



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2025 – 2026

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION CENTRE**

Gulf University | Kingdom of Bahrain

**Director: Dr. Marwan Milhem**

Tel: +973 17620092 ext. 507 | Academic Year 2025–2026



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### **Message From the Director of Community Engagement Centre at Gulf university**

At Gulf University, our Community Engagement & Continuing Learning Center is dedicated to bridging the gap between academia and the Bahraini community. By prioritizing sustainability in all our initiatives, we strive to create a lasting impact that benefits both current and future generations. Community engagement, lifelong learning, and scientific research are foundational pillars that allow us to address societal challenges while fostering a culture of continuous improvement and environmental responsibility.

Through diverse training programs, public outreach, and collaborative projects, our center empowers individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in a rapidly changing world. By embracing sustainable practices, we not only enhance the employability and awareness of Bahraini citizens but also contribute to creating a more resilient, forward-thinking society. Gulf University is committed to advancing the social and environmental well-being of our community, ensuring that our graduates and community members are equipped to lead and innovate in ways that protect our shared future.

Join us in strengthening communities and shaping tomorrow.

**Dr. Marwan Milhem Director, Community Engagement & Continuing Learning Center**

## About Community Engagement and Continuing Education Center

Community Engagement and continuous Education Center is committed to establish avenues in building meaningful relation with the community in order to contribute to the social and economic development of Bahrain. The center is keen to engage effectively with industry and community through providing training programs, social engagement, volunteering services and activities, join research towards finding solutions for the industry needs and challenges, offering university facilities and infrastructure for use. The center undertakes collaborative initiatives to support creative pursuits and raise the awareness of the community to become responsible citizen who can compete in evolving socio-economic challenges.

### Vision

The Community Engagement and Continuing Learning Center seeks to foster effective community engagement through establishing partnership with industry and community and continuous training in all disciplines for outreach and social impact driven by the needs of the community.

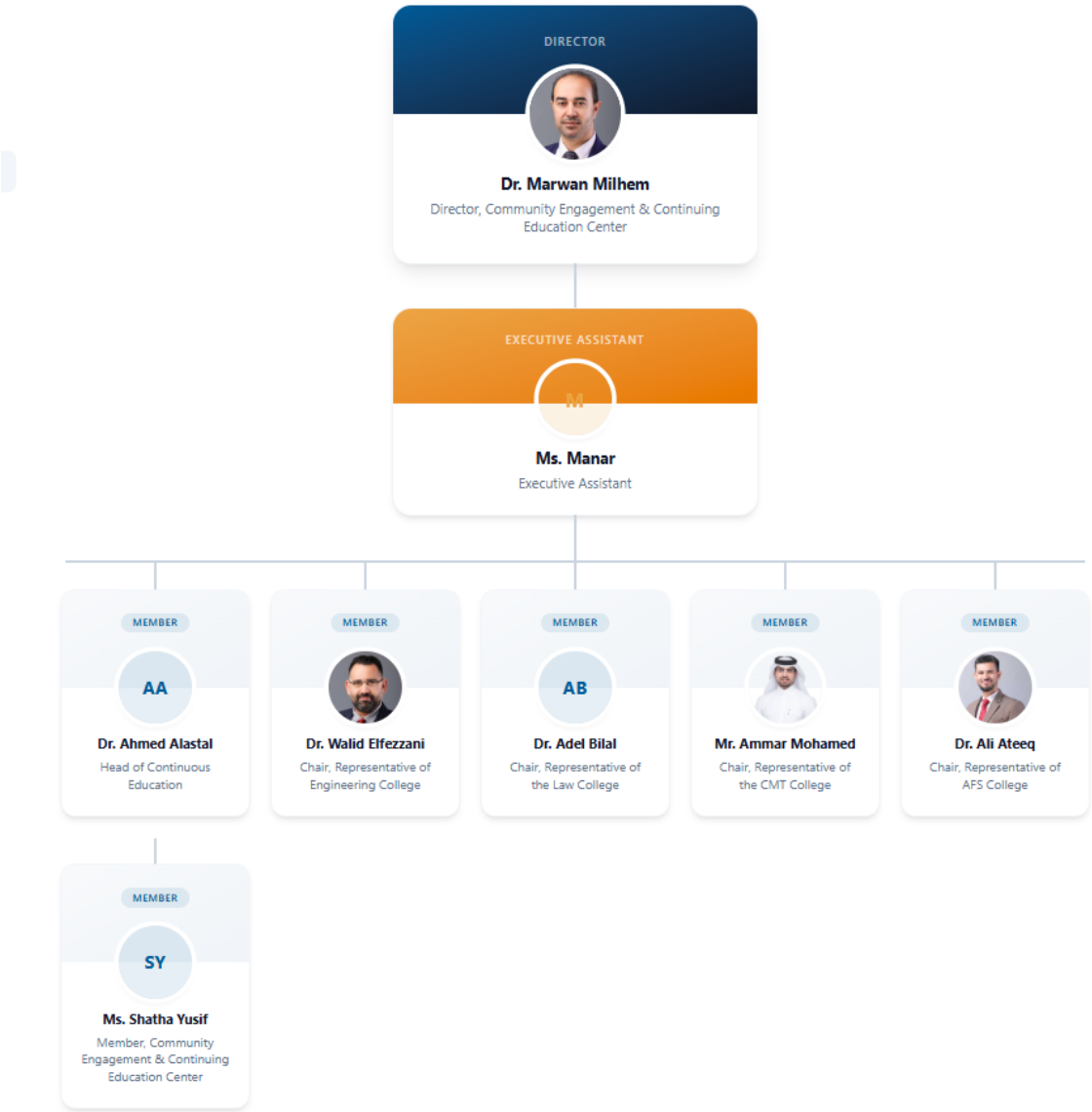
### Mission

The Community Engagement and Continuing Learning Centre vows to cultivate a culture of community engagement through constructive community partnership. The center promotes knowledge and experience sharing for continuous learning of our students, graduates and larger community and impactful services for the community based on the identified needs. The center supports meaningful collaboration with industry and academia underpinned by the principle of social responsibility and sustainable development.

### Goals

- Support research that focuses on growth of academic and socio-economic prosperity within the Kingdom of Bahrain.
- Develop effective partnership with local industry and labor market to conduct joint research.
- Promote and support research activities among GU staff.
- Provide opportunities to researchers to publish and share their research findings.
- Commit to develop cooperation within community that includes both government and private sectors through partnership agreements.
- Develop cooperation with community sectors through partnership agreements.
- Offer various workshops and training programs to enhance knowledge and skills of community members.

## Chart members of Community Engagement and Continuing Education Center (CECEC)



# Executive Summary — CECEC 2025–2026

|                            |                                |                                   |                             |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 180+<br>Total Activities   | 124<br>Free Training Workshops | 1,291+<br>Community Beneficiaries | 14<br>SDGs Covered          |
| 9<br>Partner Organizations | 14<br>Industry Partnerships    | 19<br>Community Service Events    | 25 yrs<br>GU Silver Jubilee |

## Objectives & Achievement Status — All 7 Pillars

### Pillar Achievement vs. Target — 2025–2026

Volume of activities delivered per pillar in AY 2025–2026

| Category                            | Progress    | Count |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| P1: Training Workshops (workshops)  | <div></div> | 124   |
| P2: Donations & CSR (initiatives)   | <div></div> | 2     |
| P3: Resources & Facilities (events) | <div></div> | 3     |
| P4: Social Engagement (events)      | <div></div> | 16    |
| P5: Industry Collaboration (events) | <div></div> | 14    |
| P6: Community Services (events)     | <div></div> | 19    |
| P7: Languages Hub (events)          | <div></div> | 8     |

| Pillar                      | Target              | Achieved      | % Achievement | Status      |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| P1: Free Training Workshops | ≥95 workshops       | 124 workshops | 130%+         | EXCEEDED    |
| P2: Donations & CSR         | ≥1 initiative       | 2 initiatives | 200%          | EXCEEDED    |
| P3: Resources & Facilities  | ≥2 community events | 3 events      | 150%          | EXCEEDED    |
| P4: Social Engagement       | ≥8 events           | 15 events     | 187%          | EXCEEDED    |
| P5: Industry Collaboration  | ≥6 partnerships     | 14 activities | 233%          | EXCEEDED    |
| P6: Community Services      | ≥10 events          | 18 events     | 180%          | EXCEEDED    |
| P7: Languages Hub           | ≥3 programmes       | 8 events      | 266%          | EXCEEDED    |
| OVERALL                     | All objectives met  | All exceeded  | ~178% avg     | EXCEPTIONAL |



## SDG Contribution Chart — All Pillars Combined

### United Nations SDG Coverage Across CECEC 2025–2026 Activities

Number of CECEC pillars and events contributing to each SDG across AY 2025–2026

| Category                                      | Progress               | Count |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| SDG 3 — Good Health & Wellbeing               | <div><div></div></div> | 14    |
| SDG 4 — Quality Education                     | <div><div></div></div> | 15    |
| SDG 5 — Gender Equality                       | <div><div></div></div> | 4     |
| SDG 8 — Decent Work & Economic Growth         | <div><div></div></div> | 8     |
| SDG 9 — Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure | <div><div></div></div> | 6     |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities                 | <div><div></div></div> | 11    |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities & Communities     | <div><div></div></div> | 10    |
| SDG 13 — Climate Action                       | <div><div></div></div> | 4     |
| SDG 15 — Life on Land                         | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| SDG 16 — Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions | <div><div></div></div> | 10    |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships for the Goals           | <div><div></div></div> | 15    |

SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships) are the most comprehensively addressed goals — present across all 7 pillars. SDG 3 (Good Health) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) are the next strongest, reflecting CECEC's consistent commitment to health promotion and inclusive community engagement throughout the academic year.

## Pillar-by-Pillar Summary Cards

Each card below summarises the key metrics, objective, achievement status, and standout highlight for every CECEC pillar in AY 2025–2026.

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| P1 | <p><b>Pillar 1: Free Training Workshops</b></p> <p>📌 Objective: OB16.IN01 — Address community training needs</p> <p>🎯 Target: ≥95 workshops   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved: 124 workshops (130%+)</p> <p>📊 Activities: 124 workshops, 9 partners, 1,291+ beneficiaries</p> <p>🌐 SDGs: SDG 4, 8, 10, 16, 17</p> <p>★ Highlight: Open Prisons initiative grew to 58 workshops — largest ever; Ministry of Works reached 22 workshops in year 3</p>                            |
| P2 | <p><b>Pillar 2: Donations &amp; CSR</b></p> <p>📌 Objective: OB14.IN02 — Social responsibility activities</p> <p>🎯 Target: ≥1 CSR initiative   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved: 2 initiatives (200%)</p> <p>📊 Activities: 2 initiatives (Iftar Saim + Bamboo Distribution)</p> <p>🌐 SDGs: SDG 1, 2, 3, 10, 13, 15, 17</p> <p>★ Highlight: Iftar Saim: 700+ meals distributed to low-income workers; cross-border Saudi Arabia–Bahrain sustainability collaboration</p>          |
| P3 | <p><b>Pillar 3: Resources &amp; Facilities</b></p> <p>📌 Objective: OB16.IN03 — Increase community access to GU facilities</p> <p>🎯 Target: ≥2 facility events   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved: 3 events (150%)</p> <p>📊 Activities: 3 community events hosted at GU facilities</p> <p>🌐 SDGs: SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17</p> <p>★ Highlight: Facilities hosted for Bahrain Deaf Society (sign language), Tolerance Day ceremony &amp; Grandma Cinderella theatre</p>              |
| P4 | <p><b>Pillar 4: Social Engagement</b></p> <p>📌 Objective: OB16.IN02 — Foster community and social engagement</p> <p>🎯 Target: ≥8 events   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved: 15 events (187%)</p> <p>📊 Activities: 15 events across health, sports, culture &amp; environment</p> <p>🌐 SDGs: SDG 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17</p> <p>★ Highlight: 4 Bahrain Specialist Hospital health collaborations; Breast Cancer &amp; Diabetes awareness; President's Cup; Yalla Nemshi</p>  |
| P5 | <p><b>Pillar 5: Industry Collaboration</b></p> <p>📌 Objective: OB13.IN01 — Build meaningful industry partnerships</p> <p>🎯 Target: ≥6 partnerships   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved: 14 activities (233%)</p> <p>📊 Activities: 14 activities across government, industry &amp; healthcare</p> <p>🌐 SDGs: SDG 4, 8, 9, 11, 16, 17</p> <p>★ Highlight: MOUs signed with Bahrain Special Olympics &amp; Bahrain Strategic Planning Society; GARMCO visit; BSH partnership ×4</p> |
| P6 | <p><b>Pillar 6: Community Services</b></p> <p>📌 Objective: OB16.IN02 — Foster civic and community participation</p> <p>🎯 Target: ≥10 events   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Achieved: 18 events (180%)</p> <p>📊 Activities: 18 events + Prof. Dr. Firas 37 newspaper articles</p> <p>🌐 SDGs: SDG 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 16, 17</p> <p>★ Highlight: Silver Jubilee logo unveiled; Best Building Decoration 🏆 2nd consecutive year; Bahrainouna national collaboration</p>                    |

**Pillar 7: Languages Hub**

- 📌 Objective: OB21.IN03 — Activate Languages Hub & cultural programmes
- 🎯 Target: ≥3 programmes | ☒ Achieved: 8 events (266%)
- 📊 Activities: 8 events including international Russia-Chechnya programme
- 🌐 SDGs: [SDG 4](#), [10](#), [11](#), [13](#), [15](#), [16](#), [17](#)
- ★ Highlight: *Russian Language Day: 1-year anniversary; Bahraini Embassy Moscow visit; Chechen mountains expedition; GU podcast studio launch*

## Per-Pillar Activity & Theme Distribution Charts

### Pillar 1: Free Training Workshops — Partner Distribution

#### 2025–26 Workshops by Partner Organisation

Total: 124 workshops — 9 partner organisations — 1,291+ beneficiaries

| Category                               | Progress               | Count |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Ministry of Interior (Open Prisons)    | <div><div></div></div> | 58    |
| Ministry of Works                      | <div><div></div></div> | 22    |
| Ministry of Housing                    | <div><div></div></div> | 16    |
| Ministry of Municipalities             | <div><div></div></div> | 12    |
| Nasser Centre for Science & Technology | <div><div></div></div> | 9     |
| Paid Sessions (various)                | <div><div></div></div> | 7     |
| Ministry of Interior (HR Div.)         | <div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| Al Falah School & Tumooih Sport        | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |

### Four-Year Workshop Growth (2022–2026)

464% cumulative growth over 4 academic years

| Category     | Progress               | Count |
|--------------|------------------------|-------|
| AY 2022–2023 | <div><div></div></div> | 22    |
| AY 2023–2024 | <div><div></div></div> | 40    |
| AY 2024–2025 | <div><div></div></div> | 80    |
| AY 2025–2026 | <div><div></div></div> | 124   |

### Pillar 4: Social Engagement — Category Breakdown

#### 15 Social Engagement Events by Category

Bahrain Specialist Hospital: most active Pillar 4 partner with 4 health collaborations

| Category                               | Progress               | Count |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Health Promotion Events (incl. BSH ×4) | <div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| Campus Welcome & Community Spirit      | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| Sports & Active Living Events          | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| Environmental & Sustainability Events  | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| Cultural & Celebration Events          | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |

## Pillar 5: Industry Collaboration — Partnership Type Distribution

### 14 Industry Collaboration Activities by Type

Most active industry collaboration year in CECEC history

| Category                                                 | Progress               | Count |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Healthcare Partnerships (Bahrain Specialist Hospital ×4) | <div><div></div></div> | 4     |
| Government Ministry Visits & Meetings                    | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| MOU Signings (Special Olympics + Strategic Planning)     | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| National Awards & Recognition Events                     | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| Industry Visits & Applied Research                       | <div><div></div></div> | 1     |
| Knowledge Transfer Lectures                              | <div><div></div></div> | 1     |
| Media & Innovation Platforms (Podcast)                   | <div><div></div></div> | 1     |

## Pillar 6: Community Services — Event Category Breakdown

### 18 Community Service Events by Category

Largest pillar by event count; 18 events + 37 newspaper articles by Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed

| Category                          | Progress               | Count |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| National & Civic Celebrations     | <div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| Community Awareness & Education   | <div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| Recognition & Excellence Events   | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| Social Inclusion & Justice Events | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| Media & Cultural Engagement       | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |

## SDG Coverage Matrix — All Pillars

| SDG                           | Pillar 1 | Pillar 2 | Pillar 3 | Pillar 4 | Pillar 5 | Pillar 6 | Pillar 7 | Coverage    |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| SDG 3 — Good Health           | —        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 6/7 pillars |
| SDG 4 — Quality Education     | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 7/7 pillars |
| SDG 5 — Gender Equality       | —        | —        | —        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | —        | 3/7 pillars |
| SDG 8 — Decent Work           | ✓        | —        | —        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 5/7 pillars |
| SDG 9 — Innovation            | —        | —        | —        | —        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 3/7 pillars |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 7/7 pillars |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   | —        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 6/7 pillars |
| SDG 13 — Climate Action       | —        | ✓        | —        | ✓        | ✓        | —        | ✓        | 4/7 pillars |
| SDG 15 — Life on Land         | —        | ✓        | —        | —        | —        | —        | ✓        | 2/7 pillars |
| SDG 16 — Peace & Justice      | ✓        | —        | ✓        | —        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 5/7 pillars |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships         | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | ✓        | 7/7 pillars |

## Strategic Targets & Priorities — AY 2026–2027

Building on the exceptional achievements of AY 2025–2026, CECEC enters the new academic year with ambitious, evidence-based targets across all seven pillars. These targets are grounded in the momentum of the year just completed, the strategic priorities of Gulf University's institutional plan, and the evolving needs of the Bahraini community CECEC serves.

|                                          |                                            |                                       |                                       |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>≥150</b><br>Training Workshops Target | <b>≥20</b><br>Industry Partnerships Target | <b>≥25</b><br>Community Events Target | <b>14+</b><br>SDGs to Maintain/Expand |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

### Pillar-by-Pillar Targets 2026–2027

| Pillar                                     | 2025–26 Achieved  | 2026–27 Target      | Key New Initiatives                                                                                                                                                         | KPI / Measure                          |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Pillar 1</b><br>Free Training Workshops | 124 workshops     | ≥150 workshops      | Expand Open Prisons to 70+ courses; add 2 new Ministry partners; launch SME entrepreneurship track                                                                          | ≥150 workshops; ≥3 new partners        |
| <b>Pillar 2</b><br>Donations & CSR         | 2 CSR initiatives | ≥4 CSR initiatives  | Add blood donation drive; sustainable clothing swap; Ramadan Iftar Saim expansion; campus green day                                                                         | ≥4 initiatives; ≥1,000 meals           |
| <b>Pillar 3</b><br>Resources & Facilities  | 3 facility events | ≥5 community events | Open GU Conference Hall for NGOs; host 2+ school science fairs; expand theatre programme                                                                                    | ≥5 external community events hosted    |
| <b>Pillar 4</b><br>Social Engagement       | 15 events         | ≥20 events          | Mental health week; annual GU Health Fair; expand BSH partnership to 6+ events; new partner sports clubs                                                                    | ≥20 events; ≥80% satisfaction          |
| <b>Pillar 5</b><br>Industry Collaboration  | 14 activities     | ≥20 partnerships    | Activate Special Olympics joint programme; formalize Strategic Planning Society MOU; 3 new Ministry MOUs; expand GU podcast to 10 episodes                                  | ≥20 formal partnerships; ≥2 new MOUs   |
| <b>Pillar 6</b><br>Community Services      | 18 events         | ≥25 events          | Launch annual community awards; add interfaith dialogue event; expand financial literacy series; Prof. Firas 50+ articles                                                   | ≥25 events; ≥50 media articles         |
| Languages Hub                              | 8 events          | ≥12 events          | Launch French/Spanish language programme; Russian Language Year 2; GU podcast season 2 (10 eps); paid workshop expansion; international cultural exchange with 2+ countries | ≥12 events; ≥2 new language programmes |

### Top 10 Strategic Priorities for 2026–2027

| # | Strategic Priority                                                                             | Pillar(s) | Expected Impact                                                     | Timeline      |
|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Expand Open Prisons training to 70+ courses & introduce formal participant evaluation protocol | P1        | Increased social rehabilitation impact; evidence base for programme | Q1–Q4 2026–27 |

| #  | Strategic Priority                                                                             | Pillar(s) | Expected Impact                                                                  | Timeline      |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 2  | Sign ≥3 new government Ministry MOUs (Health, Education, Justice)                              | P5        | Wider government sector coverage; more structured partnerships                   | Q1–Q2 2026–27 |
| 3  | Launch GU Annual Community Health Fair in partnership with ≥3 hospitals                        | P4        | Comprehensive free health screening for 500+ community members                   | Q3 2026–27    |
| 4  | Activate Bahrain Special Olympics joint programme for students with special needs              | P5 & P6   | First structured inclusion programme at GU; measurable SDG 10 contribution       | Q1–Q2 2026–27 |
| 5  | Launch GU Podcast Season 2 — 10 episodes at GU Studios                                         | P7        | Expanded knowledge platform; institutional media presence; 10 expert guests      | Q1–Q4 2026–27 |
| 6  | Introduce French and/or Spanish language programme at Languages Hub                            | P7        | Second international language offering; new cultural partnership opportunity     | Q2 2026–27    |
| 7  | Launch CECEC Annual Community Impact Report for public distribution                            | All       | Institutional transparency; partner confidence; SDG reporting                    | Q4 2026–27    |
| 8  | Expand Prof. Dr. Firas newspaper column to 50+ articles; add 2 more faculty media contributors | P6        | Broader faculty media engagement; wider community intellectual impact            | Q1–Q4 2026–27 |
| 9  | Establish CECEC Alumni Engagement Programme with structured annual events                      | P4        | Strengthen alumni-university bonds; 2+ annual events; alumni database            | Q2–Q3 2026–27 |
| 10 | Implement digital certification system for all free workshops                                  | P1        | Enhanced credential value; quality assurance documentation; beneficiary tracking | Q1 2026–27    |



