Diverse topics were discussed including, challenges of renewable energy transformation, biogas as a clean energy source, green hydrogen fuel cells, and ToF energy applications.

The attendees have mainly focused on discussing the applications of renewable energy and the type of threats that might face such utilizations. Also, the event has witnessed a significant contribution from our undergraduate students through exhibiting their clean energy projects.
SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN NEED TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN BUSINESS
Securing a small business that would ensure that there is a near steady flow of income is a priority to any individual. Therefore, supporting local small business projects in our local community has been in the forefront of our actions in achieving SDG8. MUC has supported a number of small projects to provide an opportunity to those small business owners to help their families to live with dignity and integrity.

Helping out a barber’s shop was one of the businesses that were supported by MUC. The support was made through presenting the business’ feasibility study and providing funding to refurbish a small shop and buying the tools required. A team from the department of Business administration will follow up the shop’s progress and provide business advice on the way. We are proud to announce that this business owner is on his way to open his second barber’s shop.

Another business was supported by the same team, but this time it is a small nursing clinic in a poor rural area near MUC. The business owner is a widow with three children whom she reached out to MUC to support her. The support has included refurbishing a new place for the clinic, providing the business with its necessary equipment and tools, and presenting the business with the feasibility study for the clinic. In addition, constant advice was given to the business owner to ensure the success of such a clinic.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP (INTILAQ)
This project aims to provide benefit to Iraqi university students and build awareness of what it takes to achieve a solid future for the private sector in Iraq, by focusing heavily on entrepreneurship, innovation, leadership and teamwork.

This year, the project was launched with the organization of training courses on entrepreneurship for trainers targeting university professors and partners from the private sector, and this will be followed by holding basic workshops in seven governorates. MUC was one of the competitors this year. To boost the skill of business management and marketing, MUC has created an extensive competition for its student entrepreneurs. Those who have a business idea that they would like to make it a reality. The competition consists of a number of students that share their own business ideas and then enter an extensive series of workshops to enable them to create their own business. These students will then enter the INTILAQ competition and share their progress in forming their own business. This competition is created in cooperation with GIZ organization.

ANNUAL MUC CAREER FAIR
This annual event is held in January of each year. This year, the fair has shown an outstanding participation from a wide range of private companies, private banks, investors in the private sector, the Iraqi Union of Engineers, and more than 40 interdisciplinary bodies. The fair has represented a great opportunity for many fresh graduates to directly connect with their possible future employers.

The participating firms presented to our students a brief about their activities and achievements in the local market. In addition, they provided our graduates and senior students an idea about the firms’ work atmosphere and what are the benefits of joining them. Other firms have offered free professional CV writing sessions in order to make our graduates preferred by their future employers. The fair resulted in 75 job opportunities and internships for our graduates in many interdisciplinary backgrounds.

PROGRAMMES FOR TRAINING OUR FRESH GRADUATES
In response to the market’s need of skilled fresh graduates, MUC has endeavoured upon providing its freshly graduated students with extensive workshops to enhance their skills. We can list a short list of these workshops as follows:

- Training fresh graduates before starting their career
- How to write a professional CV
- Entrepreneurship and Its application in The Labour Market
- Pioneering projects and business incubators and their benefits for establishing student and graduate projects.
- Innovation course for project managers and businesswomen.

OUR GRADUATES ARE OUR PRIDE
During the past years we have pledged to employ many of our graduates who have shown enthusiasm and passion towards their field of study. Tens of our graduates were employed in different disciplines. These freshly graduated students are trained to work as technicians in our laboratories.

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
OUR SUSTAINABLE INNOVATIONS
Numerous innovations were created by our research teams in several scientific fields. These are as follows:

- Manufacture of a device for calculating the thermal expansion coefficient for metals
- Fabrication of a convective heat transfer device inside a circular tube using a short, twisted bar
- Magnetic Mixer Design
- Design and manufacture of joint models for a prosthetic foot
- **Smart Blind stick**
- Numerical investigation to add a personal ventilation system in addition to the hybrid ventilation system inside isolated office rooms
- Experimental study of the mechanical properties of Nano composite materials using multi-metal Nano/epoxy powder
- Manufacture of a smart system to monitor the performance of air conditioners
- Three-dimensional stereoscopic design that shows the method of converting solid waste into electrical energy.

WHEELCHAIR CONTROLLING SYSTEM USING BRAIN COMPUTER INTERFACE
A commercial consumer-grade device that emerged in response to the limiting factors associated with stationary research-grade systems was the Emotiv EPOC. The EPOC headset is much more affordable; as of fall 2021, the newer 14-channel version of the Emotiv EPOC.

These headsets boast much quicker and easier installation and removal times of 3–5 min, in addition to being wireless. This device also has low weight and a battery life of up to 12 hours. Such devices have the advantage of being more user and consumer friendly.

In this project, a *research team* from the department of Biomedical Engineering successfully utilised the mentioned headset in controlling a miniature wheelchair. This would be a practical pilot study for using this innovation on a large-scale wheelchair for aiding disabled people. Using this device would help in moving wheelchairs with the impulses from the brain. The scientific concept behind this development is transferring the collected data received from the brain to an electrical signal in which moves the motors on the wheelchair. The communication platform was made using an ARDUINO programme.
MORE INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE STRATEGY

A part of our belief in strengthening our society by adopting concrete strategy that targets the achievement of zero discrimination and racism. Hence, we have developed policies to include all backgrounds and ethnicities through all our procedures within the campus such as employment, student acceptance, student support, etc. Furthermore, we have given greater consideration to vulnerable people such as children, elderly people, disabled people, widows and divorcees. Due to wars and terrorism, we have increasing ended up with thousands of orphans and homeless individuals.

In response to all these concerns, we have developed several programmes that are interconnected to tackle the core of these issues. Such programmes include, providing full care for orphan homes, and elderly people. This support was extensive and ranged from supplying these homes with their basic needs (food, clothes, appliances...etc.). We have another programme that focuses on training and teaching orphans to enable them to reach a good equality with their counterparts.

SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

The abilities and needs of autistic people vary and can evolve over time. While some people with autism can live independently, others have severe disabilities and require lifelong care and support. Autism often has an impact on education and employment opportunities. It is estimated that worldwide about one in 100 children has autism. This estimate represents an average figure, and reported prevalence varies substantially across studies. Staff and students from the Department of Anesthesia Techniques have organized a voluntary campaign that included donations, gifts, and mental support for the Autistic children in Babylon province. In addition, the Student Activity Division has organized a series of awareness campaigns informing people about the needs of autistic people and the best methods to address them.

ENABLING ORPHANS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Orphan Support is a comprehensive child development program set to provide a stable socio-economic environment for registered beneficiaries in order to ensure they grow up to be productive members of society. The Student Activity Division, as part of a series of volunteer work, held a ceremony honouring the families of orphans and martyrs, by distributing winter clothes to them, as clothes were distributed to more than 150 people who were present during the celebration. MUC is keen to remember the families of the martyrs on a regular basis, and grants were distributed to a number of people who had incurable diseases and conditions. Furthermore, wheelchairs were distributed to people with disabilities. The aim of this activity is to draw a smile on the faces of these families, whose members sacrificed themselves for their country.

CARD FOR ELDERLY CENTRES

We have taken care of our elderly by visiting their homes and providing them with all kinds of support to make them feel that they are not forgotten. The support has included clothes, food products, and some needed medical equipment. Furthermore, planting campaigns to make the gardens of these homes flourish with flowers and evergreen trees were conducted.

OUR SUPPORTING PROGRAMMES

These include the following:

- **Food & Subsistence** (includes financial assistance, food packages and hygiene kits)
- **Education** (includes school fee, books, and school supplies)
- **Health** (includes medical check-ups and referrals for specialist when needed)
- **Social Uplift** (includes extracurricular and group activities and celebration of National days)
- **Child Protection Rights** (includes home and school visits to ensure the child’s safety and provide intervention where needed)
- **Providing the children that are in need with school wear and uniforms**.