# PILLAR 1

## Training Workshops to the Community

|                                  |                                |                            |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 124<br>Total Workshops (2025–26) | 117<br>Unpaid (Free) Workshops | 9<br>Partner Organizations | 441%<br>Four-Year Growth in Delivery |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|

### Pillar 1 Overview

Pillar 1 is CECEC's flagship community programme delivering free professional training workshops to government ministries, civil society bodies, and educational institutions across the Kingdom of Bahrain. In 2025–2026, CECEC delivered 124 workshops (117 free, 7 paid) to 9 partner organisations, reaching 1,291+ beneficiaries. A full detailed Pillar 1 companion report is available separately.

| Year       | Workshops | Beneficiaries | Partners | Growth       |
|------------|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| 2022–23    | 22        | 264           | 7        | Baseline     |
| 2023–24    | 40        | 680           | 9        | +82%         |
| 2024–25    | 80        | 921           | 5        | +100%        |
| 2025–26    | 124       | 1,291+        | 9        | +55%         |
| Cumulative | 266+      | 3,130+        | 20+ orgs | 464% overall |

|           |                                                                                                       |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN01 — Address community training needs through paid & unpaid workshops (TARGET EXCEEDED: 130%+) |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 (primary)   SDG 8   SDG 10   SDG 16   SDG 17                                                    |

### 2025–26 Workshop Distribution by Partner Organisation

| Category                                 | Volume      | Count |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Ministry of Interior — Open Prisons      | <div></div> | 58    |
| Ministry of Works                        | <div></div> | 22    |
| Ministry of Housing                      | <div></div> | 16    |
| Ministry of Municipalities & Agriculture | <div></div> | 12    |
| Nasser Centre for Science & Technology   | <div></div> | 9     |
| Paid Sessions (various partners)         | <div></div> | 7     |
| Ministry of Interior — HR Management     | <div></div> | 5     |
| Al Falah School & Tumooch                | <div></div> | 2     |

### 1.1 Strategic Alignment with CECEC Operational Plan

Pillar 1 activities are directly mapped to the following strategic objective in the CECEC Operational Plan 2025–2026:

| Objective   | Detail                                                                                           |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Code        | OB16 — Support local community in overcoming challenges through expertise & university resources |
| Initiative  | IN01 — Training needs addressed (paid & unpaid workshops)                                        |
| KPI Target  | ≥ 95 workshops total; ≥ 60% paid delivered                                                       |
| Achievement | 124 workshops delivered (130%+ of target); 75% progress reported                                 |

### 1.2 Alignment with SDGs

Pillar 1 activities directly contribute to multiple United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:

| SDG    | How Pillar 1 Activities Contribute                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 4  | <b>Quality Education:</b> All 124 free workshops expand access to quality, professional learning for the Bahraini community regardless of employment status or economic means.                        |
| SDG 8  | <b>Decent Work &amp; Economic Growth:</b> Workshops in leadership, project management, AI, media, and entrepreneurship directly enhance participants' employability and economic productivity.        |
| SDG 10 | <b>Reduced Inequalities:</b> The Open Prisons initiative targets socially marginalized individuals, ensuring training reaches the most vulnerable segments of society.                                |
| SDG 16 | <b>Peace, Justice &amp; Strong Institutions:</b> Training delivered within the Ministry of Interior's Open Prisons programme supports Bahrain's rehabilitation and alternative sentencing frameworks. |
| SDG 17 | <b>Partnerships for the Goals:</b> Nine MOU-based partnerships with government ministries, civil society bodies, and educational institutions underpin Pillar 1 delivery.                             |

## 2. Four-Year Programme Growth (2022–2026)

CECEC's free community training programme has experienced extraordinary and sustained growth over four consecutive academic years. From a modest start of 22 workshops in 2022–23, the programme has scaled to 124 workshops in 2025–26 — representing a 464% cumulative increase in delivery, driven entirely by community demand and institutional confidence from partners.

| Academic Year    | Workshops | Beneficiaries | Partner Orgs | Year-on-Year Growth |
|------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2022–2023        | 22        | 264           | 7            | Baseline            |
| 2023–2024        | 40        | 680           | 9            | ▲ 82%               |
| 2024–2025        | 80        | 921           | 5            | ▲ 100%              |
| 2025–2026        | 124       | 1,291+        | 9            | ▲ 55%               |
| Cumulative Total | 260+      | 3,130+        | 20+ orgs     | ▲ 464%              |

This growth trajectory reflects three reinforcing dynamics:

- Returning partners consistently request more workshops than in prior years — the clearest institutional signal of impact and trust.
- New partner organisations join CECEC each year, attracted by peer referral and the centre's growing reputation within Bahrain's public sector.
- The zero-cost model removes financial barriers entirely, enabling engagement from institutions that could not otherwise fund professional development at this scale.

### 2.1 Delivery Model

CECEC operates on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) model. Every engagement is formalized through an institutional agreement that establishes mutual accountability, defines scope, and provides the legal framework for sustained, multi-year collaboration.

The delivery model has four key principles:

- Demand-driven design: partners define their training needs; CECEC faculty design bespoke sessions accordingly.
- Faculty expertise: all workshops are delivered exclusively by qualified Gulf University academic staff within their specialist discipline.
- Location flexibility: workshops are delivered at partner premises, Gulf University facilities, or (where security requires) within the partner's own specialist environment.
- Zero cost: all free workshops are delivered at no charge to the partner organisation or individual participants.

### 3. 2025–2026 Partner Organisation Breakdown

The 2025–2026 academic year represents the most extensive delivery year in CECEC's history. Nine partner organisations received free training, spanning government ministries, civil society bodies, and educational institutions.

| Partner Organisation                                 | Sector         | Workshops | Beneficiaries | Notes                     |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Ministry of Interior — Open Prisons & Alt. Penalties | Government     | 58        | 72            | Multi-year; MOU-backed    |
| Ministry of Works                                    | Government     | 22        | 440           | 3rd year partnership      |
| Ministry of Housing & Urban Planning                 | Government     | 16        | 240+          | Expanded from prior years |
| Ministry of Municipalities Affairs & Agriculture     | Government     | 12        | 240           | New in 2025–26            |
| Nasser Centre for Science & Technology               | Civil Society  | 9         | 180           | New in 2025–26            |
| Ministry of Interior — HR Management                 | Government     | 5         | 100           | New division engagement   |
| Tumooch Sport Management                             | Private/Sports | 1         | 13            | New partner               |
| Al Falah School                                      | Education      | 1         | 6             | Ongoing since 2023–24     |
| TOTAL                                                | —              | 124       | 1,291+        | —                         |

#### 3.1 Sector Distribution

Of the 124 workshops delivered in 2025–2026:

- Government sector: 113 workshops (91%) — spanning five Ministry-level partnerships.
- Civil Society & NGO: 9 workshops (7%) — Nasser Centre for Science and Technology.
- Education: 1 workshop (1%) — Al Falah School.
- Private sector / Sports: 1 workshop (1%) — Tumooch Sport Management.

#### 3.2 Four-Year Cumulative Partner Engagement

| Partner / Programme                      | 2022–23<br>WS | 2023–24<br>WS | 2024–25<br>WS | 2025–26<br>WS | Total WS |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Ministry of Housing                      | —             | 1             | 17            | 16            | 34       |
| Ministry of Works                        | —             | —             | 17            | 22            | 39       |
| Ministry of Interior — Open Prisons      | 0*            | 32            | 37            | 58            | 127      |
| Ministry of Interior — HR Management     | —             | —             | —             | 5             | 5        |
| Ministry of Municipalities & Agriculture | —             | —             | —             | 12            | 12       |
| Nasser Centre for Science & Technology   | —             | —             | —             | 9             | 9        |

| Partner / Programme           | 2022–23<br>WS | 2023–24<br>WS | 2024–25<br>WS | 2025–26<br>WS | Total WS   |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Tumoooh Sport Management      | —             | —             | —             | 1             | 1          |
| Al Falah School               | —             | 1             | 1             | 1             | 3          |
| BEACON Private School         | —             | 1             | —             | —             | 1          |
| Ministry of Health            | 1             | —             | —             | —             | 1          |
| Ministry of Youth & Sports    | 1             | —             | —             | —             | 1          |
| Ministry of Information       | —             | 1             | —             | —             | 1          |
| Bahrain Reads (Civil Society) | —             | —             | 6             | —             | 6          |
| Hamza Al Zayyat Center        | —             | —             | 2             | —             | 2          |
| Civil Society (multiple)      | 15            | 4             | —             | —             | 19         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                  | <b>22</b>     | <b>40</b>     | <b>80</b>     | <b>124</b>    | <b>266</b> |

\* MOU established in 2022–23; first delivery year was 2023–24.

## 4. Detailed Partner Reports — 2025–2026

### 4.1 Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning

|                     |                                                                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Workshops Delivered | 16 (in-person and online)                                                   |
| Period              | October 2025 – May 2026                                                     |
| Location            | Gulf University campus and online                                           |
| Languages           | Arabic and English                                                          |
| Objective           | OB16.IN01 — Enhance employee competencies, leadership, and technical skills |
| SDGs                | SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 17                                                        |

#### Workshop Listing — Ministry of Housing

| No. | Date        | Workshop Title (Arabic/English)                                                 | Trainer               |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1   | 21 Oct 2025 | Creative Ideas to Executive Plans (أساليب تحويل الأفكار الإبداعية)              | Dr. Marwan Milhem     |
| 2   | 26 Oct 2025 | Building Life Cycle Assessment using AI (تقييم دورة حياة المباني)               | Dr. Omar Blibech      |
| 3   | 11 Nov 2025 | Forensic Accounting & Fraud Detection (المحاسبة الجنائية)                       | Dr. Ahmad Alastal     |
| 4   | 20 Nov 2025 | AI in Content Production (استخدامات الذكاء الاصطناعي في إنتاج المحتوى)          | Dr. Ahmed Altawalbeh  |
| 5   | 2 Dec 2025  | Learning with Synthesia AI Tool (تعزيز تجارب التعلم)                            | Dr. Marwan Milhem     |
| 6   | 21 Dec 2025 | Digital PR Campaigns with AI (حملات العلاقات العامة الرقمية)                    | Mr. Ammar Mohammed    |
| 7   | 17 Feb 2026 | Advanced Executive Leadership Skills (المهارات المتقدمة للقيادة التنفيذية)      | Dr. Marwan Milhem     |
| 8   | 30 Mar 2026 | KPIs through Strategic Planning & SWOT (مؤشرات الأداء)                          | Dr. Baligh Beshr      |
| 9   | 31 Mar 2026 | AI Journalism: From Theory to Practice (صحافة الذكاء الاصطناعي)                 | Dr. Abdulla Altaher   |
| 10  | 9 Apr 2026  | Strategic Leadership for Innovation (القيادة الاستراتيجية)                      | Dr. Noran Darwish     |
| 11  | 12 Apr 2026 | AI Ethics: Balancing Innovation & Responsibility (الذكاء الاصطناعي والأخلاقيات) | Dr. Ali Ateeq         |
| 12  | 12 Apr 2026 | AI in Legal Texts & Practice (الذكاء الاصطناعي بين النصوص القانونية)            | Dr. Husham Saeed      |
| 13  | 17 Apr 2026 | Advanced Executive Leadership Skills (المهارات المتقدمة)                        | Dr. Marwan Milhem     |
| 14  | 23 Apr 2026 | Institutional Performance Management (إدارة الأداء المؤسسي)                     | Dr. Mohamed Alzoraiki |

| No. | Date        | Workshop Title (Arabic/English)                              | Trainer           |
|-----|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 15  | 28 Apr 2026 | Introduction to Architectural Revit (مقدمة في ريفت المعماري) | Ms. Sandra Job    |
| 16  | 14 May 2026 | Smartphone in Video Production (استخدام الهاتف الذكي)        | Dr. Sherif Badran |

Participant Feedback Summary — Ministry of Housing

Detailed feedback was collected from Ministry of Housing participants across five key evaluation dimensions:

| Evaluation Area           | Key Finding                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level of Effort           | 75% of participants rated their engagement as Excellent; 25% as Very Good — indicating high motivation and active participation. |
| Contribution to Learning  | Strong impact reported. Majority rated skill improvement as Excellent, with a few indicating Very Good.                          |
| Instructor Quality        | All responses indicated high satisfaction. Majority selected 'Strongly Agree' for clarity, engagement, and responsiveness.       |
| Course Content            | Well-received overall. Some participants suggested more hands-on, in-person delivery for applied topics.                         |
| Reasons for Participation | 75% joined out of personal professional interest; 25% due to suitable timing.                                                    |

All detailed feedback forms have been archived in the Gulf University SharePoint system for documentation and quality assurance.

4.2 Ministry of Works

|                     |                                                                                           |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Workshops Delivered | 22 (18 in-person, 4 virtual)                                                              |
| Period              | October 2025 – June 2026                                                                  |
| Location            | Gulf University campus and virtually                                                      |
| Languages           | Arabic and English                                                                        |
| Focus Areas         | Sustainability, smart construction, green engineering, AI integration, leadership         |
| Objective           | OB16.IN01 — Build professional competencies aligned to national infrastructure priorities |
| SDGs                | SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 17                                                               |

Workshop Listing — Ministry of Works

| No. | Date        | Workshop Title                                      | Instructor          | Mode      |
|-----|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1   | 7 Oct 2025  | Secrets of Personal Success (أسرار النجاح الشخصي)   | Dr. Mohammed Dawwas | In-person |
| 2   | 14 Oct 2025 | Planning and Work Follow-Up (التخطيط ومتابعة العمل) | Dr. Marwan Milhem   | In-person |

| No. | Date        | Workshop Title                                              | Instructor              | Mode      |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 3   | 11 Nov 2025 | Negotiation Skills                                          | Dr. Muskan              | In-person |
| 4   | 18 Nov 2025 | Adobe Premiere & After Effects                              | Ms. Maryam Juma         | In-person |
| 5   | 25 Nov 2025 | Emotional Intelligence (الذكاء العاطفي)                     | Ms. Fatima Al-Shuwaikh  | In-person |
| 6   | 4 Nov 2025  | Sustainability & UN Vision 2030 (الاستدامة)                 | Dr. Baligh Beshr        | In-person |
| 7   | 9 Dec 2025  | Canva for Media Design (كانفا)                              | Ms. Bashayer Almahdi    | In-person |
| 8   | 29 Dec 2025 | Occupational Health & Safety (الصحة والسلامة)               | Dr. Ali Ateeq           | In-person |
| 9   | 23 Dec 2025 | Social Intelligence in Life & Work (الذكاء الاجتماعي)       | Ms. Noor Alsaffar       | In-person |
| 10  | 20 Jan 2026 | AI Journalism: Theory to Practice (صحافة الذكاء)            | Dr. Abdulla Altaher     | In-person |
| 11  | 13 Jan 2026 | Speak with Confidence (تحدث بثقة)                           | Dr. Abdul Qader Emran   | In-person |
| 12  | 27 Jan 2026 | Revit HVAC Systems (برنامج Revit)                           | Dr. Oula Fatla          | In-person |
| 13  | 7 Apr 2026  | Life Cycle Assessment with AI (LCA)                         | Dr. Omar Blibech        | Virtual   |
| 14  | 15 Apr 2026 | Creative Ideas to Executive Plans                           | Dr. Marwan Milhem       | Virtual   |
| 15  | 21 Apr 2026 | Government Media Communication in Crises                    | Mr. Ammar Mohammed      | In-person |
| 16  | 28 Apr 2026 | Introduction to Architectural Revit                         | Ms. Sandra Job          | Virtual   |
| 17  | 5 May 2026  | ChatGPT for PR Writing (برامج ChatGPT)                      | Dr. Mohamed El Astal    | In-person |
| 18  | 12 May 2026 | Introduction to Non-Destructive Testing (NDT)               | Ms. Ameera Hydrose      | Virtual   |
| 19  | 9 Jun 2026  | Introduction to 3D Modeling with SolidWorks                 | Mr. Mohamed Abdulhameed | In-person |
| 20  | 2 Jun 2026  | BIM Scheduling Masterclass: 4D Project Planning             | Dr. Ashraf Nadheer      | In-person |
| 21  | 23 Jun 2026 | Strategic Planning in Team Management (التخطيط الاستراتيجي) | Dr. Mohamed Alzoraiqi   | In-person |
| 22  | 30 Jun 2026 | Sustainable Structural Materials & Green Building           | Ms. Ameera Hydrose      | In-person |

Note: Column widths adjusted for page. All 22 workshops were 3 hours each. Certificates of participation issued to all attendees.

## Participant Feedback Summary — Ministry of Works



| Evaluation Area          | Key Finding                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level of Effort          | Majority rated effort as Excellent, with significant Very Good responses, and a few Satisfactory ratings.                                     |
| Contribution to Learning | High impact. Most participants rated skill improvement as Excellent; particularly strong for dashboard creation and data presentation skills. |
| Instructor Quality       | Strongly positive ratings on clarity, engagement, and responsiveness. Majority selected 'Strongly Agree' across all indicators.               |
| Course Content           | Clear, well-organized, and relevant. Some participants requested more applied and hands-on content in future sessions.                        |
| Most Valued Outcomes     | Dashboard creation, data linking techniques, Excel for decision-making; participants requested advanced follow-up modules.                    |

*All feedback reports for Ministry of Works training programmes are archived on the Gulf University SharePoint system.*

### 4.3 Ministry of Interior — Open Prisons & Alternative Penalties Programme

|                              |                                                                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Workshops Delivered</b>   | 56–58 workshops (largest cohort in initiative's history)                    |
| <b>Duration per Workshop</b> | 3–4 hours                                                                   |
| <b>Languages</b>             | Arabic and English                                                          |
| <b>Location</b>              | Ministry of Interior facilities and virtually                               |
| <b>Trainers</b>              | 20+ multidisciplinary Gulf University academic staff                        |
| <b>Certification</b>         | Digital and printed certificates provided to all participants               |
| <b>MOU Status</b>            | Active since 2022–23; ongoing multi-year partnership                        |
| <b>Objective</b>             | OB16.IN01 — Rehabilitation, employability & reintegration capacity building |
| <b>SDGs</b>                  | SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 10, SDG 16, SDG 17                                        |

#### Programme Growth — Open Prisons Initiative (2022–2026)

| Academic Year | Workshops/Courses   | Beneficiaries | Status                                 |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------|
| 2022–2023     | 0 (MOU established) | —             | Preparatory phase; framework built     |
| 2023–2024     | 32                  | 66            | First full delivery year               |
| 2024–2025     | 37                  | 44            | Fully operational; curriculum deepened |
| 2025–2026     | 56–58               | 72            | Largest cohort; expanding curriculum   |
| Cumulative    | 127+                | 182+          | Sustained multi-year commitment        |

#### Workshop Themes — Open Prisons Programme 2025–2026

The 56 workshops delivered covered a broad, multidisciplinary curriculum spanning law, business, technology, media, engineering, and personal development:

| Theme Area                        | Representative Workshops Delivered                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Legal & Governance                | Bahraini Labour Law, Electronic Crimes, Civil & Criminal Liability, Human Rights in the Bahraini Constitution, Alternative Penalties & Prisoners' Rights, Administrative Law, Contract Drafting, International Arbitration |
| Business & Entrepreneurship       | Understanding Financial Statements, Entrepreneurship for Life Change, Strategic Corporate Decisions (SMEs & Large Organisations), Compensation & Incentive Systems, Consumer Behaviour & Purchase Motivation               |
| Technology & AI                   | Introduction to AI, AI in Digital Media & Marketing, Python for Beginners, AI Ethics, Electronic Signatures & Digital Algorithms, Introduction to Arduino, 3D Modeling with SolidWorks, OBD2 Vehicle Diagnostics           |
| Media & Communication             | ChatGPT for PR Writing, Personal Branding & Self-Marketing, Commercial Photography & AI Tools, Smartphone Filmmaking, LinkedIn for Personal Branding, From Sketch to Final: Ideas to Reality                               |
| Leadership & Personal Development | Keys to Personal Success, Team Leadership Skills, Social Intelligence, Forensic Accounting & Fraud Detection, Emotional Intelligence                                                                                       |
| Health & Wellbeing                | Mental Health & Stress Management, Introduction to Trading & Investment                                                                                                                                                    |

| Theme Area            | Representative Workshops Delivered                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Languages             | Teaching English to Adults, English for Daily Life, Foundations of e-Government & Digital Transformation                                        |
| Science & Engineering | Build Your Own Solar System (Practical), Introduction to Engineering & Reverse Engineering, Biomechanics & Human Body Simulation, Poster Design |

## Social Impact Analysis — Open Prisons Initiative

This partnership carries the most significant social impact dimension within Pillar 1. By deploying Gulf University faculty inside correctional facilities over three consecutive years, CECEC has made a sustained institutional commitment to deploying academic resources at the service of Bahrain's most vulnerable community members.

- University-certified training certificates provide meaningful credentials to participants who may otherwise face employment barriers upon re-entry into the workforce.
- The 81% increase in course volume since the inaugural year (32 courses → 58 courses) demonstrates the Ministry of Interior's deepening institutional confidence in CECEC as a delivery partner.
- The multi-disciplinary curriculum — spanning legal literacy, digital skills, entrepreneurship, and personal development — directly addresses the employment readiness requirements identified by the Ministry.
- This initiative aligns with global best practice in correctional education, where access to structured skills training is recognized as a key evidence-based mechanism for reducing recidivism.