Reduce inequality within and among countries
PROJECT OF RISK ASSESSMENT FOR A FOOTBALL STADIUM
A research team from the department of Building & Construction Techniques have conducted an extensive project to assess and evaluate the risks accompanying the construction works of any football stadium. Simple model is adopted in assessing risks such that it is easy to be understood and modified in contrast with the complex models that produce misleading. Sharing, mitigation and accepting risk are strategies adopted in the final assessment. The objective that this study serves is to identify the cost needed for the whole project from the stage of design to the finishing works. The study was very important to provide information to the contractor (a private company) and made confidence in that the estimated cost and time needed for achieving the objectives of the project are realistic and based on sound information. The most important problem was the likelihood of delay, which, in the worst case will lead to dramatic increasing in costs. The study shows that risks at construction projects carried by many parties found to be changing according to internal or external changes and the change of priorities can be seen by simulating changes in ranking in each case.

THE TRANSFORMATION TO SMART CITIES
A smart city is a municipality that uses information and communication technologies (ICT) to increase operational efficiency, share information with the public and improve both the quality of government services and citizen welfare. While the exact definition varies, the overarching mission of a smart city is to optimize city functions and drive economic growth while improving quality of life for its citizens using smart technology and data analysis. In response to this issue, we have organized a scientific seminar discussing this step of transforming our cities to sustainable smart cities. This seminar was given by the consultant to the prime minister of Iraq for science and technology Mr. Zaid maki.

APPLICATION OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES
A scientific workshop entitled (Basic Concepts of Sustainable Buildings) and the main objective of this workshop was to identify the benefit of sustainable buildings in terms of preserving the gains of the natural environment, providing a great deal of protection for them, and working to stop the bleeding of non-renewable energy and create an appropriate and clean environment. Orientation to green buildings or sustainable construction may help in various areas of environmental protection and is also important in saving energy consumption on a daily basis because it is one of the trends that work to reduce consumption and exploit the sun, climatic factors and the surrounding environment in supporting lighting, ventilation and limiting electrical devices used inside the building. At the end of the workshop, some concepts were discussed and questions and inquiries raised by the participants were answered. In addition, several cleaning campaigns have been conducted for the green spaces in Babylon province.

CENTRE FOR SEISMOLOGY & EARTHQUAKE RESEARCH (CSER)
Recently, the phenomenon of earthquakes has been repeated in Iraq, some of which have become a frightening concern for citizens, especially as some of them cause the collapse of old buildings and break windows. Neighboring countries, especially Iran and Turkey, are constantly witnessing earthquakes and tremors, which is reflected in Iraq through aftershocks, especially in the areas close to the border strip. At MUC, we have established a research centre which consists of a number of researchers and experts in the field of seismology led by the Department of Building and Construction Techniques. The team has successfully addressed several earthquakes concern for Iraq. Such concerns including the development of the required standards and specifications of buildings and structures to resist the stresses of earthquakes.

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
OUR RECYCLING POLICY
In the path for a sustainable campus, Al-Mustaqbal University College is taking further steps to cement its position on sustainability. Waste management is an important step towards sustainable development; therefore, a policy should be made to manage waste produced by the campus’s facilities. This policy consists of several fundamentals that require both staff and students to follow for achieving a waste free campus. These fundamentals are:

- Waste recycling
- Paper use reduction
- Plastic use reduction and compost
- Research in waste management

SORTING WASTE AT MUC
As part of our procedures to manage the waste generated on campus and to ease the process of recycling, separate bins are used to sort out four types of waste. These types of waste are glass, paper, plastic, and food leftovers. These separating bins are distributed around the campus to ensure that waste is sorted.

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

CENTRE FOR LOW-CARBON CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
This centre for low-carbon construction materials (LCCM) is managed by a team of researchers from the Department of Building & Construction Techniques. It represents the corner stone of our strategy towards full utilisation of waste materials in creating green innovative construction materials.