## Participant Feedback Summary — Open Prisons Programme

| Evaluation Area             | Key Finding                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level of Effort             | Over 50% of participants reported Excellent effort; significant portion rated Very Good — indicating high engagement.         |
| Contribution to Learning    | Strong improvement in knowledge. Most rated understanding of SDGs, sustainable justice, and open prison systems as Excellent. |
| Instructor Quality          | Strongly positive. Majority selected 'Strongly Agree' on clarity, presentation style, engagement, and openness to questions.  |
| Course Content              | Well-structured, relevant, and informative. Participants appreciated practical focus and clarity of learning objectives.      |
| Participation Motivation    | 44% personal interest; 33% professional/degree requirements; 22% suitable timing.                                             |
| Most Valued Learnings       | Understanding the 17 SDGs; linking sustainable development to justice; real-world application to Bahrain Vision 2030.         |
| Suggestions for Improvement | More interactive local case studies; extended duration; stronger digital delivery methods.                                    |

*Note: Formal participant surveys for inmates require Ministry of Interior approval. All feedback collected to date is archived in SharePoint. CECEC is working with the Ministry to establish a formal evaluation protocol for 2026–27.*

## 5. Additional Partner Engagements — 2025–2026

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### 5.1 Ministry of Municipalities Affairs & Agriculture

12 workshops were delivered to Ministry staff, covering administrative efficiency, public service delivery, and professional communications. This was a new partnership established in 2025–26, reflecting CECEC's expanding government sector footprint.

*SDG Alignment: SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities & Communities), SDG 16 (Strong Institutions), SDG 17 (Partnerships).*

### 5.2 Nasser Centre for Science & Technology

9 workshops were delivered to Centre staff on topics including technology communication, scientific literacy for professional audiences, and digital tools. This new partnership extends CECEC's reach into Bahrain's science and innovation sector.

*SDG Alignment: SDG 4, SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure), SDG 17.*

### 5.3 Ministry of Interior — HR Management Division

5 specialist workshops were delivered to HR professionals within the Ministry covering human resource management, performance evaluation frameworks, and organisational development. This new engagement complements the Open Prisons partnership and strengthens CECEC's relationship across Ministry divisions.

*SDG Alignment: SDG 4, SDG 8, SDG 16, SDG 17.*

### 5.4 Al Falah School

1 workshop was delivered to school staff, continuing an ongoing partnership from 2023–24. This engagement equips educational professionals with updated skills, with the downstream benefit of improved teaching quality for students.

*SDG Alignment: SDG 4, SDG 17.*

### 5.5 Tumooch Sport Management

1 workshop was delivered to Tumooch Sport Management staff in 2025–26, marking a first-time engagement with the sports management sector in Bahrain. This extends CECEC's community reach beyond the traditional government and civil society sectors.

*SDG Alignment: SDG 4, SDG 17.*

### 5.6 Paid Training Sessions (7 Workshops)

In addition to the 117 free workshops, CECEC delivered 7 paid training sessions in 2025–26. Notable paid partners included Ebdaa Bank, Shura Council, and other institutions. While uptake of paid sessions was limited relative to target (reflecting lower demand for paid vs. free provision), these sessions demonstrate CECEC's capacity to offer commercial training services and contribute to the centre's financial sustainability agenda.

## 6. Impact Analysis & Community Outcomes

### 6.1 Workforce Capability & Institutional Performance

By delivering professional development training within government ministries and public institutions, CECEC has enabled public-sector employees to strengthen their technical and professional competencies without any cost to their institution. The nature and scope of training delivered reflects the specific operational mandates of each ministry:

| Partner Ministry                          | Training Focus                                                                      | Impact Area                                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ministry of Works (22 workshops)          | BIM, structural materials, sustainability, AI, media communication, engineering NDT | Infrastructure delivery capacity; engineering workforce readiness    |
| Ministry of Housing (16 workshops)        | Urban planning, AI tools, leadership, forensic accounting, architectural software   | Housing authority staff competency; digital transformation readiness |
| Ministry of Municipalities (12 workshops) | Administrative efficiency, public service delivery, communications                  | Municipal staff effectiveness; community service quality             |
| Ministry of Interior — HR (5 workshops)   | HR management, performance evaluation, organisational development                   | Internal HR capability; modern people management practice            |
| Nasser Centre (9 workshops)               | Technology communication, digital tools, scientific literacy                        | Science-public engagement; digital communication skills              |

### 6.2 Social Rehabilitation — Open Prisons Initiative

The Open Prisons partnership represents a category of impact that distinguishes CECEC's programme from conventional university outreach. University-certified training provides meaningful credentials to individuals navigating the critical transition back to mainstream society, directly enhancing their employability and confidence. The programme's consistent year-on-year growth — from 32 courses in 2023–24 to 58 in 2025–26 — demonstrates the Ministry's deepening institutional reliance on CECEC.

### 6.3 Education Sector Multiplier Effect

CECEC's engagement with Al Falah School (and previously BEACON Private School) creates a multiplier effect: training one teacher or administrator develops skills that flow outward to every student they teach and every family whose child passes through their institution. Investment in the education sector is an investment in the next generation of Bahraini talent.

### 6.4 Alignment with Bahrain Vision 2030

All four of CECEC's thematic delivery pillars — Engineering, Law, Management/Business, and Media/Technology — map directly to sectors identified in Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 as critical to national development:

| Vision 2030 Priority      | CECEC Pillar 1 Contribution                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Economic Diversification  | Workshops in entrepreneurship, business management, feasibility analysis, and financial planning equip individuals and organisations with skills for a diversified, knowledge-based economy. |
| Human Capital Development | 124 workshops in 2025–26 alone, cumulative 260+ over 4 years — contributing meaningfully to the national professional skills base.                                                           |

| Vision 2030 Priority         |  | CECEC Pillar 1 Contribution                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Social Cohesion & Inclusion  |  | Open Prisons initiative, school partnerships, and civil society engagement ensure that training reaches all segments of Bahraini society, including the marginalized and vulnerable.                               |  |
| Institutional Sustainability |  | By building professional capability within government ministries and public institutions, CECEC contributes to the long-term institutional resilience that underpins Bahrain's social and economic infrastructure. |  |

## 7. Key Challenges & How They Were Navigated

| Challenge           | Description                                                                                                                                                                         | CECEC Response                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Access Constraints  | Delivering within correctional and open-prison environments requires stringent security compliance, advance Ministry coordination, and protocol adherence beyond standard outreach. | Faculty undergo preparatory briefings; all content reviewed and approved by Ministry prior to delivery; scheduling coordinated with Ministry timelines. |
| Curriculum Agility  | The demand-driven model requires bespoke session design for each partner, often within tight timeframes and in response to rapidly evolving priorities.                             | Faculty draw on deep specialist expertise; CECEC maintains a pool of 20+ multidisciplinary trainers enabling rapid curriculum design.                   |
| Scale Management    | Growth from 22 to 124 workshops over 4 years demands robust coordination without compromising teaching duties or the zero-cost model.                                               | Dedicated CECEC coordination infrastructure; senior leadership support; systematic MOU management and partner scheduling.                               |
| Partner Diversity   | Partners span government ministries, correctional facilities, schools, and sports bodies — each requiring distinct training approaches.                                             | Structured training needs assessment for each new partner; content tailored to each institutional culture and professional context.                     |
| Paid Session Uptake | Uptake of paid workshops was lower than targeted, reflecting community preference for the free provision model.                                                                     | Review of pricing strategy and targeting for paid sessions underway; continued emphasis on free provision as primary delivery model.                    |

## 8. Objective Achievement Summary

| Objective | Initiative                               | Target                | Achieved             | Achievement % | Status   |
|-----------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------|
| OB16      | IN01: Training workshops (paid & unpaid) | ≥ 95 workshops        | 124 workshops        | 130%+         | Exceeded |
| OB16      | IN01: Partner organisations engaged      | ≥ 5 active MOUs       | 9 partners           | 180%          | Exceeded |
| OB16      | IN01: Community beneficiaries reached    | Baseline              | 1,291+               | Exceptional   | Exceeded |
| OB29      | SDG mapping of workshop activities       | ≥ 9 SDG-mapped events | All workshops mapped | 100%+         | Achieved |



## 9. Quantitative Summary & Analytics

### 9.1 2025–2026 Workshop Delivery by Partner

| Partner                                         | Free WS | Paid WS | Total WS | % of Total |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|------------|
| Ministry of Interior — Open Prisons             | 58      | 0       | 58       | 47%        |
| Ministry of Works                               | 22      | 0       | 22       | 18%        |
| Ministry of Housing                             | 16      | 0       | 16       | 13%        |
| Ministry of Municipalities & Agriculture        | 12      | 0       | 12       | 10%        |
| Nasser Centre for Science & Technology          | 9       | 0       | 9        | 7%         |
| Ministry of Interior — HR Management            | 5       | 0       | 5        | 4%         |
| Paid sessions (Ebdaa Bank, Shura Council, etc.) | 0       | 7       | 7        | 6%         |
| Tumoooh Sport Management                        | 1       | 0       | 1        | <1%        |
| Al Falah School                                 | 1       | 0       | 1        | <1%        |
| TOTAL                                           | 117     | 7       | 124      | 100%       |

### 9.2 Four-Year Summary

| Metric                   | 2022–23 | 2023–24 | 2024–25 | 2025–26 | Cumulative    |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------------|
| Total Workshops          | 22      | 40      | 80      | 124     | 266+          |
| Community Beneficiaries  | 264     | 680     | 921     | 1,291+  | 3,130+        |
| Partner Organisations    | 7       | 9       | 5       | 9       | 20+ distinct  |
| Faculty Trainers Engaged | ~10     | ~15     | ~20     | 20+     | —             |
| Year-on-Year Growth      | —       | +82%    | +100%   | +55%    | +464% overall |

### 9.3 Workshop Thematic Distribution — 2025–2026

| Thematic Area                         | Approximate Workshops | Key SDGs      |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Leadership & Management               | 28                    | SDG 4, SDG 8  |
| Technology & Artificial Intelligence  | 22                    | SDG 4, SDG 9  |
| Law, Governance & Compliance          | 18                    | SDG 4, SDG 16 |
| Media, Communication & Digital Skills | 20                    | SDG 4, SDG 9  |

| Thematic Area                    | Approximate Workshops | Key SDGs        |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Engineering & Technical Skills   | 12                    | SDG 4, SDG 9    |
| Personal Development & Wellbeing | 14                    | SDG 4, SDG 3    |
| Entrepreneurship & Finance       | 10                    | SDG 4, SDG 8    |
| TOTAL                            | 124                   | SDG 4 (primary) |



## 10. Conclusion & Recommendations

### 10.1 Pillar 1 Conclusion

Pillar 1 of the CECEC Annual Report 2025–2026 documents one of the most significant and impactful community training initiatives delivered by a higher education institution in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Over the course of this academic year, CECEC delivered 124 training workshops to 9 partner organisations — entirely free of charge — reaching over 1,291 community beneficiaries and engaging more than 20 multidisciplinary Gulf University faculty members as trainers.

The programme's sustained four-year growth trajectory, its depth of engagement with vulnerable populations through the Open Prisons initiative, and its alignment with Bahrain Vision 2030 and the United Nations SDGs demonstrate that Pillar 1 represents far more than a series of training workshops. It is a strategic, institutionally embedded, community-centred programme that positions Gulf University as a meaningful contributor to national human capital development, social cohesion, and sustainable institutional performance.

### 10.2 Recommendations for 2026–2027

| Recommendation                                                                                                                    | Rationale                                                                                                             | Priority   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Expand the Open Prisons programme to at least 70 workshops and formalize a participant evaluation protocol with Ministry approval | Continued growth trajectory and unmet demand; formal evaluation will strengthen evidence base                         | High       |
| Establish at least 2 new government Ministry partnerships                                                                         | Five Ministries now active — momentum supports further sector penetration across Health, Education, and Justice       | High       |
| Introduce a formal digital certification system for all CECEC free workshops                                                      | Enhances credential value for participants and reinforces CECEC's institutional quality standard                      | Medium     |
| Develop a dedicated SME and entrepreneurship training track                                                                       | Bahrain Vision 2030 identifies SMEs as critical economic drivers; CECEC has prior expertise in this area              | Medium     |
| Review paid workshop pricing and targeting strategy to increase uptake                                                            | Paid sessions (7 of 124) fell short of the 60% target; improved marketing and partner targeting needed                | Medium     |
| Publish an annual CECEC Community Impact Report for public dissemination                                                          | Enhances institutional visibility, supports MOU renewal negotiations, and demonstrates accountability to stakeholders | Low-Medium |

Community Engagement & Continuing Education Centre (CECEC)

Gulf University | Kingdom of Bahrain

Annual Report 2025–2026 | Pillar 1: Free Training Workshops

Director: Dr. Marwan Milhem | Tel: +973 17620092 ext. 507

# PILLAR 2

## Donations & Social Responsibility

### Pillar 2 Overview

Pillar 2 encompasses CECEC's charitable giving, humanitarian donations, and social responsibility initiatives — directing Gulf University's resources and the generosity of its community toward those who need them most. In 2025–2026, CECEC executed two meaningful initiatives combining institutional giving, staff personal contributions, and cross-border environmental cooperation.



#### Iftar Saim — 700+ Iftar Meals for Low-Income Workers

In the blessed spirit of Ramadan — a month defined by generosity, compassion, and the imperative to give — the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University organized and participated in the **"Iftar Samim"** initiative, distributing more than **700 Iftar meals over three days** to low-income workers through the Ramadan tent. This initiative stands as one of the most direct and tangible expressions of Gulf University's social responsibility commitment — putting the university's resources and the generosity of its community in the service of those who need it most.

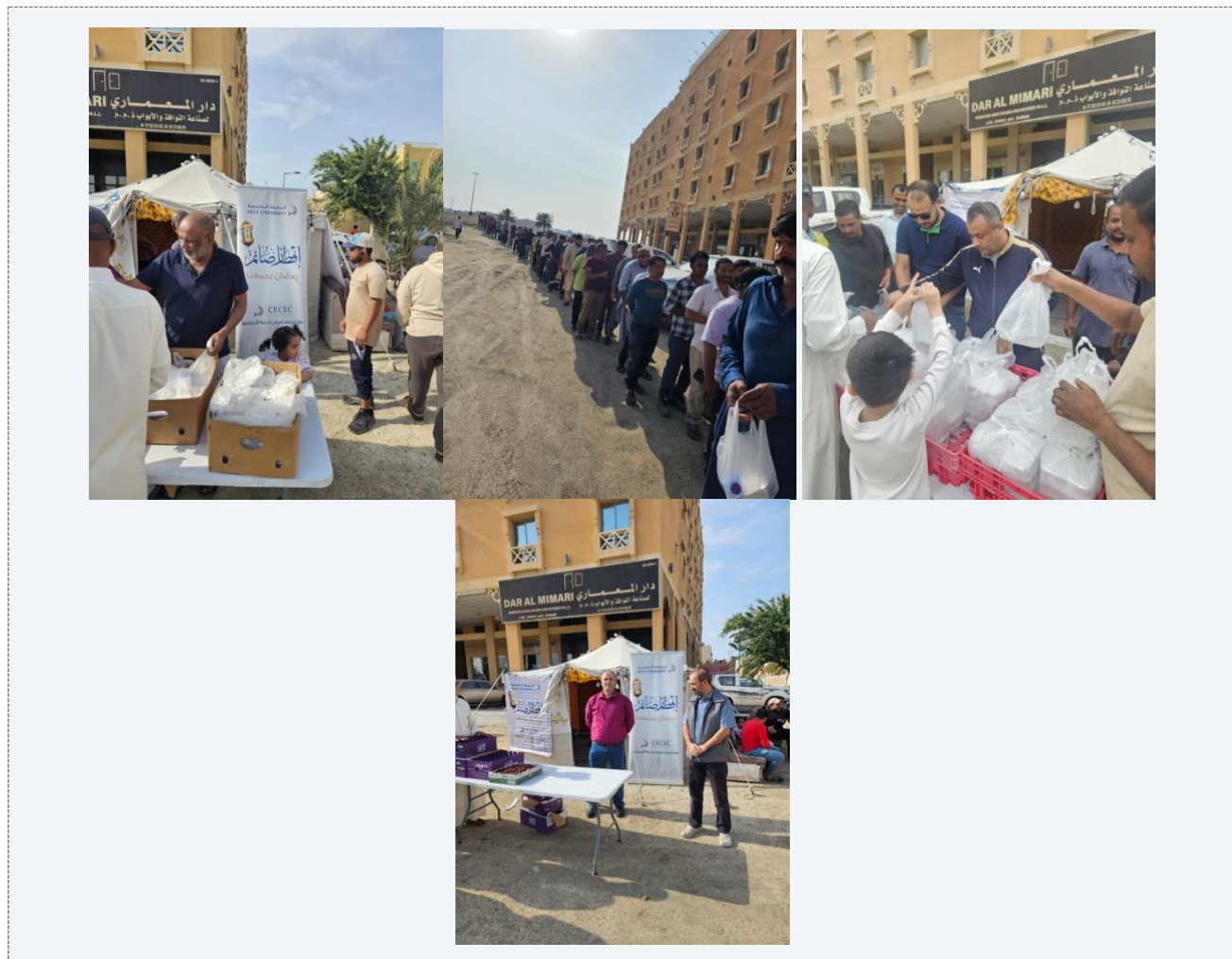
The initiative carried a dual dimension of institutional and personal generosity that made it particularly meaningful. **Gulf University made an institutional donation of 150 Bahraini Dinars** toward the initiative — a formal commitment of university resources to the welfare of vulnerable workers in the community. Alongside this institutional contribution, **Gulf University's own employees personally donated additional meals** — their individual acts of generosity collectively contributing to a total distribution that exceeded 700 Iftar meals across the three-day initiative. The combination of institutional and personal giving reflects the culture of social responsibility that runs through Gulf University at every level — from senior leadership to individual staff members — and demonstrates that CECEC's community engagement mission is not merely an organizational mandate but a genuinely lived value shared across the university community.

The "Iftar Samim" initiative — its name meaning "Heartfelt Iftar" — targeted low-income workers: individuals who labor tirelessly to contribute to Bahrain's development and infrastructure, yet who may lack the means to enjoy the warmth and abundance that Ramadan's Iftar tables traditionally represent. By bringing hot, wholesome Iftar meals to these workers through the Ramadan tent over three consecutive days, CECEC ensured that the spirit of Ramadan's generosity extended beyond comfortable dining rooms and into the lives of those whose contribution to Bahraini society deserves recognition, respect, and care.

Ramadan is the ideal time to act on the values of social responsibility — and "Iftar Samim" is a reminder that community engagement, at its most essential, is simply about seeing the people around us, recognizing their needs, and responding with open hands and open hearts. Gulf University is proud to have contributed to this initiative and remains committed to the belief that social responsibility is not a seasonal obligation but a year-round institutional character.

| Detail                    | Information                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Initiative                | Iftar Saim (إفطار صائم)                   |
| GU Institutional Donation | BD 150 (Bahraini Dinars)                  |
| Staff Contributions       | Personal meal donations from GU employees |
| Total Meals               | 700+ Iftar meals over 3 consecutive days  |
| Beneficiaries             | Low-income workers — Ramadan tent         |
| Season                    | Holy Month of Ramadan 2025–2026           |

|           |                                                                                                                        |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB14.IN02 — Execute community & social responsibility activities aligned with sustainable practices                    |
| SDGs      | SDG 1 — No Poverty   SDG 2 — Zero Hunger   SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Towards a Sustainable Life — Bamboo Plant Distribution, 2nd Sustainability Week

As part of the activities of **Gulf University's Second Sustainability Week**, the university welcomed a distinguished and environmentally meaningful initiative titled "**Towards a Sustainable Life**" — presented by the team of **Al Khamisa Secondary School, Al Jubail, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, led by the voluntary PTA Team total 47 students involve. The initiative involved the distribution of **bamboo plants** to Gulf University staff members — a living, growing gesture of environmental commitment designed to promote a culture of sustainability and to bring the beauty and benefit of green spaces into the workplace environment.

The initiative was organized in collaboration with the **Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC)** at Gulf University — reflecting the centre's active role in supporting environmental initiatives and fostering purposeful community and cross-border partnerships that advance the sustainability agenda. The participation of a voluntary school team from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia gave the initiative a particularly meaningful regional and collaborative dimension — demonstrating that the values of environmental responsibility and sustainable living transcend national boundaries and unite communities across the Gulf region in a shared commitment to a greener, more sustainable future.

The choice of **bamboo** as the distributed plant carried its own symbolic and practical significance. Bamboo is one of the world's most sustainable plants — one of the fastest-growing, most resilient, and most environmentally beneficial species available. As an office or workplace plant, it requires minimal care while providing maximum benefit: purifying the air, reducing stress, and introducing a calming natural element into built environments. By



placing a bamboo plant on the desk of each staff member, the initiative transformed a simple act of giving into a daily, living reminder of the importance of sustainability — a reminder that grows, breathes, and thrives alongside those who receive it.

Gulf University's Second Sustainability Week provided the ideal platform for an initiative of this character — a week dedicated to embedding sustainability thinking, environmental awareness, and green practice into the fabric of the university community. CECEC's collaboration with the Al Jubail school team reflects the broader vision of sustainability as a shared, cross-institutional, and cross-border responsibility — one that requires the participation of schools, universities, families, and communities working together with purpose and generosity.