The centre has worked on many research areas in which we can list some of them as follows:

- Using brick waste as course and fine aggregate in producing light-weight concrete.
- Using ceramic waste to produce green concrete.
- Using rubber crumb to produce pavement products.
- Utilisation of concrete waste as coarse and fine aggregate as a replacement to natural aggregate.
- Production of lightweight concrete using polystyrene waste.
- Using concrete waste as coarse aggregate in producing green permeable concrete (no-fines concrete).
- Using concrete waste in producing permeable pavement.
- Using shredded plastic waste as fibre in producing concrete.

PAPERLESS EXAMS
In response to the obligation of digital transformation, we have set several procedures to achieve this obligation. We recently have transformed around 30% of our exams and assessments to digital paperless exams to reduce the use of massive amounts of papers. MUC fully supports paperless system to reduce paper in daily workplace. Recycling paper reduces methane and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Solutions of reusable paper in back office, e.g., using 2-side of paper, minimize the hard copy as you can print two notes instead of one per side by dividing the paper properly, always recheck your data before print, use online system instead of hard copy. MUC recently brought a new way to reduce the usage of paper by software programs i.e., the hardcopy of the communications between the department and units were replaced by electronic communications to be saved in the headquarter computers and hard disks. Also, the registration of the new students is now an online registration.

PROGRAMMES TO INCREASE RECYCLING AND RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION
Numerous programmes focusing on strengthening the culture of recycling and its environmental benefits have been implemented. We can list a number of these programmes as follows:

- Several awareness campaigns of recycling different materials such as polymers and plastics.
- Workshops that dealt with an introduction to the recycling processes of various materials and ways to recycle them using modern methods.
- Studies on utilising solid agricultural waste to remove heavy metals from ground water.
- We have transformed our campus to zero-plastic bags and the only bags used are recycled paper bags. Furthermore, to spread the use of paper bags off-campus, MUC has distributed thousands of such bags to numerous shops and markets in the city of Al-Hilla.
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS EFFECTS ON IRAQ

Iraq is at high risk of suffering the worst effects of the climate crisis, including soaring temperatures and acute water scarcity. In 2019, a UN report classed Iraq as the world’s fifth most vulnerable country in terms of availability of water and food, and exposure to extreme temperatures. Temperatures in the country are increasing up to seven times faster than the global average, while annual rainfall is predicted to decrease by 9 per cent by 2050. At the same time, the country faces a rate of population growth that is twice the global average, at 2.25 per cent a year; its population is set to reach 50 million by 2030 and 70 million by 2050.

In response to this substantial concern, we have adopted an anti-climate change policy. This policy consists of three concepts which includes:

- Reaching 45% lower carbon emissions on campus by 2030 and net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- Extensive programmes to increase green areas/plantations on and off campus.
- Energy conservation and the transformation towards clean energy usage.

MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE ON A LOCAL SCALE

As a part of our adaptation to the climate change phenomenon, we have developed extensive planting campaigns to mitigate the effects of desertification on a local scale. These campaigns include:

- A campaign to plant multiple types of flowers and evergreen trees on campus.
- Planting campaign inside the vocational Education Department in Babylon.
- Donation of evergreen plants and flowers in the gardens of elderly homes.
- Marking the day for combating desertification, our staff and students have targeted numerous areas to plant evergreen trees.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

During the last couple of years, MUC has conducted numerous seminars, workshops, and awareness campaigns to meet the huge demand for raising the knowledge of climate change risks and the means to combat them. We can list a number of them as follows:

- Workshop about combatting dust storms.
- Awareness campaign on campus about protecting the environment.
- An awareness campaign about the damages of Freon gas to the ozone layer.
- Distribute awareness brochures to students about plastic waste.
- Possible approaches to combat desertification.
- An awareness campaign on how to preserve the ecological system.
- An awareness campaign in the ancient city of Babylon about how to maintain a clean environment and its benefits.
- Deterioration of the ozone layer and global warming.
- The right to a safe climate between reality and challenges.

OUR GREEN AREAS

Creating an environment that would benefit our students is a goal that we are eager to achieve. Al-Mustaqbal University College pays great attention to vegetation because it has a great impact on purifying the atmosphere and reducing global warming. According to the above, the College has its strategy of planting empty spaces with palm trees and plants with little water consumption in order to conserve water.

Our green areas have increased in size and magnitude triple fold since the establishment of our campus. Green loan and evergreen trees were distributed around the total campus area. In addition, palm trees were also given a priority since it is the Iraqi national tree. Total area on campus for water absorption besides the forest and planted vegetation is 223535 m².

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
BOOSTING LIFE UNDERWATER OF HILLA RIVER

On the occasion of the International Day of Illegal Fishing, Al-Mustaqbal University College launched 100,000 fish in Shatt al-Hilla. The University’s Future College launched 100,000 fish in Shatt al-Hilla, with its contribution in order to revive and supplement the fish wealth, as illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing undermines efforts aimed at preserving and managing fish stocks and consequently impedes progress towards achieving the goals of sustainability and responsibility in the long run.

Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing also severely harms fishers who act responsibly, faithfully and in accordance with the terms of their fishing permits, threatening marine biodiversity and the food security of communities that depend on fisheries resources as a source of protein.

According to FAO data, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing causes huge financial losses of seafood from the seas every year, representing one out of every five fish sold. It also particularly weakens small-scale fisheries and contributes significantly to food insecurity.

It is noteworthy that fisheries are an important source of food, employment, entertainment, trade and economy throughout the world, and fish have emerged as an important commodity in achieving global food security.

WILDLIFE SANCTUARY AT MUC

The Wildlife Sanctuary at MUC was established in 2020 for students and the community to observe the local biodiversity. The main idea for establishing such a sanctuary was to provide a safe environment for rare animals to flourish and to protect them from the brink of extinction.

It represents a home to diverse species such as Iraqi Deer, coyotes, rabbits, desert fox, monkeys, and thoroughbred Arabic horses. In addition, the sanctuary also is a home to some bird species such as ostrich, pigeons, and peacocks. Furthermore, beehives were distributed across the green areas to further the rewilding action at MUC.

CARE FOR BIRDS

We have extended our care for wildlife to be inclusive of birds that nest on trees. An extensive campaign was conducted to distribute bird nests, feeders, and water containers on the trees around MUC.

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
TRAINING FOR DATA PROTECTION AND ICT LAW IN IRAQ

This course reviews basic concepts concerning data protection based on a theoretical analysis of privacy in the 21st century and the Iraqi regulations, particularly given the exceptional circumstances that arose within the context of the recent Covid-19 pandemic. Furthermore, more specified issues were addressed, including, but not limited to, the protection of digital rights, the implementation of the principle of accountability, the one-stop shop, the coherence mechanism, and the powers of data protection authorities to implement the provisions.

The aim of the course is to provide our stakeholders on both levels (internal and external) with the necessary theoretical knowledge of Iraqi law about the issue of personal data protection and its practical application. In addition, to provide them with comprehensive knowledge of the General Data Protection Regulation, and other Iraqi legal rules governing data protection.

ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICY AT MUC

A number of policies were legislated for the sake of supporting strong institutional framework. MUC is a self-governing institution under public administration of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR). One of the key policies that we have legislated is the anti-corruption policy. This policy states MUC’s vision is to be a world-class college for the advancement of Humanity. Our core values are integrity, transparency, accountability, passion for excellence, devotion to duty, and social fairness. This vision and the core values are incompatible with the scourge of corruption.

Therefore, the College is fully committed to waging war against corruption in all its manifestations, by all our resolutions, actions, and practice, and to emotive forestall, any illegal attempt carried out by any person or entity within our college or during engaging with our external stakeholder’s. In addition, The College has no tolerance for bribery and fraud and will take appropriate action to prevent it in respect of its activities.

ELLELECTION OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

To ensure that Student Representatives will mirror the views of their wider peer group, they are elected to their positions.