*Together — towards a more sustainable and responsible environment.* 🌱

| Detail           | Information                                                      |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Initiative Title | Towards a Sustainable Life (نحو حياة مستدامة)                    |
| Presenting Team  | Al Khamisa Secondary School PTA Volunteer Team — Al Jubail, KSA  |
| Activity         | Bamboo plant distribution to all GU staff                        |
| Context          | Gulf University 2nd Sustainability Week                          |
| Dimension        | Saudi Arabia–Bahrain collaborative cross-border green initiative |

|           |                                                                                                                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB14.IN02 & OB23.IN01 — Social responsibility & campus environmental sustainability plan                                    |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 13 — Climate Action   SDG 15 — Life on Land   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



| SDG                           | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 1 — No Poverty            | Iftar Saim targeted low-income workers — directing institutional and personal generosity toward the most economically vulnerable community members. |
| SDG 2 — Zero Hunger           | 700+ Iftar meals ensured nutritious food reached low-income workers fasting during Ramadan.                                                         |
| SDG 3 — Good Health           | Nutritious meals support physical health; bamboo plants improve workplace air quality and reduce stress.                                            |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities | Both initiatives directed resources toward vulnerable groups and promoted inclusive environmental practices.                                        |
| SDG 13 — Climate Action       | Bamboo distribution within Sustainability Week actively promotes green culture and environmental awareness.                                         |
| SDG 15 — Life on Land         | Living plant distribution promotes biodiversity awareness and integration of nature in built environments.                                          |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships         | Cross-border collaboration with Saudi school PTA; combination of institutional and personal giving reflects community partnership.                  |

# PILLAR 3

## Resources & Facilities

### Pillar 3 Overview

Pillar 3 reflects CECEC's commitment to making Gulf University's physical resources — its Big Hall, theatre, classrooms, and studios — available to the wider community for events and initiatives serving the public good. In 2025–2026, GU opened its facilities to three significant community events spanning social inclusion, civic celebration, and cultural arts.

#### Sign Language Workshop — Bahrain Deaf Society

CECEC hosted a free 3-day introductory Sign Language workshop in collaboration with the Bahrain Deaf Society, delivered by Mr. Yousif Sabahi Al-Madhoun — a distinguished sign language instructor with 38 years of teaching experience. Held 8, 10 & 12 February 2026, 6–8 PM. Gulf University provided its facilities as the venue — entirely free of charge — demonstrating its commitment to community inclusion and accessibility for People of Determination.

| Detail     | Information                                                              |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner    | Bahrain Deaf Society                                                     |
| Instructor | Mr. Yousif Sabahi Al-Madhoun — 38 years sign language experience         |
| Dates      | 8, 10 & 12 February 2026 (Sun / Tue / Thu)                               |
| Time       | 6:00 – 8:00 PM each session                                              |
| Cost       | Free of charge                                                           |
| GU Role    | Venue host — facilities provided by CECEC                                |
| Content    | Arabic sign language alphabet, numbers, vocabulary, communication basics |

|           |                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN03 — Increase community access to GU facilities and university resources for inclusion                                         |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





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## International Day of Tolerance Ceremony — Shu'lat Al-Mahaba Wal Salam Society

Gulf University, in collaboration with the **Shu'lat Al-Mahaba Wal Salam Society (Flame of Love and Peace)**, warmly invited the community to attend the Annual Ceremony marking the **International Day of Tolerance** — held on **Tuesday, 9 December 2025 at 7:00 PM** in the **Big Hall at Gulf University**. The evening brought together members of the community in a gathering that embodied the very values it sought to celebrate: peace, tolerance, and the spirit of coexistence that binds Bahrain's diverse and vibrant society together.

By hosting this distinguished annual ceremony within its Big Hall, Gulf University placed one of its most prominent and capacious facilities at the service of one of humanity's most important and universally shared values. The Big Hall — the university's flagship venue for major institutional and community events — provided the ideal setting for an evening of reflection, dialogue, and celebration centered on tolerance and peaceful coexistence. Its use for this occasion reflects CECEC's Pillar 3 commitment to ensuring that Gulf University's facilities serve not only the university's own programmes but the broader community initiatives and civil society events that enrich Bahraini social life.

The collaboration with Shu'lat Al-Mahaba Wal Salam Society — an organization whose very name speaks to the values of love, peace, and harmony — represents a natural and meaningful alignment between Gulf University's community engagement mission and the work of a civil society body dedicated to promoting tolerance and coexistence across all segments of Bahraini society. Together, the university and the Society created an evening that went beyond a formal ceremony and became a genuine communal experience — a shared moment of reflection on the importance of tolerance as a lived, daily practice rather than merely an abstract ideal.

The International Day of Tolerance, observed annually on November 16th and commemorated through this December ceremony, serves as a global reminder that tolerance is not passive indifference but an active, conscious, and courageous commitment to respecting the dignity, rights, and perspectives of every human being — regardless of background, belief, or identity. In hosting this ceremony, Gulf University reaffirmed its institutional commitment to these values — demonstrating that a great university is not only a place of academic excellence but a moral and civic institution that stands visibly and unambiguously for the principles of human dignity, mutual respect, and peaceful coexistence.

The evening's atmosphere — warm, reflective, and genuinely celebratory — captured everything the International Day of Tolerance is meant to evoke: a community choosing, together and deliberately, to honor the ties that unite rather than the differences that divide.

| Detail      | Information                                                     |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner     | Shu'lat Al-Mahaba Wal Salam Society (جمعية شعلة المحبة والسلام) |
| Occasion    | International Day of Tolerance                                  |
| Date & Time | Tuesday, 9 December 2025 — 7:00 PM                              |
| Venue       | Big Hall, Gulf University Campus                                |
| GU Role     | Venue host — Big Hall provided by CECEC                         |

|           |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN03 — Increase community access to GU facilities and university resources for civic events                                                                 |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



 **Grandma Cinderella Theatre Play — GU Main Stage**

Gulf University's stage came alive with laughter, wonder, and theatrical magic as it hosted the enchanting play **"Grandma Cinderella"** — performed across two memorable evenings on **4 and 5 December 2025 at 8:00 PM**. The production transformed Gulf University's theatre into a vibrant space of artistic celebration, bringing together audiences of all ages in an atmosphere of pure joy, excitement, and the timeless delight that only live theatre can deliver.

"Grandma Cinderella" — a creative and imaginative reimagining of the beloved Cinderella story — captivated audiences with its unique blend of humor, warmth, and theatrical energy. The play's distinctive twist on a classic tale gave it a freshness and originality that resonated deeply with audiences, generating laughter, surprise, and the kind of genuine theatrical excitement that leaves a lasting impression long after the final curtain falls. Across both evenings, Gulf University's stage proved itself to be far more than a university facility — it was a cultural venue worthy of bringing the best of Bahraini theatrical performance to the wider community.

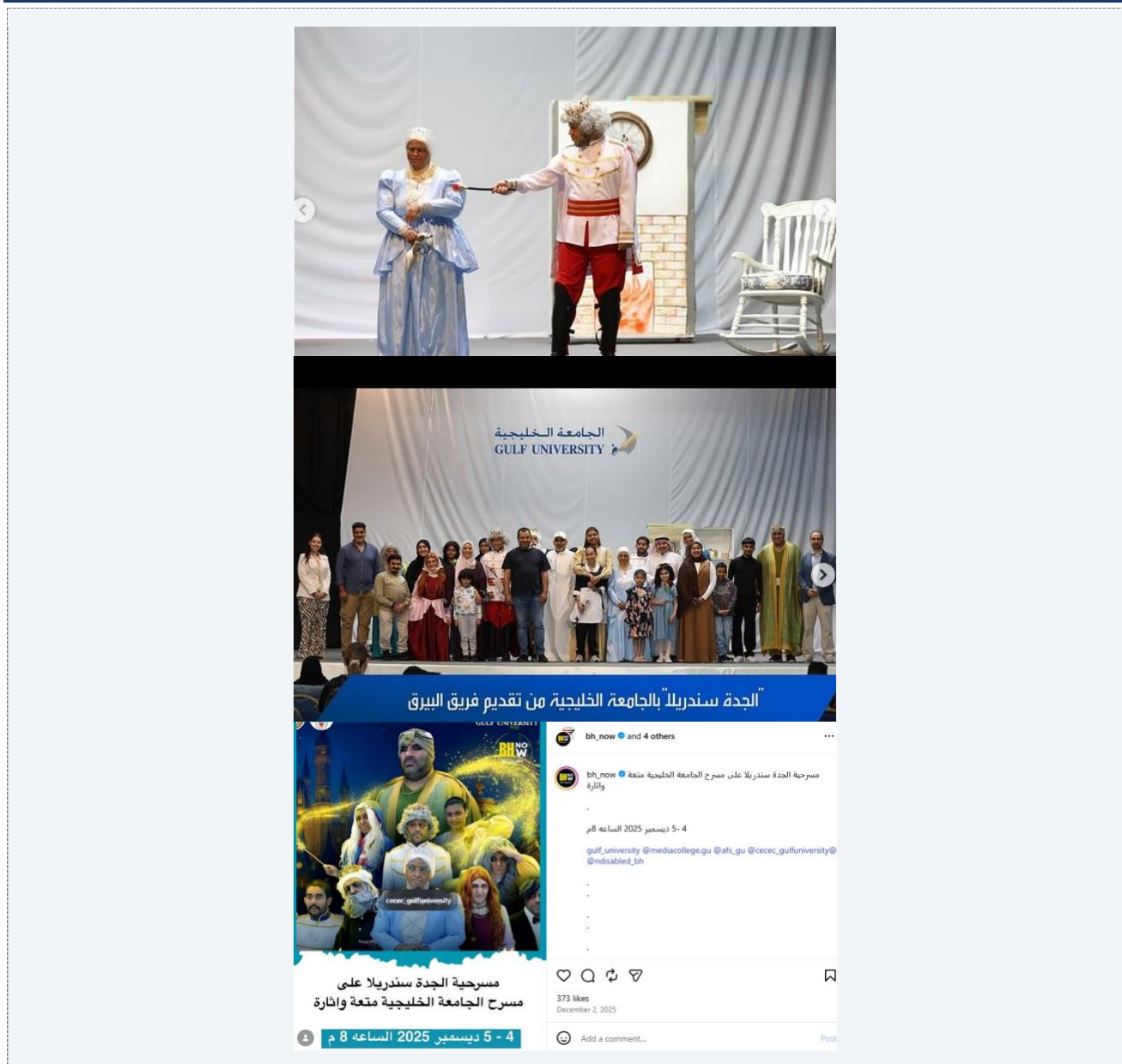
By opening its stage and theatrical facilities to host this production, Gulf University demonstrated once again the breadth and generosity of its Pillar 3 commitment — ensuring that its physical resources serve not only the academic programmes of the university but the cultural life and artistic enrichment of the wider Bahraini community. The theatre is one of Gulf University's most distinctive and valued facilities, and its activation for community-facing cultural productions such as "Grandma Cinderella" reflects CECEC's vision of a campus that is genuinely open, welcoming, and culturally alive.

Live theatre holds a special and irreplaceable place in any healthy community's cultural life. It brings people together in shared experience, stimulates imagination and empathy, celebrates the creativity of performers and writers, and creates the kind of communal moments of joy and laughter that strengthen social bonds and enrich the human spirit. Gulf University is proud to have provided the stage — in every sense of the word — for this wonderful production, and to have offered its community and the wider public two unforgettable evenings of theatrical entertainment.

| Detail     | Information                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Production | Grandma Cinderella (مسرحية الجدة سندريلا)      |
| Dates      | 4 & 5 December 2025 — 8:00 PM each evening     |
| Venue      | Gulf University Theatre / Main Stage           |
| GU Role    | Venue host — theatre & stage provided by CECEC |
| Audience   | Community members of all ages                  |

|           |                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN03 — Increase community access to GU facilities for cultural and arts events                                                               |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health & Wellbeing   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





| SDG                           | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 4 — Quality Education     | Facility access for sign language education, tolerance ceremonies, and live theatre extends learning and cultural enrichment to the community. |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities | Hosting sign language and inclusion events demonstrates GU's commitment to equal access for People of Determination and all community members. |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   | Activating GU campus as a community cultural and civic hub contributes to the vibrancy and social cohesion of Bahrain's communities.           |
| SDG 16 — Peace & Justice      | The Tolerance Ceremony directly promotes the values of peace, coexistence, and mutual respect across Bahrain's diverse society.                |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships         | All three events organized through civil society partnerships — Bahrain Deaf Society, Shu'lat Al-Mahaba, and the theatre production team.      |

# PILLAR 4

## Social Engagement

### Pillar 4 Overview

Pillar 4 encompasses CECEC's social, sporting, health, and community bonding events — initiatives that build connection, celebrate shared values, promote wellbeing, and nurture the vibrant campus and community culture that defines Gulf University. In 2025–2026, CECEC delivered 15 social engagement events across sports, health promotion, campus life, cultural celebration, and environmental awareness.

#### ⚽ Student-Alumni Friendly Match

A friendly sports match brought together students and alumni in a vibrant atmosphere of unity, connection, and memorable moments beyond academic life — forging the bonds that sustain the Gulf University community long after graduation.

| Detail  | Information                                                    |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Type    | Friendly sports match — GU students vs. alumni                 |
| Purpose | Community bonding, alumni engagement, institutional connection |

|           |                                                                                         |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student and faculty participation in community and social activities |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 17 — Partnerships                 |



 **Welcome Back to Campus — New Semester (Students)**

Gulf University welcomed students back to lecture halls in an atmosphere filled with optimism and energy — celebrating the start of a new semester and reinforcing the sense of belonging and community that makes GU a true academic home for every student.

| Detail  | Information                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Type    | Campus welcome event — start of academic semester      |
| Purpose | Student belonging, motivation, campus community spirit |

|           |                                                                                 |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student participation in community and social activities     |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities |



 **Welcome Back — Faculty & Staff Celebration of Teamwork**

Gulf University marked the return of its faculty and staff to campus with an energizing celebration that honored the spirit of teamwork, dedication, and shared purpose that defines the Gulf University community. The occasion brought together colleagues from across the university's departments in an atmosphere of camaraderie and appreciation, setting a positive and collaborative tone for the academic year ahead.

Special recognition was extended to the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) and all supporting departments whose behind-the-scenes efforts ensured a seamless and welcoming start to the new semester. Gulf University's Happiness Committee played a central role in organizing the celebration, reflecting the university's ongoing commitment to staff wellbeing, institutional morale, and a workplace culture built on mutual respect and appreciation.

CECEC's participation in and support of this event reflects its broader mandate to foster a thriving, connected, and engaged university community — one where faculty and staff feel as valued and celebrated as the students they serve. Events of this nature strengthen institutional cohesion, reinforce professional relationships across departments, and demonstrate that Gulf University's community engagement mission begins from within.

| Detail     | Information                                                    |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Organizers | CECEC & GU Happiness Committee                                 |
| Audience   | Gulf University faculty and administrative staff               |
| Purpose    | Staff wellbeing, teamwork appreciation, institutional cohesion |

|           |                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster faculty and staff participation in community and social activities |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 17 — Partnerships               |



## World Health Day — Free Medical Check-Ups with Al Salam Hospital

In celebration of World Health Day, the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University launched a meaningful health initiative in collaboration with Al Salam Hospital, providing free medical check-ups for Gulf University staff and faculty members on campus. The initiative reflected the university's deep commitment to the health and wellbeing of its community — recognizing that a healthy workforce is the foundation of a productive, engaged, and thriving institution.

The on-campus medical check-ups offered staff and faculty convenient access to professional health screening services, removing the logistical barriers that often prevent individuals from prioritizing their own health amid busy professional schedules. By bringing healthcare directly to the workplace in partnership with Al Salam Hospital — a trusted healthcare provider in the Kingdom of Bahrain — CECEC demonstrated a practical, people-centered approach to health promotion that goes beyond awareness campaigns and delivers tangible, immediate benefit to participants.

The initiative carried a clear message: at Gulf University, the wellbeing of every member of the community is a genuine institutional priority — not only on World Health Day, but throughout the year. CECEC's collaboration with Al Salam Hospital reflects the centre's broader strategy of building meaningful partnerships with healthcare and civil society organisations to extend the reach and impact of its community engagement programmes.

| Detail   | Information                                                          |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner  | Al Salam Hospital                                                    |
| Occasion | World Health Day                                                     |
| Service  | Free professional medical check-ups on campus for GU staff & faculty |
| Impact   | Preventive healthcare brought directly to the workplace              |

|           |                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Social engagement & community health promotion initiatives |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 17 — Partnerships            |





## 2nd President's Cup — Closing Ceremony

The final whistle has blown on Gulf University's 2nd President's Cup, bringing to a close a tournament that captured the very best of what sport can offer a university community — fierce competition, genuine camaraderie, and an unforgettable celebration of shared institutional pride. Students, faculty, and staff came together on the pitch in a brilliant display of unity, leaving everything they had in a tournament that will be remembered long after the final scoreline fades.

The 2nd President's Cup demonstrated that Gulf University is more than an academic institution — it is a living, breathing community where people from all roles and backgrounds come together around shared experiences that transcend the everyday. The tournament provided a platform for participants to forge new friendships, strengthen existing bonds, and experience the kind of collective joy that only sport — at its best — can produce.

CECEC acknowledges and extends sincere congratulations to the champions of this year's tournament, whose dedication, teamwork, and competitive spirit made them deserving winners. Equal recognition goes to every participant — students, faculty, and staff alike — who stepped onto the pitch and contributed to making this edition a spectacular success. A heartfelt thank you is also extended to the organizers whose commitment and hard work transformed the 2nd President's Cup into a truly unforgettable spectacle for the entire Gulf University community. The success of this second edition reflects growing institutional momentum behind CECEC's vision of a university community that engages, connects, and celebrates together — on and off the pitch.

| Detail       | Information                                              |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Tournament   | 2nd President's Cup — Academic Year 2025–2026            |
| Participants | Students, faculty, and staff — all departments           |
| Format       | Multi-team sports tournament — closing ceremony & awards |

|           |                                                                                                         |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student and faculty participation in community and sporting activities               |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Annual Ramadan Ghabga & AI Employment Programme Launch

Gulf University organized its annual Ramadan Ghabga in a distinctive and memorable atmosphere that brought together the university's leadership and staff in a spirit of warmth, togetherness, and celebration. The evening was enriched with a variety of activities, competitions, and prizes that deepened the bonds of friendship and strengthened the sense of connection among all members of the Gulf University family.

The Ghabga provided a cherished opportunity for university leadership, faculty, and administrative staff to step away from the demands of professional life and gather in a relaxed, festive setting — one that reflects the values of generosity, community, and belonging that are at the heart of the holy month of Ramadan. Activities and friendly competitions throughout the evening created moments of joy and laughter that reinforced the collegial spirit defining Gulf University's community culture.

A highlight of the evening was the official launch of an innovative AI-powered employment programme, designed to support Gulf University students and graduates in accessing career opportunities both within the Kingdom of Bahrain and internationally. Leveraging cutting-edge artificial intelligence technologies, the programme represents a significant step forward in the university's commitment to graduate employability and career readiness — equipping its alumni with the tools, guidance, and connections needed to compete and succeed in a rapidly evolving global job market.

The annual Ghabga thus served a dual purpose: celebrating the social and human connections that make Gulf University a community in the truest sense, while simultaneously launching a forward-looking initiative that invests in the professional futures of its students and graduates. It reaffirmed the importance of the annual Ghabga as a cornerstone event in nurturing the social, professional, and institutional bonds that unite all members of the Gulf University community.

| Detail          | Information                                                                 |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Type            | Annual Ramadan social gathering — leadership & staff                        |
| Special Feature | Official launch of AI-powered employment programme for students & graduates |
| Scope           | Local and international career opportunities                                |
| SDG Relevance   | Education + Decent Work + Social Cohesion                                   |

|                  |                                                                                                              |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Objective</b> | <b>OB16.IN02 — Foster community participation in social activities; OB13.IN01 — AI employment innovation</b> |
| <b>SDGs</b>      | <b>SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 17 — Partnerships</b>         |



### **Teachers' Day — Interactive Student Gratitude Board**

On the occasion of World Teachers' Day, Gulf University extended its heartfelt congratulations to all of its esteemed professors and academic staff — honoring the dedication, inspiration, and profound human investment that defines the teaching profession at its finest. In a gesture that was as simple as it was deeply meaningful, the university created a special interactive board on the ground floor of the campus, inviting students to leave personal messages of gratitude, appreciation, and recognition for the faculty members who have shaped their academic journeys and touched their lives.

The interactive board transformed a single day of celebration into a sustained, three-day experience of appreciation — with faculty members invited to read the messages left by their students from October 5th onward, discovering in their own words the impact they have had on the young people in their care. In an academic environment where the human dimension of the teacher-student relationship can sometimes be overshadowed by the demands of curricula, assessments, and institutional processes, this initiative created a rare and precious space for genuine, unfiltered gratitude to flow from student to teacher — a reminder of why the teaching profession matters and why those who choose it deserve to feel seen, valued, and celebrated.

The invitation extended to students carried a message of its own: that expressing gratitude is not merely a social courtesy but an act of civic and human significance — one that strengthens the bonds of trust, respect, and mutual commitment that make a university community truly thrive. Students were encouraged to let their words become a

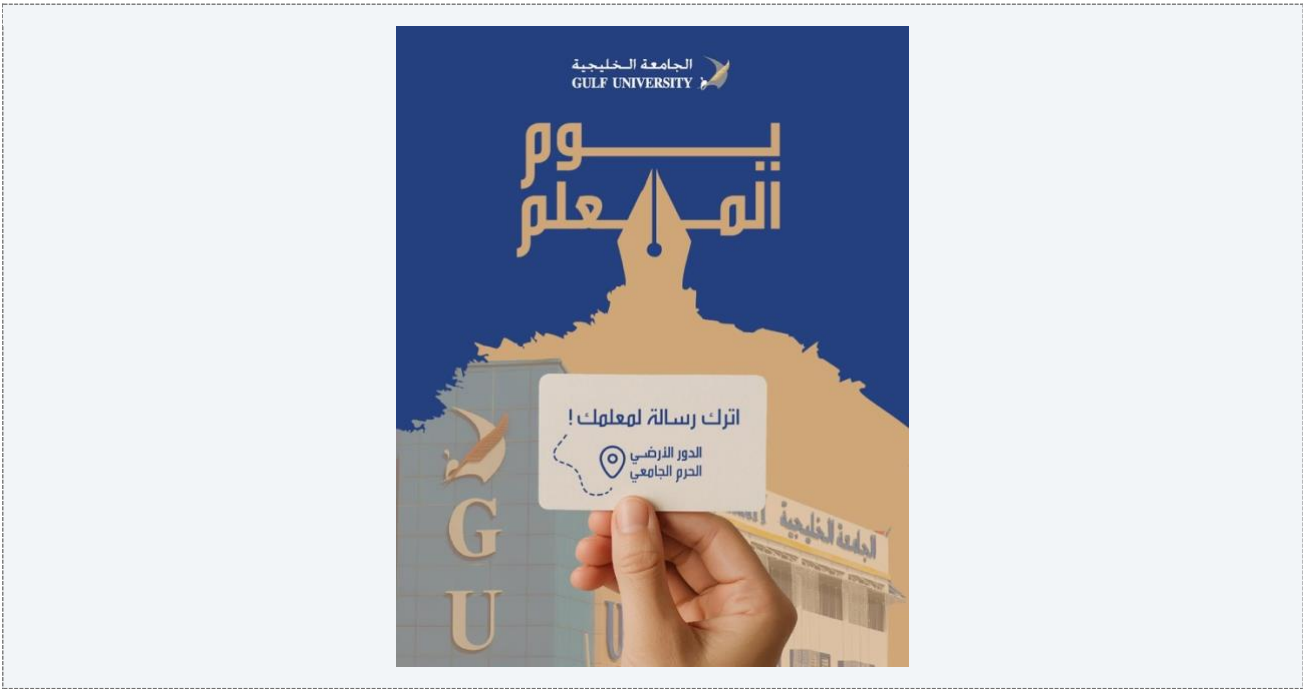


lasting mark of appreciation — a permanent, human record of the difference that great teaching makes in a person's life.

CECEC supported this initiative as part of its commitment to nurturing a campus culture where every member of the Gulf University family — teacher and student alike — feels genuinely valued, connected, and inspired by the community they are part of. Teachers' Day at Gulf University was not simply a date on the calendar; it was an affirmation of the belief that education, at its heart, is a profoundly human endeavor — and that the people who dedicate their lives to it deserve nothing less than our deepest and most heartfelt appreciation.

| Detail       | Information                                             |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Occasion     | World Teachers' Day — October 5                         |
| Format       | Interactive gratitude board — 3-day campus installation |
| Location     | Ground Floor, Gulf University Campus                    |
| Participants | All students (contributors) and faculty (recipients)    |

|           |                                                                                                         |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student and faculty participation in community and social activities                 |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



**Yalla Nemshi — Bahrain Sports Day Walking Event**

Gulf University, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC), proudly invited the community to participate in **"Yalla Nemshi"** — a spirited community walking event organized in celebration of Bahrain Sports Day. Held on **12 February 2026 from 9:00 to 10:00 AM** along the scenic **Isa Town Rubber Walkway**, the event brought together students, faculty, staff, and community members in a shared commitment to physical activity, health, and the joy of moving together as one community.

The **"Yalla Nemshi"** event — its name a warm, colloquial invitation meaning **"Let's Walk"** — embodied everything that Bahrain Sports Day stands for: the celebration of an active lifestyle, the promotion of physical and mental

wellbeing, and the power of community spirit to transform even the simplest activity into a meaningful, memorable, and health-affirming shared experience. Walking side by side along the Isa Town Rubber Walkway, participants were reminded that health is not a destination but a daily choice — and that every step taken together is a step toward a stronger, healthier, and more connected Bahraini community.

The collaboration between Gulf University, CECEC, and the Ministry of Health gave the event a distinctive dual character: it was simultaneously a community celebration and a health promotion initiative — combining the festive energy of Bahrain Sports Day with the Ministry's professional health awareness mandate and Gulf University's commitment to translating that mandate into accessible, enjoyable, and community-facing programmes. This partnership reflects the natural alignment between CECEC's community engagement mission and the Ministry of Health's vision of a Bahrain in which every citizen is empowered and inspired to take ownership of their own health and wellbeing.

As the event's guiding message so beautifully captured: *"Your step today... is health and wellness for tomorrow."* A single step. A single hour. A single morning shared together — and the ripple effects of healthier habits, stronger community bonds, and a renewed commitment to active living that extend far beyond the walkway and into the daily lives of every participant.

| Detail      | Information                                                |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner     | Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Bahrain                     |
| Occasion    | Bahrain Sports Day                                         |
| Date & Time | 12 February 2026 — 9:00–10:00 AM                           |
| Location    | Isa Town Rubber Walkway                                    |
| Format      | Community walking event — open to students, staff & public |

|           |                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Social engagement & community health promotion initiatives                                                    |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





### Classic Cars, Sports Cars & Motorcycles Community Showcase

Gulf University and the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) brought the campus to life in a uniquely exciting and passionate way, hosting a spectacular automotive showcase event that united car and motorcycle enthusiasts in an atmosphere of shared excitement, admiration, and community spirit. The event featured an impressive display of classic cars, sports cars, and motorcycles — each one a testament to the artistry, engineering, and cultural history that make automotive passion one of the most universally celebrated enthusiast communities in the world.

The showcase created an environment unlike any other on the Gulf University campus — one where the roar of engines, the gleam of polished bodywork, and the stories behind each vehicle combined to produce an experience that was as visually spectacular as it was socially vibrant. Enthusiasts, students, faculty, staff, and community visitors gathered together not as professionals or academics, but simply as people united by a shared love of automotive excellence — breaking down the everyday boundaries of role and hierarchy in favor of genuine, passion-driven human connection.

Classic cars brought with them the elegance and nostalgia of eras past — rolling works of art that carry within them the history of automotive design and the memories of those who drove, admired, and cherished them. Sports cars represented the cutting edge of performance and engineering ambition — machines that embody the human drive to push boundaries and achieve the extraordinary. Motorcycles added yet another dimension to the showcase — combining mechanical beauty with the freedom and individuality that define motorcycle culture at its best.

CECEC organized this event as a reflection of its broad and genuinely inclusive vision of community engagement — one that recognizes that a thriving, connected community is built not only through formal programmes and civic initiatives, but through the celebration of the passions, hobbies, and shared enthusiasms that bring people together in the most authentic and spontaneous ways. An automotive showcase may be unexpected within a university setting — but that is precisely what made it memorable, meaningful, and a true expression of Gulf University's commitment to being a university that belongs to and reflects the full richness of its community.

An unforgettable experience — and a reminder that community is built wherever people come together with genuine enthusiasm and open hearts.

| Detail  | Information                                                                 |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Type    | Community automotive showcase event on campus                               |
| Display | Classic cars, sports cars, and motorcycles                                  |
| Purpose | Community bonding, shared enthusiasm, campus activation & social connection |

|           |                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster community participation and diverse social engagement activities   |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health & Wellbeing   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## Creative Students Camp

Gulf University's Creative Students Camp proved to be far more than a trip — it was a transformative experience that brought students together in a space where creativity could breathe, connections could deepen, and a genuine sense of belonging could take root. Blending entertainment, volunteer work, and heartfelt appreciation into a single, unforgettable journey, the camp demonstrated with clarity and joy what Gulf University has always believed: that creativity flourishes when people work together with purpose, and that the most lasting memories are made when we give of ourselves as generously as we receive.

The camp created a rare and precious environment — one deliberately designed to step outside the rhythms of academic life and offer students something different: time and space to discover themselves, connect with their peers, explore their creative capacities, and experience the deep satisfaction that comes from contributing to something larger than oneself. In this environment, the boundaries between entertainment and learning, between individual expression and collective achievement, between fun and meaningful purpose, dissolved entirely — replaced by the kind of integrated, holistic experience that leaves a genuine mark on everyone who participates.

**Creativity** was at the heart of everything — students were encouraged to think differently, express boldly, and approach challenges with imagination and originality. The camp provided the creative stimulation and collaborative

energy that academic settings alone cannot always offer, unlocking dimensions of students' personalities and capabilities that surprise and inspire even themselves.

**Connection** was built organically through shared experiences — the laughter of shared meals, the trust built through collaborative challenges, the conversations that happen naturally when people are given the time and space to simply be present with one another. The friendships and bonds forged during the Creative Students Camp will extend far beyond the trip itself, enriching the social fabric of the Gulf University community for years to come.

**Volunteer work** gave the camp its moral core — ensuring that the experience was not only personally enriching but socially purposeful. By incorporating voluntary community contribution into the camp programme, CECEC reinforced one of its most fundamental values: that Gulf University students are not only recipients of education and experience, but active, responsible, and generous contributors to the communities they are part of. Giving with purpose is not a burden — it is one of the most fulfilling and character-forming experiences a young person can have, and the Creative Students Camp made this truth vivid and real for every participant.

**Appreciation** — of one another, of the opportunity, of the community, and of the university that made it possible — infused the entire experience with warmth and gratitude, creating the emotional resonance that transforms a good trip into an unforgettable memory.

CECEC is proud to have organized the Creative Students Camp as part of its commitment to nurturing a student community that is creative, connected, socially responsible, and genuinely proud of who they are and what they can achieve — together.

| Detail       | Information                                                        |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Type         | Multi-day student camp — off-campus immersive experience           |
| Key Themes   | Creativity, connection, volunteerism, purposeful giving, belonging |
| Participants | Gulf University students across faculties                          |

|           |                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Foster student community participation and volunteer engagement                                               |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Marai 2025 — Student Volunteer Media Coverage & Ministerial Recognition

In a proud and celebratory moment that brought together government recognition, student achievement, and family joy, His Excellency **Eng. Asem Abdul Latif, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Affairs and Animal Wealth**, honored Gulf University's creative and dedicated students at the **Bahrain International Exhibition "Marai 2025"** — recognizing their exceptional voluntary efforts and outstanding media coverage that showcased the exhibition with distinction, professionalism, and genuine passion.

The recognition by His Excellency the Undersecretary represents one of the most significant and meaningful forms of acknowledgment that Gulf University students could receive — a formal, ministerial-level honor bestowed at a

prestigious international exhibition platform, in recognition of work that went far beyond what was expected and delivered something truly exceptional. Gulf University students did not merely attend or participate in Marai 2025 — they covered it, documented it, and presented it to the world through media work of a quality and creativity that caught the attention of the exhibition's highest leadership and earned recognition at the very top of the institutional hierarchy.

The students' contribution to Marai 2025 was characterized by the kind of initiative, dedication, and creative excellence that defines the Gulf University spirit at its finest. Through their media coverage — capturing the energy, significance, and human stories of one of Bahrain's most important agricultural and industrial exhibitions — they demonstrated that the skills developed within Gulf University's academic programmes are not theoretical competencies confined to the classroom, but living, breathing, real-world capabilities that create genuine value in professional and institutional settings. Their volunteer commitment to the exhibition reflected the values that CECEC works every day to cultivate: that service, initiative, and the willingness to contribute beyond what is required are among the most important qualities a young professional can possess.

The ceremony was attended by the **students' parents** — who shared in the joy and pride of their children's recognition with the warmth and emotion that only a parent witnessing their child's public achievement can feel. Their presence transformed the recognition ceremony into something deeply human and genuinely moving: a family celebration of young people who chose to volunteer, chose to excel, and chose to make Gulf University proud. To the students honored at Marai 2025: you are the living proof that volunteering is not a task but a gift — a gift to the community you serve, to the institution you represent, and to yourselves. You are, in every sense, the pride of Gulf University.

| Detail                | Information                                                          |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Exhibition            | Bahrain International Exhibition Marai 2025                          |
| Recognizing Authority | H.E. Eng. Asem Abdul Latif — Undersecretary, Ministry of Agriculture |
| Student Role          | Voluntary creative media coverage & professional event documentation |
| Recognition Format    | Official ministerial ceremony; parents in attendance                 |

|           |                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student community participation (also OB13.IN01 — Pillar 5)                                     |
| SDGs      | SDG 2 — Zero Hunger   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 17 — Partnerships |







SU

### Towards a Sustainable Life — 2nd Sustainability Week (also Pillar 2)

As part of GU's 2nd Sustainability Week, CECEC collaborated with the PTA volunteer team of Al Khamisa Secondary School, Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia, and GU students to distribute bamboo plants to all GU staff — promoting green culture and environmental responsibility. Full documentation under Pillar 2.

| Detail                 | Information                                                     |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner                | Al Khamisa Secondary School PTA Volunteer Team — Al Jubail, KSA |
| Activity               | Bamboo plant distribution to all GU staff                       |
| Context                | Gulf University 2nd Sustainability Week                         |
| Cross-border Dimension | Saudi Arabia–Bahrain collaborative green initiative             |

|           |                                                                                                                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB23.IN01 — Social engagement & campus environmental sustainability                                             |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 13 — Climate Action   SDG 15 — Life on Land   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## **Breast Cancer Awareness Event — Bahrain Specialist Hospital**

In the framework of promoting health awareness and community service, the Community Service Management at Gulf University organized a dedicated event on the occasion of **World Breast Cancer Awareness Day**, in collaboration with **Bahrain Specialist Hospital** — one of the Kingdom's leading specialist medical institutions. The event reflected Gulf University's unwavering commitment to health promotion, social responsibility, and the delivery of impactful, life-saving community awareness initiatives that reach students, employees, and the wider Bahraini community.

### **Awareness Lecture by Medical Specialists**

The event featured a dedicated awareness lecture delivered by specialist physicians in the fields of oncology and public health — providing attendees with authoritative, evidence-based guidance on the critical importance of early detection of breast cancer, the most effective methods of prevention, and the medical and lifestyle choices that can reduce risk and improve outcomes. The lecture was designed to be accessible, compassionate, and practically actionable — ensuring that every attendee left with knowledge they could apply immediately in their own lives and share with the people they love.

Early detection saves lives. This simple truth — the central message of World Breast Cancer Awareness Month — was brought to life through the expertise and human commitment of the medical professionals from Bahrain Specialist Hospital who gave their time and knowledge in service of the Gulf University community and the wider public.

### **Survivor Story — Hope, Courage & Inspiration**

One of the most powerful and emotionally resonant elements of the event was the participation of a **breast cancer survivor** who courageously shared her personal journey — her diagnosis, her treatment, her challenges, and ultimately her triumph over the disease. Her story served as a living testimony to the power of early detection, medical care, personal resilience, and community support in overcoming one of the most difficult health challenges a person can face.

For the students, staff, and community members in attendance, hearing a survivor's story in her own words carried a depth of impact that no statistic or medical presentation alone could achieve. Her presence and her words filled the room with something equally as important as medical knowledge: **hope** — the conviction that early detection is not only possible but life-changing, and that those who face this disease are never alone in their fight.

### **Awareness Gifts & Educational Materials**

The event was further enriched by the distribution of symbolic awareness gifts and educational materials associated with the global breast cancer awareness campaign, including pink ribbons — the internationally recognized symbol of breast cancer awareness and solidarity, informational booklets containing clear, accessible guidance on early screening, self-examination, and prevention, and commemorative gifts carrying awareness messages about the importance of regular health screening and self-care.

These tangible tokens of awareness served as lasting reminders — carried beyond the event and into the daily lives of participants — of the importance of prioritizing their health and encouraging the women in their lives to do the same.

### **A Community of Care**

This initiative reflects Gulf University's broader commitment to social responsibility, health literacy, and the cultivation of a campus and community culture where health is understood as a shared value — not a private concern. By partnering with Bahrain Specialist Hospital to deliver this event, CECEC demonstrated that the most powerful health awareness initiatives are those that combine medical expertise with human storytelling, institutional commitment with personal courage, and professional knowledge with the warmth of genuine community care.

| Detail            | Information                                                                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner           | Bahrain Specialist Hospital                                                         |
| Occasion          | World Breast Cancer Awareness Day                                                   |
| Programme         | Specialist oncology lecture; survivor testimony; pink ribbon & booklet distribution |
| Audience          | GU students, employees, and wider community                                         |
| Partnership Count | 2nd major collaboration with Bahrain Specialist Hospital in AY 2025–26              |

|           |                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Community health awareness & social engagement (also Pillar 5)                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 5 — Gender Equality   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Not Everything Sweet Is Beneficial — World Diabetes Day | Sustainability Week

As part of Gulf University's **Sustainability Week** activities, and in commemoration of **World Diabetes Day**, the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) organized a distinguished health awareness session titled "**Not Everything Sweet Is Beneficial**" (ليس كل ما هو حلو مفيد) — a title that captured with clarity, warmth, and wit the essential message that the session sought to convey.

The session was delivered by **Dr. Zahraa Al Rabie** from **Bahrain Specialist Hospital** — a qualified medical professional whose expertise in diabetes awareness and public health education brought both authority and accessibility to a topic that touches the lives of millions of people across Bahrain and the wider region.

### **Session Content — Understanding Diabetes in All Its Forms**

Dr. Al Rabie guided attendees through a comprehensive and accessible exploration of diabetes — covering the full spectrum of the condition in its different types and manifestations:

**Type 1 Diabetes** — an autoimmune condition in which the body's immune system attacks insulin-producing cells, typically diagnosed in childhood or early adulthood and requiring lifelong insulin therapy. Participants learned about the physiological mechanisms underlying Type 1, the importance of early diagnosis, and the daily management strategies that enable those living with the condition to lead full and active lives.

**Type 2 Diabetes** — the most prevalent form of the condition globally and in Bahrain, strongly linked to lifestyle, diet, and metabolic health. Dr. Al Rabie provided participants with clear, practical, and evidence-based guidance on the modifiable risk factors for Type 2 diabetes — the dietary choices, physical activity habits, and health monitoring practices that can prevent or delay the onset of the condition in those at risk.

**Gestational Diabetes** — a form of diabetes that develops during pregnancy and carries specific risks for both mother and child if undetected or unmanaged. Awareness of this condition is particularly important given its often-symptomless nature and the significant difference that early screening and management can make to maternal and infant health outcomes.

**Prevention, Early Detection & Lifestyle** — running through all dimensions of the session was a consistent, empowering message: diabetes — particularly Type 2 — is in many cases preventable, and in all cases manageable with the right knowledge, habits, and medical support. Participants were equipped with practical, actionable guidance on the dietary choices, physical activity levels, and health screening practices that represent the most effective defenses against the condition.

**Open Discussion Session**  
The session was distinguished by its format as an **open discussion** — moving beyond the traditional lecture model to create a genuinely interactive, participant-led conversation in which students and audience members were encouraged to ask questions, share concerns, challenge assumptions, and engage directly with Dr. Al Rabie on the topics most relevant to their own lives and health experiences. This open discussion format proved particularly powerful — creating the kind of frank, honest, and human conversation about health that is too rarely available outside a clinical setting, and demonstrating that the most effective health awareness is not a one-way broadcast of information but a genuine dialogue between medical expertise and lived community experience.

**Connection to Sustainability Week**  
The inclusion of this diabetes awareness session within Gulf University's **Sustainability Week** reflects a sophisticated and holistic understanding of sustainability — one that recognizes human health as a dimension of sustainable living that is inseparable from environmental, social, and economic sustainability. A community that is healthy is a community that is sustainable. Diabetes — a condition whose global prevalence is rising in direct correlation with unsustainable dietary patterns, sedentary lifestyles, and food systems that prioritize sweetness over nourishment — is in this sense a profoundly sustainability-relevant health challenge. The title "Not Everything Sweet Is Beneficial" carries this deeper resonance: a reminder that sustainability means making conscious, informed choices — about what we eat, how we live, and how we care for our bodies as well as our environment.

| Detail            | Information                                                                   |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Speaker           | Dr. Zahraa Al Rabie — Bahrain Specialist Hospital                             |
| Session Title     | Not Everything Sweet Is Beneficial (ليس كل ما هو حلو مفيد)                    |
| Occasion          | World Diabetes Day — within GU Sustainability Week                            |
| Topics            | Type 1, Type 2 & Gestational Diabetes; prevention; early detection; lifestyle |
| Format            | Awareness lecture + open community discussion session                         |
| Partnership Count | 3rd collaboration with Bahrain Specialist Hospital in AY 2025–26              |

|           |                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Community health awareness (also Pillar 5 — Bahrain Specialist Hospital)                                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 2 — Zero Hunger   SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## Free Health Screening Pavilion — Bahrain Specialist Hospital | Sustainability Week

As part of the activities of Gulf University's **Sustainability Week**, the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) proudly hosted **Bahrain Specialist Hospital** on campus — where a dedicated medical team from the hospital set up a **specialist health screening pavilion** offering free health checks to Gulf University employees, students, and guests throughout the week.

The deployment of a full medical team and a dedicated pavilion by Bahrain Specialist Hospital within the university campus represented one of the most practically impactful and community-serving activities of the entire Sustainability Week programme. Rather than directing community members to seek healthcare elsewhere, Gulf University and its partner brought healthcare directly to the people — removing the logistical, financial, and psychological barriers that too often stand between individuals and the health checks they need.

### **Health Screenings Provided**

The Bahrain Specialist Hospital medical team offered a range of free health screening services to all attendees throughout the week — including blood pressure measurement, blood glucose testing, BMI and body composition assessment, general health consultations and lifestyle advice, and specialist referral guidance for those whose screening results warranted follow-up care. Each screening was conducted by qualified medical professionals in a dedicated, dignified, and welcoming environment — ensuring that every participant felt respected, informed, and genuinely cared for.

### **Sustainability Week — Health as Sustainability**

The inclusion of a free health screening pavilion within Gulf University's Sustainability Week reflects the centre's holistic and integrated understanding of sustainability — one that recognizes personal and community health as an inseparable dimension of sustainable living and sustainable societies. Just as environmental sustainability asks us to care for the world around us, health sustainability asks us to care for the bodies and minds that inhabit it. Preventive health screening is among the most cost-effective, high-impact investments a community can make in its own

sustainable future — catching conditions early, enabling timely intervention, and empowering individuals with the knowledge they need to make health-sustaining choices.