Elections take place in the first month of the academic year through direct nominations and elections. Student Representatives usually serve for one academic year.

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

SPREADING THE KNOWLEDGE OF PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS

As a part of our duties and vision as an academic institution, social justice, peace and robust institutions remain central to our programmes and purpose. Therefore, we have widened our programmes for raising and spreading key targets of SDG16. These programmes are as follows:

- A seminar entitled (Legislative Orientation in the Framework of International Private Relations).
- Seminar entitled (Criminal responsibility for transgressing of public roads)
- Seminar entitled (The Legality of Human Cloning)
- Seminar entitled (Constitutional and International Guarantees for Human Rights)
- Seminar entitled (Consumer Protection in Cyberspace)
- A seminar entitled (Provisions for granting citizenship to a child born to an Iraqi woman abroad)
- An awareness campaign to combat the phenomenon of the online extortion

ANTI-CORRUPTION LAWS & POLICIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ AND ITS EFFICACY IN REDUCING CORRUPTION

Course Aims

This course aims to use the law as the basis for understanding anti-corruption by examining public policy and the different strategies used by the public sector, private sector, and civil society to prevent and eradicate corrupt practices.

Register Now

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PARTNERSHIPS ON A GLOBAL SCALE

Our commitment to achieving the Sustainability Development Goals paved the way to maximize our partnerships on an international scale. These global partnerships reflect our shared belief in creating a realistic approach to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. Hence, we have collaborated with diverse partners such as higher educational institutions, research centres, international organisations, and international unions. To list a few:

- In collaboration with Altinbaş University, we jointly held the 1st International Conference for Achieving the Sustainability Development Goals. The event brought together the latest thoughts, and developments that have been made towards SDGs. A total of more than 120 research articles in different topics that cover most of the SDGs.
- This academic year, we are proud to become a member of the CAMPUS+ partners. This partnership provides access to publishing schedules which enables to create a rich library of content.
- FAO and MUC have jointly held Al-Mustaqbal’s Forum for sustainable agriculture.
- A protocol was signed with the representative of IETEC to support the coming engineering conferences and to increase the global engagement in research.

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

COLLABORATIONS WITH THE ARAB AND MIDDLE EAST REGION

As part of our commitment to extend our collaborations in the Arabic and the Middle eastern region, we have successfully made several collaborations to attain the sustainable development goals in the region. The collaboration themes were diverse in their nature and targeted several aspects in which are related to the sustainability development goals, such as, climate change, energy conservation, carbon neutrality. These collaborations are as follows:

- Union of Arabic Universities
- The American University in Lebanon
- University of Zaytoonah/ Jordan
- The Gulf University in Bahrain
- Union of Arab Engineers
- Amman Private University

COLLABORATIONS ON A NATIONAL LEVEL

In the last year, we were busy with reaffirming the belief that achieving the sustainable development goals are only achieved by the collaboration of so many people. Our national collaboration has addressed various sustainability aspects through cross-sectoral partnerships which represents our central pillar to achieve the SDGs. We have ensured that our engagement was with government institutions, and civil society organizations. MUC has committed to establishing an effective mechanism to enhance all stake holder’s engagement. Through our partnerships, we have ensured that all engagements are meaningful, inclusive, and deliberative. On a national scale, we have made several partnerships in which we can list as follows:

- ACADEMIC COLLABORATIONS:
  - Al-Furat Al-Awsat Technical University (ATU)
  - We have jointly held with ATU and Altinbaş Universities, the 1st International Conference for Achieving the SDGs. The 2nd conference will be held next year in February with its concern to be climate change.
  - Al-Hayyan University
  - University of Technology
  - Jabir Ibn Hayyan Medical University
  - University of Ninavah,
  - Northern Technical University

- COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL GOVERNMENTAL BODIES
  - Ministry of Agriculture
  - Ministry of Science and Technology
  - Ministry of Oil
  - Ministry of Planning
  - Ministry of Health & the Environment
  - Ministry of Water Resources
  - Ministry of Electricity
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