For Gulf University students — many of whom may not have regular access to private health screenings — the free pavilion offered a genuinely valuable and potentially life-changing opportunity. For staff and faculty members, it provided a convenient, professional, and no-cost health check embedded within their working week. For guests attending Sustainability Week events, it demonstrated Gulf University's commitment to a vision of sustainability that is as human and personal as it is environmental and institutional.

The partnership with Bahrain Specialist Hospital — now encompassing free medical check-ups on World Health Day, the breast cancer awareness event, the diabetes awareness session, and this Sustainability Week screening pavilion — reflects a deepening, multi-dimensional healthcare-academia collaboration that is becoming one of CECEC's most productive and community-impactful institutional relationships.

| Detail            | Information                                                                         |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner           | Bahrain Specialist Hospital — dedicated medical team on campus                      |
| Format            | Full health screening pavilion — deployed at GU during Sustainability Week          |
| Services          | Blood pressure; blood glucose; BMI; general health consultations; referral guidance |
| Audience          | GU employees, students, and all Sustainability Week guests                          |
| Partnership Count | 4th collaboration with Bahrain Specialist Hospital in AY 2025–26                    |

|           |                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Community health promotion (also Pillar 5 — Bahrain Specialist Hospital)                                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 2 — Zero Hunger   SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## Pillar 4 — SDG Contribution Summary

| SDG                           | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 3 — Good Health           | World Health Day check-ups, Yalla Nemshi walking event, President's Cup, Ghabga, Breast Cancer, Diabetes Day, and Sustainability Week health screenings all promote wellbeing. |
| SDG 4 — Quality Education     | Creative Camp, Teachers' Day, welcome events, and student volunteering enrich the holistic educational experience beyond the classroom.                                        |
| SDG 5 — Gender Equality       | Breast Cancer Awareness Event specifically focused on women's health — a direct institutional contribution to gender-responsive health promotion.                              |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities | Inclusive events spanning students, alumni, faculty, and staff ensure equal participation; free health screenings ensure equal access to preventive care.                      |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   | Sustainability Week events and automotive showcase contribute to GU's role as a culturally vibrant and environmentally conscious campus community.                             |

| SDG                     | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 13 — Climate Action | 2nd Sustainability Week bamboo distribution promotes environmental culture and green workplace practices.                                   |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships   | Ministry of Health, Bahrain Specialist Hospital (×4), Al Salam Hospital, and Saudi school team partnerships characterize Pillar 4 delivery. |

Pillar 4 — Social Engagement Events by Category

| Category                         | Volume                 | Count |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Health Promotion Events          | <div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| Sports & Active Events           | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| Campus Welcome & Community       | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| Cultural & Celebration Events    | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| Volunteer & Environmental Events | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |

# PILLAR 5

## Industry Collaboration & Consultation

### Pillar 5 Overview

Pillar 5 documents CECEC's engagement with industry, government, healthcare, and civil society partners through formal MOUs, delegation visits, strategic cooperation meetings, knowledge-transfer lectures, award participations, and applied student research. In 2025–2026, CECEC executed 14 significant industry collaboration activities — making this one of the most productive partnership years in the centre's history.

#### Distinguished Honor — Bahrain Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Gulf University is proud to announce that it has been honored by the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry in recognition of its continuous cooperation, dedication, and meaningful efforts in supporting community initiatives across the Kingdom of Bahrain. This distinguished recognition — bestowed by one of Bahrain's most prominent and respected institutional bodies — stands as a powerful external validation of Gulf University's unwavering commitment to community engagement, industry collaboration, and the advancement of Bahrain's education sector and broader society.

The honor from the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry carries particular significance precisely because it comes from outside the academic community. When a leading institutional body representing Bahrain's business and commercial sector chooses to recognize a university for its community contributions, it sends a clear and compelling message: that Gulf University's impact is not confined to its campus or its student body, but extends meaningfully into the economic, social, and institutional fabric of the Kingdom. It is a recognition that the work CECEC and Gulf University do — day after day, initiative after initiative, partnership after partnership — is seen, valued, and appreciated by the wider Bahraini community it serves.

This achievement is the product of years of sustained institutional commitment — to free community training, to social responsibility, to industry collaboration, to civic engagement, and to the fundamental belief that a university's greatest contribution to its nation is measured not only by the qualifications it awards but by the genuine difference it makes in the lives of the people and institutions around it. Every workshop delivered, every partnership forged, every community member reached, and every initiative organized by CECEC has contributed to building the reputation that this honor reflects.

Gulf University remains deeply committed to deepening its cooperation with the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, with Bahrain's broader business community, and with all partners who share the vision of a stronger, more capable, and more prosperous Kingdom of Bahrain. This recognition is not a destination — it is an affirmation of the path Gulf University has chosen, and a motivation to walk it with even greater dedication and ambition in the years ahead.

| Detail        | Information                                                              |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Awarding Body | Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry                                 |
| Recognition   | Distinguished Honor for Community Cooperation & Support                  |
| Significance  | External validation from Bahrain's most prominent commercial institution |

|           |                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB14.IN01 — Industry collaboration & strategic institutional partnerships                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## Ministry of Health Delegation Visit — Health Promotion Cooperation

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University was honored to receive an official delegation from the Ministry of Health, represented by **Dr. Fatima Al-Matwaa**, Head of the Programmes Division at the Health Promotion Management Directorate, and **Ms. Zainab Abd Ali**, Health Promotion Specialist. The visit was held in a spirit of constructive dialogue and mutual institutional respect, with the purpose of exploring potential areas of cooperation between Gulf University and the Ministry of Health that would contribute to strengthening and spreading health awareness across the wider Bahraini community.

The meeting provided a valuable platform for both parties to share their respective mandates, capabilities, and community engagement priorities — identifying the points of alignment where a formal partnership between CECEC and the Ministry of Health's Health Promotion Management Directorate could generate the greatest and most sustainable community impact. Discussions centered on the opportunities available for joint programming, awareness campaigns, and training initiatives that would leverage Gulf University's academic expertise and community networks alongside the Ministry's professional health promotion resources and institutional reach. The visit reflects the growing recognition within Bahrain's government sector that universities — and CECEC in particular — represent uniquely capable and trusted partners in the delivery of community health awareness initiatives. Gulf University's multidisciplinary faculty, its established relationships with diverse community organizations, and its proven track record of free, high-quality community programming make it an ideal institutional partner for a Ministry whose mission is the promotion of health and wellbeing across all segments of Bahraini society.

CECEC looks forward to building on this initial meeting and developing a formal, structured cooperation framework with the Ministry of Health — one that will translate the goodwill and shared vision expressed during this visit into concrete, community-facing health awareness programmes that reach and benefit the people of Bahrain in meaningful and lasting ways.

| Detail           | Information                                                                 |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Delegation       | Ministry of Health — Health Promotion Management Directorate                |
| Representatives  | Dr. Fatima Al-Matwaa (Head of Programmes) & Ms. Zainab Abd Ali (Specialist) |
| Purpose          | Exploring cooperation in community health awareness programmes              |
| Expected Outcome | Formal cooperation framework & joint health awareness programming           |



|           |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB14.IN01 — Government partnership & collaboration for community health                                                |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



### **Mulhamoon Youth Authority — Strategic Coordination Meeting**

In a promising step toward deepening the integration between youth work and academic institutions, the Mulhamoon Youth Authority held a strategic coordination meeting with the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University, bringing together both parties to explore avenues of meaningful cooperation and to lay the foundations of a formal institutional partnership that serves the aspirations of Bahrain's youth and the development priorities of the Kingdom.

The meeting was conducted in a spirit of shared vision and constructive dialogue, with discussions spanning an ambitious and comprehensive agenda that reflects the depth of opportunity available when a forward-thinking youth authority and a community-engaged university choose to work together with purpose and intentionality.

#### **Key Areas of Discussed Cooperation:**

The coordination meeting addressed a rich and multifaceted portfolio of potential joint initiatives, including:

**Training, Development & Capacity Building** — Exploring the design and delivery of joint training programmes that leverage Gulf University's academic expertise and CECEC's proven community training infrastructure to build the professional and personal capacities of Bahraini youth in areas directly relevant to the national development agenda.

**Innovation, Applied Research & Youth Entrepreneurship** — Identifying opportunities to support young innovators and entrepreneurs through structured academic mentorship, applied research collaboration, and the development of enabling environments where youth-led ideas can be tested, refined, and brought to life as viable initiatives and enterprises.

**Student & Youth Participation in Community & Sustainable Development Initiatives** — Strengthening the active engagement of university students and young people in community-facing initiatives and sustainable development programmes — moving beyond passive participation and toward genuine, leadership-oriented contribution to Bahrain's social and developmental landscape.

**Applied Learning & Knowledge Integration** — Creating structured opportunities for applied, experiential learning that bridges the gap between academic knowledge and real-world practice — both within and beyond the traditional academic environment — equipping young people with the practical competencies and adaptive thinking that today's rapidly evolving world demands.

**Joint Training Programmes & Specialist Workshops** — Developing concrete proposals for co-designed and co-delivered training programmes and specialist workshops that combine the academic rigour of Gulf University with the youth-oriented programming expertise of Mulhamoon — creating learning experiences that are simultaneously credible, relevant, and inspiring for young participants.

**Support for Innovative Projects** — Establishing mechanisms through which CECEC and Mulhamoon can jointly identify, support, and accelerate innovative projects proposed by youth — providing the mentorship, resources, institutional backing, and community networks needed to transform promising ideas into impactful realities.

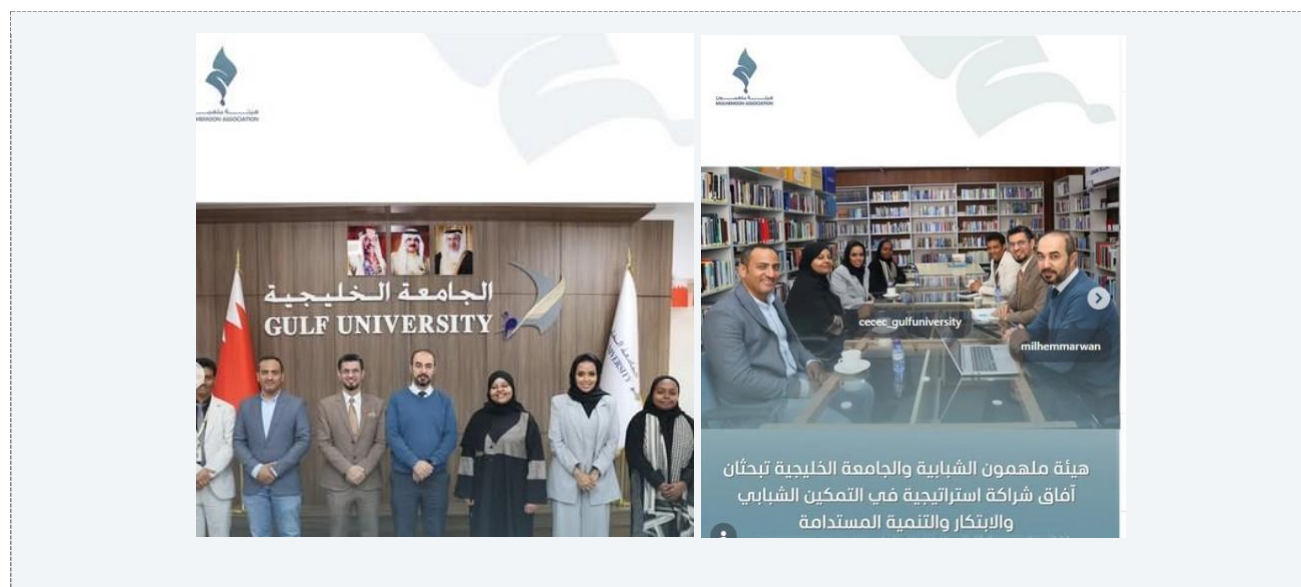
**Joint Community Initiatives & Scientific and Youth Events** — Planning and organizing shared community initiatives, scientific forums, and youth events that position the Gulf University-Mulhamoon partnership as a visible and dynamic force for positive change within the Bahraini community.

At the heart of this meeting lay a conviction shared by both parties: that the most powerful model of youth development is one that integrates academic knowledge with innovative youth programming — creating a seamless, mutually reinforcing ecosystem in which young people are not merely recipients of education and training, but active agents of knowledge creation, community contribution, and national progress. The ultimate goal of this emerging partnership is the preparation of a conscious, capable, and creative generation — young Bahrainis equipped and inspired to transform their ideas into practical initiatives that serve themselves, their communities, and their nation.

CECEC looks forward with genuine enthusiasm to the formalization of this partnership and to the concrete programmes, workshops, initiatives, and collaborative achievements that will follow — reaffirming Gulf University's commitment to being not only a centre of academic excellence, but a catalyst for youth empowerment and sustainable community development across the Kingdom of Bahrain.

| Detail           | Information                                                                           |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner          | Mulhamoon Youth Authority (هيئة ملهمون الشبابية)                                      |
| Meeting Type     | Strategic coordination — partnership exploration                                      |
| Key Themes       | Training; innovation; entrepreneurship; applied learning; joint community initiatives |
| Expected Outcome | Formal institutional partnership & joint programme delivery framework                 |

|           |                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB14.IN01 — Youth sector strategic partnership & capacity building                                                                          |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Albilad CSR Award 2025 — Gulf University Participation

Gulf University, through the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC), was honored to participate in the prestigious **Albilad CSR Award 2025** ceremony — one of the Kingdom of Bahrain's most recognized platforms for celebrating institutional commitment to corporate social responsibility, sustainability, and meaningful community impact. The participation represents a proud and significant moment for Gulf University and

for CECEC — an opportunity to stand alongside Bahrain's most socially responsible institutions and to present, on a national stage, the depth and breadth of the university's commitment to serving its community.

The Albilad CSR Award is not merely a recognition ceremony — it is a national statement about the kind of institutions Bahrain values and seeks to celebrate: those that go beyond their core mandate and invest genuinely, consistently, and ambitiously in the social, environmental, and community dimensions of their work. For a university, participation in this award is a particularly meaningful act — it signals that Gulf University understands its role not as a purely academic institution operating within campus boundaries, but as a civic institution with a profound and active responsibility to the society that surrounds and sustains it.

Gulf University's participation in the Albilad CSR Award 2025 reflects the cumulative achievements of CECEC across all seven pillars of its community engagement programme — from the delivery of 124 free training workshops to government ministries, correctional facilities, and civil society organizations, to donations and social responsibility initiatives, facility sharing with community partners, social engagement events, industry collaborations, community services, and continuing education programmes. Each of these pillars represents a dimension of Gulf University's CSR commitment — and together they constitute a comprehensive, institutionally embedded, and genuinely impactful programme of social responsibility that merits recognition on the national stage. Participation in the Albilad CSR Award also serves a strategic purpose beyond recognition: it places Gulf University within a community of socially responsible institutions, creates opportunities for cross-sector learning and partnership, and reinforces the university's reputation as a trusted, values-driven, and community-oriented institution in the eyes of Bahrain's business community, government sector, and civil society. CECEC is proud to carry Gulf University's CSR story to this important platform — and remains deeply committed to the belief that universities have not only the opportunity but the obligation to promote social responsibility, sustainability, and community impact as core institutional values.

| Detail       | Information                                                               |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Award        | Albilad CSR Award 2025                                                    |
| Representing | Gulf University — CECEC                                                   |
| Significance | National platform for CSR, sustainability & community impact recognition  |
| Context      | Reflects cumulative achievements across all 7 CECEC pillars in AY 2025–26 |

|           |                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB14.IN01 — National industry recognition & institutional CSR positioning                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



### Official Visit to GARMCO — Research, Training & Community Cooperation

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University organized a formal and productive official visit to the **Gulf Aluminium Rolling Mill Company (GARMCO)** — one of the Kingdom of Bahrain's most prominent and strategically significant industrial enterprises — with the aim of exploring meaningful opportunities for cooperation in the domains of scientific research, professional training, and community service. The visit reflects CECEC's ongoing commitment to deepening the integration between Gulf University's academic capabilities and the needs and priorities of Bahrain's industrial sector, in direct support of the Kingdom's national development goals.

The delegation was warmly received by **Mr. Mohammed Rafie, Executive Director of GARMCO**, whose generous hospitality and constructive engagement set the tone for a dialogue that was as substantive as it was promising. Discussions between the CECEC delegation and GARMCO's leadership centered on identifying the specific areas where a formal academic-industrial partnership could generate the greatest mutual benefit — from joint research initiatives that address real operational challenges facing the aluminium industry, to structured training programmes that build the technical and professional capacities of GARMCO's workforce using Gulf University's academic expertise, to collaborative community service initiatives that position both institutions as active contributors to Bahrain's social and economic development agenda.

#### Student Graduation Project Presentation — A Highlight of the Visit

A particularly notable and meaningful moment during the visit was the presentation by **Student Ali Al-Ghazzal** of his graduation project, titled:

#### "The Impact of Green Human Resource Practices on Achieving Competitive Advantage at GARMCO"

This presentation exemplified the kind of applied, industry-relevant academic work that Gulf University actively encourages and supports — research that is not confined to the classroom or the library but reaches directly into the operational realities of Bahrain's industrial sector and offers insights of genuine strategic value. By presenting his graduation project to GARMCO's leadership in the company's own premises, Ali Al-Ghazzal demonstrated the caliber of Gulf University's students and the practical applicability of their academic work — while simultaneously opening a conversation about the role of green HR practices in supporting GARMCO's sustainability and competitive positioning agenda.

The visit as a whole — combining institutional dialogue at the executive level with a student-led research presentation — embodied Gulf University's vision of an academic institution that engages with industry not as a distant observer but as an active, contributing, and genuinely valuable partner. CECEC extends its sincere gratitude to Mr. Mohammed Rafie and the entire GARMCO team for their warm reception and the quality of their engagement, and looks forward to building on this visit toward a formal, structured, and mutually beneficial partnership in the months ahead.

| Detail            | Information                                                           |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Company           | Gulf Aluminium Rolling Mill Company (GARMCO — جارمكو)                 |
| Host              | Mr. Mohammed Rafie — Executive Director, GARMCO                       |
| Purpose           | Research, training & community service cooperation                    |
| Student Presenter | Ali Al-Ghazzal — Green HR Practices & Competitive Advantage at GARMCO |
| Expected Outcome  | Formal MOU & joint research/training partnership                      |

|           |                                                                                                                        |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB14.IN01 — Industry research collaboration & applied student engagement                                   |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 13 — Climate Action   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## Delegation Visit — Ministry of Transportation & Telecommunication

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University organized a formal visit by a university delegation to the **Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication** — one of the Kingdom of Bahrain's most strategically significant government ministries, at the forefront of the nation's infrastructure development, digital transformation, and connectivity agenda. The visit was conducted with the purpose of opening a substantive dialogue on potential areas of collaboration and building a strategic partnership that would leverage Gulf University's academic expertise in direct support of Bahrain's national development priorities.

The meeting provided a valuable and productive platform for both parties to explore the landscape of shared interests and complementary capabilities — identifying the specific domains where a formal academic-government partnership between Gulf University and the Ministry could generate the most meaningful and sustainable impact. Discussions ranged across multiple areas of potential cooperation, reflecting the breadth of Gulf University's academic portfolio and the wide-ranging mandate of a Ministry responsible for transportation infrastructure, telecommunications policy, digital services, and connectivity across the Kingdom.

The visit reflects CECEC's strategic approach to government sector engagement — one that goes beyond transactional service delivery and aspires to the establishment of genuine, long-term institutional partnerships in which Gulf University's research capacity, technical expertise, and community engagement infrastructure are placed systematically at the service of the ministries and government bodies driving Bahrain's national development agenda. The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication represents a particularly compelling partnership opportunity, given the alignment between its core mandate — advancing Bahrain's transportation networks, digital infrastructure, and telecommunications landscape — and Gulf University's strengths in engineering, information technology, digital transformation, and applied research.

Both parties expressed a shared commitment to moving beyond exploratory dialogue and toward the concrete definition of joint initiatives — whether in the form of collaborative research projects, professional training programmes for Ministry staff, technical consultation, or community-facing awareness initiatives that combine the Ministry's institutional reach with Gulf University's academic credibility and community engagement experience. CECEC looks forward to the formalization of this partnership and to the tangible contributions to Bahrain's national development that it will make possible.

| Detail           | Information                                                      |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner Ministry | Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication                 |
| Visit Type       | Formal university delegation — strategic partnership exploration |

| Detail           | Information                                                                            |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Key Areas        | Transportation, digital transformation, telecommunications, applied research, training |
| Expected Outcome | Formal strategic partnership & joint initiative framework                              |

|           |                                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB14.IN01 — Government ministry strategic partnership for national development                                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## 💡 Patents Lecture — Ministry of Industry & Commerce

In a timely and highly relevant knowledge-sharing initiative, Gulf University hosted a distinguished specialist lecture titled **"Patents"**, delivered in collaboration with the **Ministry of Industry and Commerce** by two accomplished professionals: **Eng. Nawaf Al Majed** and **Mr. Adnan Al Mahfoud**. The lecture provided participants with a comprehensive and practically grounded introduction to patent systems — their structure, their legal and commercial significance, and their critical role in supporting, protecting, and incentivizing innovation across industries and institutions.

The two speakers brought a wealth of professional expertise and institutional knowledge to the session, guiding participants through the fundamental principles of patent law and registration, the process of filing and protecting intellectual property in the Kingdom of Bahrain and beyond, the strategic importance of patents in translating innovative ideas into protected, commercially viable assets, the role of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in administering and promoting Bahrain's intellectual property framework, and the opportunities available to researchers, entrepreneurs, students, and institutions seeking to protect their innovations through the patent system. For an audience that included Gulf University students, faculty, and community professionals, the lecture opened a window into a domain of critical importance that is too often overlooked in academic and professional development programmes. Innovation — whether in engineering, technology, business, media, or any other field — has genuine and lasting value only when it is properly understood, documented, and protected. Patents are the mechanism through which innovators claim ownership of their ideas, secure their competitive advantage, and contribute their discoveries to the cumulative body of human knowledge in a structured and legally recognized way.

The collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce gave the lecture a particular authority and practical relevance — ensuring that participants received not only theoretical knowledge of patent systems but direct, institutional guidance from the government body responsible for overseeing intellectual property protection in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This is precisely the kind of government-academia knowledge partnership that CECEC's Pillar 5 mandate is designed to facilitate: bringing the expertise of government institutions directly into the university



community, and ensuring that Gulf University's students and faculty are equipped with the institutional knowledge and professional awareness needed to innovate, protect, and contribute effectively to Bahrain's knowledge economy. CECEC is proud to have facilitated this lecture and extends its sincere appreciation to Eng. Nawaf Al Majed, Mr. Adnan Al Mahfoud, and the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for their valuable contribution to the intellectual and professional development of the Gulf University community.

| Detail             | Information                                                  |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Collaborating Body | Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Kingdom of Bahrain        |
| Speakers           | Eng. Nawaf Al Majed & Mr. Adnan Al Mahfoud                   |
| Topic              | Patents — Intellectual Property Systems & Innovation Support |
| Audience           | GU students, faculty & community professionals               |

|           |                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB16.IN04 — Knowledge transfer & industry-academia collaboration                                            |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Marai 2025 — Student Ministerial Recognition (also Pillar 4)

H.E. Eng. Asem Abdul Latif, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Affairs & Animal Wealth, honored GU students at the Bahrain International Exhibition Marai 2025 for their exceptional voluntary media coverage — in a ceremony attended by proud parents.

| Detail         | Information                                                          |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Exhibition     | Bahrain International Exhibition Marai 2025                          |
| Recognition By | H.E. Eng. Asem Abdul Latif — Undersecretary, Ministry of Agriculture |
| Achievement    | Outstanding voluntary media coverage & event documentation           |

|           |                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 — Government-academia collaboration & student industry engagement (also Pillar 4)                        |
| SDGs      | SDG 2 — Zero Hunger   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Smart IoT Weather Station — Student Innovation at Sind Campus (also Pillar 6)

In a remarkable scientific achievement that reinforces Gulf University's commitment to innovation-driven, community-serving education, Electrical and Electronics Engineering students at Gulf University successfully developed and deployed a **Smart Weather Station using an Internet of Things (IoT) system** within the university's campus in **Sind** — under the expert supervision of **Dr. Walid Elfizzani**. The project represents a genuine and significant contribution to environmental monitoring, data-driven decision-making, and the advancement of smart city infrastructure in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The Smart Weather Station is not a classroom exercise or a theoretical prototype — it is a fully operational, real-time environmental monitoring platform that collects and publishes live data of direct and measurable value to the community, to decision-makers, and to researchers. The station continuously measures and monitors:

- **Actual temperature** — precise, localized readings from the heart of Sind
- **Local humidity levels** — real-time atmospheric moisture data
- **Air quality and pollutant levels (ppm)** — monitoring the presence and concentration of environmental pollutants
- **Environmental noise levels (decibels)** — measuring sound pollution in the local environment

All data collected by the station is available to the public in real time through a dedicated online platform — making this a genuinely open, community-accessible scientific resource rather than a closed academic tool.

**Dr. Walid Elfizzani** captured the significance of the project with particular clarity and conviction: *"This information does not come from estimation maps — it comes from the heart of Sind, showing the real differences in air quality, noise, and temperature. This is genuine scientific and community value that surpasses what traditional applications provide."* His words articulate precisely what makes this project exceptional: it generates original, hyper-local, real-world data that no existing application or estimation model can replicate — data that matters to the people who live, work, and breathe in Sind.

#### **Student Achievement — Building the Future**

The project highlighted the exceptional practical capabilities of its student developers. **Hassan Ahmed** was responsible for system development and data collection — building the technical infrastructure that makes the station operational and its data reliable. **Ghaith Younis** contributed through innovative design using **3D printing** — demonstrating that the project's excellence extended from software and electronics into physical design and manufacturing. Together, their complementary skills produced a finished system that reflects the full spectrum of competencies that Gulf University's engineering programme develops.

#### **Strategic Significance — Smart Cities, Environmental Health & Bahrain Vision 2030**

The Smart Weather Station is far more than a weather monitoring tool. As Dr. Elfizzani and the project team make clear, it is a platform with profound and wide-ranging strategic applications:

As a **smart city infrastructure tool**, the station generates the kind of precise, localized environmental data that urban planners, municipal authorities, and government decision-makers need to make informed decisions about land use, zoning, infrastructure development, and public health interventions.

As an **industrial monitoring resource**, the station enables industries to track noise and pollution levels in real time — supporting compliance with environmental regulations and the assessment of industrial activity's impact on community health.

As a **public health instrument**, real-time air quality and noise data empowers citizens, healthcare providers, and public health authorities to understand and respond to the environmental conditions affecting the health and wellbeing of Bahrain's communities.

As a **scientific research platform**, the station is an open, accessible tool for students and researchers — with the potential to be scaled into a kingdom-wide network of environmental monitoring stations that would constitute a genuinely transformative national scientific infrastructure.

The project is embedded within Gulf University's **Project-Based Learning (PBL)** strategy — an educational approach that develops critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation by confronting students with real-world challenges that demand real solutions. The Smart Weather Station is PBL at its finest: a student-led innovation that solves a genuine community problem, generates real scientific value, and prepares its creators for the demands of a competitive, technology-driven global job market.

This innovation aligns directly with Bahrain Vision 2030's priorities of economic diversification, technological advancement, environmental sustainability, and human capital development — and positions Gulf University as an institution that does not merely teach about innovation but actively produces it.

| Detail       | Information                                                                       |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Supervisor   | Dr. Walid Elfizzani — Electrical & Electronics Engineering                        |
| Students     | Hassan Ahmed (system & data) & Ghaith Younis (3D printing design)                 |
| Technology   | IoT — real-time environmental monitoring                                          |
| Data         | Publicly accessible online — temperature, humidity, air quality (ppm), noise (dB) |
| Applications | Smart cities, urban planning, public health, industrial monitoring, research      |

|           |                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 — Applied research & student innovation for community benefit (also Pillar 6)                                                              |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 13 — Climate Action   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



### **Bahrain Strategic Planning Society — MOU & First Podcast at GU Studios**

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University took a significant and forward-looking step in building its strategic partnership network by meeting with the **Bahrain Strategic Planning Society** to explore avenues of meaningful cooperation — culminating in the drafting of a formal cooperation agreement that marks the beginning of what promises to be a substantive and impactful institutional partnership. The meeting was held with **Ms. Samaa Al Raees, President of the Bahrain Strategic Planning Society**, whose leadership of one of Bahrain's most specialized professional associations in the domain of strategic planning brought both institutional gravitas and professional expertise to the discussion. The dialogue between CECEC and Ms. Al Raees centered on identifying the complementary strengths, shared values, and areas of mutual interest where a formal partnership between Gulf University and the Society could generate the greatest and most sustainable community benefit — spanning professional training, capacity building, applied research, and community awareness initiatives in the field of strategic planning.

The drafting of a **cooperation agreement (MOU)** between CECEC and the Bahrain Strategic Planning Society represents a meaningful milestone — formalizing the mutual commitment of both institutions to a structured, long-term collaboration that extends beyond a single event or initiative and builds toward a sustained, programmatic partnership in service of Bahrain's professional development and institutional excellence agenda.

#### **First Podcast Episode — Launching a New Media Series at GU Studios**

In a particularly innovative and distinctive dimension of this partnership, the meeting with Ms. Samaa Al Raees was accompanied by the **recording of the first episode of a new podcast series** — hosted and produced at **Gulf University's own studios**. Ms. Al Raees, as President and Founder of the Bahrain Strategic Planning Society, became the inaugural guest in what is set to become a series of conversations with Bahrain's leading thinkers, practitioners, and institutional leaders — recorded at Gulf University and reaching audiences through the growing medium of podcast broadcasting.

The launch of this podcast series represents a genuinely exciting new dimension of CECEC's community engagement and continuing education mission — one that leverages Gulf University's media infrastructure to create a platform for substantive, expert-led dialogue on the topics that matter most to Bahrain's professional and academic communities. Strategic planning, leadership, innovation, institutional development, and national vision — the themes at the heart of the Bahrain Strategic Planning Society's work — are precisely the kinds of conversations that deserve a dedicated, high-quality media platform, and Gulf University is proud to provide that platform through its studios and its partnership with the Society.

The recording of the first episode with Ms. Al Raees launched not only a podcast series but a new model of community engagement for CECEC — one that combines institutional partnership, professional knowledge sharing, and media production into a single, integrated initiative that extends the university's reach and impact far beyond its campus walls and into the digital spaces where today's professional audiences seek insight, inspiration, and practical wisdom.



| Detail                 | Information                                                                |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner                | Bahrain Strategic Planning Society (الجمعية البحرينية للتخطيط الاستراتيجي) |
| Partner Representative | Ms. Samaa Al Raees — President & Founder                                   |
| MOU Status             | Draft cooperation agreement — formalization in progress                    |
| Podcast                | First episode recorded — GU Studios; Ms. Samaa Al Raees inaugural guest    |
| Upcoming               | Series of expert conversations at GU Studios — coming soon                 |

|           |                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB21.IN03 — Industry partnership & innovative media knowledge platform (also Pillar 7)                      |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## MOU Signing — CECEC & Bahrain Special Olympics

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University marked a significant and deeply meaningful milestone in its community engagement journey by signing a formal **Cooperation Agreement (MOU)** with the **Bahrain Special Olympics** — one of the Kingdom's most impactful and respected organizations dedicated to empowering People of Determination through sport, skill development, and social inclusion.

The signing of this agreement reflects the natural evolution of the relationship between CECEC and the Bahrain Special Olympics — a relationship that began with an awareness workshop hosted on campus earlier in the academic year, and has now deepened into a formal, structured, and commitment-backed institutional partnership with a clear and purposeful mission: to design and deliver a range of activities that directly serve students with special needs at Gulf University, and to support their meaningful integration and active participation in campus and community life.

### Purpose & Scope of the Agreement

The cooperation agreement between CECEC and the Bahrain Special Olympics establishes a formal framework for collaboration across several interconnected and mutually reinforcing areas:

**Student-Focused Activities for People of Determination** — the partnership will facilitate the design and delivery of a dedicated programme of activities specifically tailored to the needs, interests, and capabilities of Gulf University students with special needs. These activities will draw on the Bahrain Special Olympics' deep expertise

in adaptive programming — creating structured, enjoyable, and confidence-building experiences that recognize each student's unique strengths and potential.

**Awareness & Introduction to Special Olympics Programmes** — the agreement enables Gulf University students with special needs to be formally introduced to the full range of activities, sports, and development programmes offered by the Bahrain Special Olympics — opening doors to participation in a national programme that has transformed the lives of thousands of People of Determination across the Kingdom of Bahrain.

**Community Integration & Social Inclusion** — at the heart of the partnership is a shared conviction that People of Determination belong not at the margins of community life but at its very centre. The joint activities developed under this agreement will actively create the opportunities, the spaces, and the experiences through which students with special needs can engage with their peers, the wider university community, and Bahraini society as full, valued, and celebrated participants.

**Faculty & Student Awareness** — the partnership will also encompass awareness-building among the broader Gulf University student and faculty community — fostering the understanding, empathy, and inclusive attitudes that make genuine integration not merely a policy aspiration but a lived, daily reality on campus.

#### **A Partnership Rooted in Conviction**

The signing of this MOU is more than an administrative milestone — it is an institutional declaration of values. Gulf University, through CECEC, has chosen to formalize its commitment to the inclusion of People of Determination not as a peripheral or optional activity but as a core dimension of its community engagement mission. The Bahrain Special Olympics, for its part, gains in Gulf University a committed academic partner whose campus, faculty expertise, student community, and institutional network can amplify the reach and impact of its inclusion programmes across the Kingdom.

Together, CECEC and the Bahrain Special Olympics will work toward a shared vision: a Gulf University campus — and a Bahraini community — where every individual, regardless of ability, is seen, valued, supported, and empowered to discover what they are capable of achieving.

| Detail         | Information                                                                  |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner        | Bahrain Special Olympics (الأولمبياد البحريني الخاص)                         |
| Agreement Type | Formal Cooperation Agreement (MOU) — fully signed                            |
| Focus          | Activities for students with special needs; inclusion; community integration |
| Beneficiaries  | GU students with special needs & People of Determination                     |
| Relationship   | Builds on Bahrain Special Olympics awareness workshop — Event 6.6            |

|           |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB13.IN01 & OB16.IN02 — Civil society partnership for inclusion (also Pillar 6)                                                                                  |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





Pillar 5 — SDG Contribution Summary

| SDG                                 | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 4 — Quality Education           | Student research presented to industry, innovation lectures, and Marai 2025 exhibition all extend GU's educational mission into applied real-world contexts. |
| SDG 8 — Decent Work & Growth        | GARMCO, BCCI, Ministry of Transportation, Mulhamoon, and BSH partnerships support workforce development and economic productivity.                           |
| SDG 9 — Innovation & Infrastructure | IoT Weather Station, Patents lecture, GARMCO research, transportation ministry engagement, and GU podcast studio all advance innovation.                     |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities         | Smart city data from IoT station and transportation ministry partnership contribute to sustainable urban planning in Bahrain.                                |
| SDG 16 — Peace & Justice            | MOU with Special Olympics, formal ministry partnerships, and Patents lecture all reinforce accountable institutional engagement.                             |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships               | 14 industry and government partnership activities in 2025–26 — CECEC's most productive industry collaboration year to date.                                  |

Pillar 5 — Industry & Government Partnership Activities

| Category                         | Volume                 | Count |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Healthcare Partnerships (BSH ×4) | <div><div></div></div> | 4     |
| Government Ministry Visits       | <div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| Awards & National Recognition    | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| MOU Signings                     | <div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| Industry Visits & Research       | <div><div></div></div> | 1     |
| Knowledge Transfer Lectures      | <div><div></div></div> | 1     |
| Media & Innovation Platforms     | <div><div></div></div> | 1     |

# PILLAR 6

## Community Services

### Pillar 6 Overview

Pillar 6 is CECEC's most extensive and diverse pillar — encompassing civic engagement, national celebrations, awareness events, academic recognition, inclusion initiatives, and community service activities that position Gulf University as an active, visible, and deeply committed member of the Bahraini civic community. In 2025–2026, CECEC delivered 18 community service events — the most of any pillar across the report.

#### BH Gulf University Renews National Allegiance Ceremony

In a patriotic atmosphere filled with pride and loyalty, Gulf University renewed its allegiance and belonging to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain — reaffirming the values of citizenship, loyalty, and dedication to the beloved nation. Students, faculty, and staff united in a shared expression of national identity and institutional commitment.

| Detail       | Information                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Occasion     | National Allegiance Renewal Ceremony                            |
| Participants | Students, faculty, and administrative staff — university-wide   |
| Values       | Citizenship, loyalty, national belonging, dedication to Bahrain |

|           |                                                                                        |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student and faculty participation in civic and community activities |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships           |



## International Day of Older Persons — Field Visit & Awareness Lecture

In recognition of the International Day of Older Persons, Gulf University implemented two purposeful and heartfelt initiatives that reflect the university's unwavering commitment to honoring, supporting, and celebrating older members of our community — acknowledging the profound contributions they have made in shaping the society we live in today.

### **Initiative 1: Field Visit to Muharraq Social Care Centre**

As part of the Community Service Centre's ongoing outreach programme, a delegation of Gulf University students and faculty members visited the Muharraq Social Care Centre in a warm and meaningful gesture of solidarity and appreciation. The visit created genuine moments of joy and human connection — sharing laughter, drawing smiles, and forging heartfelt memories that transcend the boundaries of age and background. Participants left the centre with a deepened sense of empathy, social responsibility, and gratitude — and the residents were reminded that they remain valued, seen, and cherished members of the Bahraini community.

This field visit exemplifies CECEC's commitment to taking the university's values beyond campus walls and into the lives of those who need connection and recognition most.

### **Initiative 2: Awareness Lecture — "International Day of Older Persons: Loyalty and Gratitude"**

In collaboration with the College of Law at Gulf University, the Community Service Centre organized a dedicated awareness lecture delivered by distinguished members of the university's academic community:

- **Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed** — Dean, College of Law
- **Dr. Heyam Alhehmawy** — Assistant Professor, College of Law
- **Dr. Heba AlSaleh** — Assistant Professor, College of Law

The lecture, delivered under the theme "**International Day of Older Persons — Loyalty and Gratitude**", explored the legal, social, and ethical dimensions of older persons' rights and their irreplaceable role in the development of society. The session was further enriched by the participation of **Attorney Omar Abdulaziz Al-Eid** as an external guest speaker, who delivered an insightful and engaging presentation on the legal rights of older persons and their vital, enduring contribution to the building and advancement of Bahraini society.

Together, the lecture and field visit conveyed a unified institutional message: Gulf University stands firmly in recognition of its elders — not only on this international day, but as a sustained expression of the values of kindness, loyalty, and gratitude that define the university's community engagement mission.

| Detail        | Information                                                                   |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Initiative 1  | Field Visit — Muharraq Social Care Centre (students & faculty)                |
| Initiative 2  | Awareness Lecture: 'International Day of Older Persons — Loyalty & Gratitude' |
| Speakers      | Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed (Dean, Law); Dr. Heyam Alhehmaw; Dr. Heba AlSaleh    |
| Guest Speaker | Attorney Omar Abdulaziz Al-Eid — Rights of Older Persons in Bahrain           |

|           |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Civic participation & community awareness for social cohesion                                              |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |









**🏆 First Place — Best Building Decoration, Capital Governorate (2nd Consecutive Year)**

For the second consecutive year, Gulf University has proudly secured First Place in the "Best Building Decoration" competition, organized by the Capital Governorate under the Educational Institutions and Youth Centres category. This remarkable back-to-back achievement — celebrated in honor of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's Accession Day and the Kingdom of Bahrain's National Day — stands as a powerful testament to the university's unwavering spirit of national belonging, institutional pride, and the extraordinary teamwork that brings it all to life. Gulf University's campus was transformed into a luminous expression of love and loyalty to the Kingdom of Bahrain — lights, colors, and decorations coming together to create a visual celebration that moved beyond aesthetics and into something deeper: a heartfelt declaration of belonging from an institution that considers itself not merely located in Bahrain, but genuinely, proudly, and permanently part of it.

Winning this distinction once is an achievement. Winning it for the second consecutive year is a statement — one that speaks to the consistency of Gulf University's commitment, the creativity of its team, and the depth of its national pride. The repeat victory reflects not only the visual excellence of the decoration itself, but the collective dedication of every individual who contributed their time, energy, and passion to making the campus shine as a beacon of national celebration.

CECEC joins Gulf University's leadership in extending a heartfelt thank you to the dedicated team whose hard work, creativity, and love for their university and Kingdom made this repeat victory possible. This achievement belongs to every member of the Gulf University family.

| Detail      | Information                                                                  |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Competition | Best Building Decoration — Educational Institutions & Youth Centres Category |
| Organizer   | Capital Governorate, Kingdom of Bahrain                                      |
| Result      | 🏆 First Place — 2nd Consecutive Year                                         |
| Occasion    | HM the King's Accession Day & Kingdom of Bahrain National Day                |

|           |                                                                                                            |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student and faculty participation in national civic celebrations                        |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## **Together Towards Comprehensive Awareness & Sustainable Security — 2nd Edition**

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) at Gulf University proudly organized the second edition of the "Together Towards Comprehensive Awareness & Sustainable Security" exhibition, in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior of the Kingdom of Bahrain. The exhibition brought together a distinguished gathering of participating entities and esteemed attendees in a shared commitment to advancing awareness, promoting community safety, and embedding the principles of sustainable security across Bahraini society.

The second edition of this flagship exhibition built meaningfully upon the foundations established in its inaugural year, deepening the scope of its content, broadening the range of participating entities, and reinforcing the message that comprehensive community awareness and sustainable security are not the sole responsibility of any single institution — but a shared civic mission that requires the active partnership of government, academia, civil society, and the community at large.

CECEC's collaboration with the Ministry of Interior in organizing this exhibition is a reflection of the trust, mutual respect, and shared vision that has come to characterize the relationship between Gulf University and one of Bahrain's most important government institutions. By placing the university's academic expertise, organizational capacity, and community networks at the service of a national awareness agenda, CECEC demonstrated once again that Gulf University is a committed and capable partner in addressing the challenges and priorities that matter most to Bahraini society.

The exhibition served as a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange, dialogue, and public engagement — enabling participants to explore themes of community safety, legal awareness, digital security, and sustainable institutional practices in an accessible and interactive format. The enthusiastic engagement of all attending entities and visitors reflected the growing appetite within Bahrain's community for meaningful, substantive awareness initiatives that go beyond information delivery and inspire genuine behavioral and civic change.

CECEC extends its sincere gratitude to all participating entities, partners, and esteemed attendees whose valuable engagement made this second edition a resounding success — and reaffirms its commitment to continuing this important initiative in the years ahead, in service of a more aware, more connected, and more sustainably secure Bahraini community.

| Detail  | Information                                           |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner | Ministry of Interior, Kingdom of Bahrain              |
| Edition | 2nd — building on the successful inaugural exhibition |
| Format  | Multi-entity collaborative awareness exhibition       |

| Detail | Information                                                               |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Themes | Community safety, legal awareness, digital security, sustainable security |

|           |                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Community awareness & civic engagement with government partners                                          |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





 **Bahrain National Day — Student-Led Campus Celebration**

Gulf University marked Bahrain's National Day with a vibrant and spirited celebration led by its students, whose creativity, enthusiasm, and deep sense of national pride transformed the campus into a living expression of love and belonging to the Kingdom of Bahrain. The occasion was filled with energy and color as students across faculties and departments came together to celebrate the nation they call home — showcasing their talents, strengthening their bonds of teamwork, and reaffirming their identity as proud Bahraini citizens and residents.

The student-led nature of this celebration gave it a particular authenticity and vitality that set it apart. Rather than a formal or ceremonial event, it was an organic outpouring of national pride — students taking ownership of the celebration, channeling their creativity into activities that reflected their personal connection to Bahrain's history, heritage, and aspirations. In doing so, they demonstrated that the values of belonging, loyalty, and national identity are not simply taught at Gulf University — they are felt, lived, and expressed by the students themselves.

CECEC views the cultivation of national identity and civic pride among students as an integral dimension of its community engagement mission. Events such as this National Day celebration serve as powerful reminders that higher education institutions are not neutral spaces — they are formative environments where the next generation of Bahraini citizens and contributors develop their sense of self, their relationship with their nation, and their commitment to its continued growth and success.

Gulf University joins its students, faculty, staff, and the entire Bahraini community in extending warmest wishes to the Kingdom of Bahrain — wishing the nation and its people continued prosperity, progress, unity, and success under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

| Detail     | Information                                                   |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Occasion   | Kingdom of Bahrain National Day                               |
| Led By     | Gulf University Students — cross-faculty participation        |
| Activities | Creative displays, team activities, national pride expression |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster student civic participation & national identity expression                                                              |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





### **Bahrain Special Olympics Awareness Workshop — Mr. Hussain Al-Shihabi**

Gulf University hosted an engaging and informative introductory workshop delivered by Mr. Hussain Al-Shihabi, representing the Bahrain Special Olympics, for an audience of Gulf University employees and students. The session provided participants with a comprehensive introduction to the Bahrain Special Olympics — its programmes, its mission, and its transformative impact on the lives of People of Determination across the Kingdom of Bahrain. Mr. Al-Shihabi guided attendees through the key programmes offered by the Bahrain Special Olympics, illuminating the breadth and depth of support available to People of Determination — not only in terms of athletic



development, but in the broader social, psychological, and community dimensions that make the Special Olympics a genuinely life-changing institution for its participants and their families. The workshop conveyed with clarity that the Special Olympics is far more than a sporting event: it is a sustained, structured, and deeply human commitment to empowering individuals who deserve every opportunity to discover their strengths, achieve their potential, and claim their rightful place within Bahraini society.

A central theme of the session was the critical role that educational institutions play in advancing inclusion and raising awareness of the needs, rights, and capabilities of People of Determination. Gulf University — as a higher education institution with a deep community engagement mandate — was identified as a natural and important partner in this mission: a space where future professionals, community leaders, and citizens are formed, and where the values of inclusion, empathy, and social responsibility can be cultivated from the earliest stages of a person's professional development.

The workshop also emphasized the power of collaborative effort in empowering participants both athletically and socially — underscoring that the journey toward a more inclusive Bahraini society is one that requires the active, committed participation of universities, government bodies, civil society organizations, and individual citizens working together with shared purpose and genuine heart.

CECEC is proud to have facilitated this workshop as part of its ongoing commitment to building a university community that is informed, empathetic, and actively engaged in the promotion of inclusion and social justice across the Kingdom of Bahrain.

| Detail   | Information                                                                       |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Speaker  | Mr. Hussain Al-Shihabi — Bahrain Special Olympics                                 |
| Audience | Gulf University employees and students                                            |
| Focus    | Special Olympics programmes; inclusion; People of Determination empowerment       |
| Outcome  | Led to formal MOU signing between CECEC and Bahrain Special Olympics (Event 5.14) |

|           |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Community awareness & inclusion education                                                                  |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



 **Bahraini Women's Day — VP Breakfast for Female Staff**

In a warm and appreciative gesture that spoke volumes about Gulf University's commitment to recognizing and celebrating the women within its community, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Meryem Fati invited Gulf University's female staff members to a special breakfast in honor of Bahraini Women's Day. The occasion brought together women from across the university's departments and faculties in an atmosphere of celebration, mutual appreciation, and sisterhood — a moment dedicated entirely to acknowledging the continuous efforts, remarkable contributions, and vital role that women play in the success and growth of Gulf University and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Dr. Fati's personal initiative in hosting this gathering carried a significance that extended beyond the event itself. In extending this invitation, the Vice President for Academic Affairs — herself a distinguished leader within Gulf University's senior academic leadership — sent a clear and meaningful institutional message: that the contributions of women at Gulf University are not taken for granted, but are seen, valued, and celebrated at the highest levels of university leadership.

The breakfast provided a rare and cherished opportunity for female staff members from different departments to come together outside of their professional roles — to connect as colleagues, as women, and as individuals who share a commitment to excellence, service, and the advancement of their institution and their nation. In this sense, the event was not only a celebration of Bahraini Women's Day but a reaffirmation of the collegial bonds and mutual respect that define the Gulf University community at its best.

Gulf University takes pride in the extraordinary women who contribute daily — through teaching, research, administration, community engagement, and leadership — to building an institution that serves Bahrain with distinction. Bahraini Women's Day is a reminder that this contribution deserves recognition not only on one designated day, but through the ongoing institutional commitment to creating an environment where women can lead, grow, and thrive without limitation.

CECEC joins Gulf University's leadership in honoring all women within the university community and across the Kingdom of Bahrain — celebrating their achievements, their resilience, and their indispensable role in shaping a stronger, more prosperous, and more equitable Bahrain.

| Detail    | Information                                                                               |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hosted By | Dr. Meryem Fati — Vice President for Academic Affairs, Gulf University                    |
| Occasion  | Bahraini Women's Day                                                                      |
| Audience  | Gulf University female staff members                                                      |
| Message   | Women's contributions are seen, valued, and celebrated at the highest institutional level |

|           |                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster civic participation & gender equality recognition at institutional level                                                                  |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 5 — Gender Equality   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





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### Bahrainouna — Collaboration with Executive Office of the National Belonging Plan

With steady steps and a unified dedication to the national values that bind Bahrain's past, present, and future, Gulf University proudly celebrates its collaboration with the Executive Office of the National Plan to Promote the Spirit of Belonging to the Nation and Reinforce the Values of Patriotism — "Bahrainouna." This partnership represents one of the most meaningful civic collaborations in CECEC's history: a formal, executive-level alignment between Gulf University's community engagement mission and a national platform whose purpose is the preservation and promotion of the very values that define Bahraini identity.

"Bahrainouna" — meaning "Our Bahrain" — is far more than a programme or an initiative. It is a national platform that honours the stories of loyalty, belonging, and patriotic dedication that have shaped the Kingdom of Bahrain's present and that will inspire and guide the generations yet to come. It is a living archive of the human experiences, sacrifices, and commitments that collectively constitute what it means to belong to this nation — and Gulf University is honoured to stand alongside it as a partner in that enduring mission.

Gulf University's collaboration with Bahrainouna reflects the university's deep conviction that higher education institutions carry a responsibility that is simultaneously academic, civic, and moral. Universities are not merely places where knowledge is transmitted — they are spaces where identities are formed, where values are shaped, and where the next generation of Bahraini citizens develops its understanding of what it owes to the nation that has nurtured it. By aligning with Bahrainouna, Gulf University reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that among the most important values its students carry beyond graduation are those of belonging, loyalty, and genuine love for the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This collaboration also reflects the maturity and reach of CECEC's civic engagement portfolio — one that now spans not only community service and awareness initiatives, but formal partnerships with executive-level national bodies working at the very heart of Bahrain's national identity agenda. Together — university and nation, institution and community, present and future — we build what Bahrainouna so powerfully reminds us is always within our collective reach: a Bahrain we are proud to call our own.

*"Together we build our future."*

| Detail             | Information                                                                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Collaborating Body | Executive Office — National Plan 'Bahrainouna' (بهرينا)                     |
| Level              | Executive / National Platform — highest level of civic collaboration        |
| Nature             | Formal institutional civic collaboration                                    |
| Message            | Gulf University belongs to Bahrain — and Bahrain belongs to Gulf University |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB14.IN01 — Civic engagement & national identity partnership                                                                   |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





### Al Hekma International School — Campus Tour & Academic Exploration

Gulf University was delighted to open its doors to senior students from Al Hekma International School, welcoming them to campus for a comprehensive tour and academic exploration visit that offered a meaningful and inspiring glimpse into university life at Gulf University. The visiting students were guided through the university's colleges and facilities, introduced to the diverse range of academic programmes and opportunities available, and given the chance to experience firsthand the vibrant, dynamic, and welcoming environment that defines the Gulf University campus.

For many of the senior students — at a pivotal stage of their educational journey as they look ahead to higher education — the visit represented far more than a tour. It was an opportunity to begin imagining their own futures within a university setting: to walk the corridors, meet the faculty, explore the disciplines, and ask the questions that will help them make one of the most important decisions of their young lives. Gulf University is committed to ensuring that every student who walks through its doors — whether as a prospective student or an enrolled one — feels inspired, informed, and genuinely welcomed.

The visit reflects Gulf University's broader commitment to engaging with Bahrain's school sector as a strategic priority — recognizing that the relationship between universities and schools is not merely transactional but deeply formative. By investing in meaningful, high-quality outreach to schools such as Al Hekma International School, Gulf University plays an active role in shaping the educational aspirations of the next generation of Bahraini students, helping them to see the possibilities that higher education opens and to make informed, confident choices about their academic and professional futures.

CECEC is proud to facilitate visits of this nature as part of its community engagement mandate — building the bridges between the university and the wider educational community that benefit students, schools, and society alike.

| Detail               | Information                                               |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Visiting Institution | Al Hekma International School                             |
| Audience             | Senior school students                                    |
| Format               | Campus tour & college visits                              |
| Purpose              | Academic programme exploration & university life exposure |

|           |                                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB14.IN01 — Community educational outreach & school partnership                                     |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## President's Academic Excellence Ceremony — AY 2024–2025

Gulf University marked a proud and celebratory milestone in its academic calendar with the holding of the President's Academic Excellence Ceremony for the academic year 2024–2025, hosted in the university's Big Hall on campus. The distinguished occasion brought together University President Professor Mohanad Al-Firas, faculty members, and students in a formal and heartfelt celebration of academic achievement — honoring the outstanding students from across Gulf University's colleges who have distinguished themselves through dedication, hard work, and intellectual excellence during the academic year.

The ceremony stood as one of the most significant institutional events of the academic calendar — a moment when the university pauses from the rhythm of its daily activities to look its highest-achieving students in the eye and say, with the full weight of institutional authority and genuine human pride: your efforts have been seen, your achievements are celebrated, and your excellence matters. For the students honored, the ceremony represented the culmination of months — and in many cases, years — of sustained academic commitment, sacrifice, and perseverance. For their families, it was a moment of profound pride. For the wider student body in attendance, it was a powerful demonstration that excellence is recognized, rewarded, and revered at Gulf University.

University President Professor Mohanad Al-Firas addressed the gathering with a message that captured the deeper purpose of the ceremony — reaffirming Gulf University's unwavering institutional commitment to supporting and motivating its students to reach the highest levels of academic achievement, and to carry that excellence beyond graduation into meaningful, community-oriented professional lives. His words underscored a vision of academic success that is never purely individual: at Gulf University, excellence is understood as a gift that carries with it a responsibility — to contribute effectively, compassionately, and ambitiously to the communities and the nation that have nurtured it.

The President's Academic Excellence Ceremony is more than an awards event. It is an annual institutional statement about the values Gulf University holds most dear — that learning matters, that effort deserves recognition, that

achievement inspires achievement, and that the students who push themselves to excel are the living embodiment of everything the university aspires to be and to produce. CECEC is proud to support and celebrate this landmark event as part of its commitment to a university community that recognizes greatness and inspires every member to reach for it.

| Detail                   | Information                                                        |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Presided By              | Professor Mohanad Al-Firas — University President, Gulf University |
| Venue                    | Big Hall, Gulf University Campus                                   |
| Scope                    | Outstanding students honored across all colleges                   |
| Academic Year Recognized | 2024–2025                                                          |

|           |                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Foster civic and community participation through institutional recognition of excellence                               |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





## ☆ Gulf University Silver Jubilee — 25 Years of Excellence Logo Unveil

Twenty-five years. A quarter of a century. And Gulf University is just getting started.

In a moment of profound institutional pride and joyful celebration, Gulf University unveiled its Silver Jubilee logo — marking 25 years of academic leadership, innovation, and unwavering service to the Kingdom of Bahrain. The reveal of the Silver Jubilee emblem was not merely a design announcement; it was a declaration — a statement to every student, every graduate, every faculty member, every partner, and every member of the Bahraini community that Gulf University has arrived at this milestone not as an institution looking back with satisfaction alone, but as one looking forward with even greater ambition, even deeper commitment, and an even clearer vision of the role it intends to play in shaping Bahrain's future.

Twenty-five years ago, Gulf University was founded on a conviction: that the Kingdom of Bahrain deserved a university that would serve it with distinction — academically, socially, and institutionally. What has followed is a story of sustained excellence, continuous growth, and deepening community impact that now spans a quarter of a century and touches the lives of thousands of graduates, community members, partner organisations, and individuals across the Kingdom and beyond.

The Silver Jubilee logo carries within it the weight of that story — the years of teaching and learning, of research and discovery, of community engagement and social responsibility, of partnerships forged and lives changed. It represents the generations of students who walked through Gulf University's doors as young people seeking knowledge and walked out as professionals, leaders, and citizens equipped to contribute meaningfully to their nation. It honors the faculty and staff who have dedicated their careers to building an institution worthy of the community it serves. And it acknowledges the partners — government ministries, civil society organisations, industry bodies, and international institutions — who have chosen to stand alongside Gulf University in the shared mission of advancing Bahrain.

As Gulf University celebrates its Silver Jubilee, CECEC reflects with particular pride on the role that community engagement has played in defining the university's character and reputation over these 25 years. From free training



workshops to social responsibility initiatives, from industry collaboration to continuing education, from cultural exchange to civic service — CECEC's work is the living expression of Gulf University's founding conviction that a great university must serve its community as fully and as generously as it serves its students. This is more than a milestone. It is a celebration of a historic legacy — and the dawn of a new chapter, fueled by ambition, guided by excellence, and dedicated, as always, to the empowerment of the generations to come. *Twenty-five years of excellence — and we are just getting started.*

| Detail       | Information                                                              |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Milestone    | Gulf University Silver Jubilee — 25 Years of Academic Excellence         |
| Significance | Flagship institutional milestone; overarching narrative for AY 2025–2026 |
| Message      | Honoring the past; inspiring the future; serving Bahrain always          |

|           |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB14.IN04 — Institutional community engagement & visibility milestone                                                                                |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



**Financial Awareness Lecture — Mr. Abdulaziz Saif**

The Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) and the College of Administrative and Financial Sciences at Gulf University jointly organized a distinguished and highly practical awareness lecture on the theme of **"Financial Awareness"** — bringing together participants in an engaging and informative session designed to equip community members with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to manage their finances wisely and make sound, informed financial decisions. The lecture was delivered by **Mr. Abdulaziz Saif**, who guided attendees through the fundamentals of intelligent money management — covering the core principles of personal financial planning, the most effective strategies for



making smart financial decisions, and the practical tools and frameworks available to individuals seeking to take meaningful control of their financial futures. The session combined accessible, jargon-free delivery with substantive, expert-level content — ensuring that participants left not only better informed, but genuinely better equipped to apply what they had learned to the real financial challenges and opportunities they face in their daily lives.

Financial literacy is one of the most universally impactful forms of community education — touching every individual regardless of their profession, income level, or educational background. The ability to budget effectively, plan for the future, understand financial instruments, and make decisions based on sound financial reasoning is a life skill of the highest order — one whose absence can have profound and lasting consequences for individuals, families, and communities. By organizing this lecture, CECEC and the College of Administrative and Financial Sciences reaffirmed their shared commitment to making this critical knowledge accessible to the widest possible community audience, delivered with the academic credibility and practical relevance that Gulf University's faculty and professional network make possible.

The event represented a wonderful opportunity for participants to strengthen their financial skills, deepen their understanding of personal financial planning, and take a meaningful step toward greater financial confidence and long-term security. CECEC is proud to have co-organized this initiative as part of its ongoing commitment to delivering practical, community-facing awareness programmes that make a genuine difference in people's lives — one financially empowered individual at a time.

| Detail       | Information                                                       |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Co-Organizer | College of Administrative and Financial Sciences, Gulf University |
| Speaker      | Mr. Abdulaziz Saif                                                |
| Topic        | Financial Awareness — Smart Money Management & Decision-Making    |
| Format       | Community awareness lecture — open to students, staff & community |

|           |                                                                                                                              |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN04 — Community talks and awareness sessions for practical life skills                                                 |
| SDGs      | SDG 1 — No Poverty   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



مركز خدمة المجتمع والتعليم المستمر  
ينظم محاضرة بعنوان الوعي المالي



مركز خدمة المجتمع والتعليم المستمر  
ينظم محاضرة بعنوان الوعي المالي





## الاستثمار الواعي

### كيف نفكر قبل أن نقرر في الأسواق المالية

**أ. عبدالعزيز سيف أحمد**  
محلل استراتيجي ومدرّب دولي معتمد في الأسواق العالمية

### انضموا إلينا

- فهم الأسواق من منظور استثماري بعيد عن المضاربة العشوائية
- أهمية إدارة المخاطر وبناء المحافظ على أسس مستدامة
- دور التحليل والفكر الاستراتيجي في اتخاذ القرار المالي السليم

3:00 مساءً

27 / 1 / 2026

الطابق الثالث

### Sign Language Workshop — Bahrain Deaf Society (also Pillar 3)

Gulf University, through the Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC), proudly hosted a free introductory Sign Language workshop in collaboration with the **Bahrain Deaf Society**, providing its facilities as the venue for this meaningful and community-serving initiative. The workshop was delivered by **Mr. Yousif Sabahi Al-Madhoun**, a distinguished sign language instructor with **38 years of dedicated experience** in teaching and promoting sign language communication — making him one of the most experienced and respected practitioners of sign language education in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The workshop ran over **three days** — **Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 8–12 February 2026**, from **6:00 to 8:00 PM**, and was offered entirely **free of charge** to all participants. It was organized in collaboration with the Bahrain Deaf Society, with registration facilitated through the Society's dedicated contact channels.

#### **Workshop Objectives & Content**

The introductory workshop was designed with a clear and socially purposeful mission: to raise public awareness of sign language and the means of communicating with members of the deaf community, and to equip participants with foundational sign language knowledge and skills. The curriculum covered:

- The Arabic sign language alphabet — letters, numbers, and foundational vocabulary
- Basic communication phrases for everyday interaction with the deaf community
- Understanding the deaf community's culture, needs, and communication preferences
- Building the awareness and empathy needed to foster genuinely inclusive social and professional environments

**Gulf University's Role — Facilities & Partnership**

By opening its facilities to host this workshop, Gulf University demonstrated in the most practical and tangible way possible its commitment to being a university that serves its community — not only through the programmes it delivers, but through the spaces and resources it makes available in service of causes that matter. The provision of Gulf University's facilities to the Bahrain Deaf Society for this free, community-facing initiative reflects CECEC's Pillar 3 mandate of maximizing the community value of the university's physical resources — ensuring that Gulf University's campus is a genuinely open, accessible, and community-serving space.

The collaboration with the Bahrain Deaf Society also marks an important expansion of Gulf University's civil society partnership network — extending the university's community engagement reach into the vital domain of disability inclusion and deaf community support.

| Detail                      | Information                                                           |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Partner                     | Bahrain Deaf Society                                                  |
| Dates                       | 8, 10 & 12 February 2026                                              |
| Community Service Dimension | Promoting deaf community inclusion & awareness among students & staff |
| Full Documentation          | See Pillar 3, Event 3.1                                               |

|           |                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN03 — Community service & inclusion (also Pillar 3)                                                                 |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



 **Languages Hub Educational Journey — Day Three: Field Experience in the Mountains of the Chechen Republic**

The third day of Gulf University Languages Hub students' educational journey to the **Republic of Chechnya** delivered an experience of an entirely different and deeply memorable character — one that traded the lecture halls, performance stages, and cultural venues of the preceding days for something altogether more elemental: the breathtaking, soul-stirring beauty of the Chechen mountains.

Surrounded by soaring highlands, dramatic natural landscapes, and the crisp, clean air of one of the Caucasus region's most spectacular natural environments, students immersed themselves in outdoor activities that engaged them physically, intellectually, and emotionally in equal measure. The mountains of Chechnya — ancient, majestic, and humbling in their scale — provided a backdrop unlike anything available within the boundaries of Bahrain, offering students a direct and visceral encounter with the natural world in one of its most awe-inspiring expressions. The day's field experience was carefully designed to be far more than recreational — it was an educational encounter with nature in its fullest sense. Students engaged in:

**Environmental knowledge exchange** — learning firsthand about Chechnya's unique natural ecosystem, its mountain geography, its biodiversity, and the environmental characteristics that distinguish the Caucasus region from the landscapes students know at home. This direct, in-situ environmental learning enriched students' scientific and geographical understanding in ways that no classroom presentation could replicate.

**Team spirit and collaborative outdoor activities** — the shared challenge and joy of navigating highland terrain together deepened the bonds between students, building trust, communication, and the kind of genuine team cohesion that emerges naturally from shared physical experience in remarkable surroundings.

**Cultural and natural immersion** — experiencing Chechnya's mountains is to encounter a dimension of Chechen identity and heritage that is inseparable from the landscape itself. The mountains are woven into Chechen culture, history, poetry, and national consciousness — and by exploring them firsthand, Gulf University's 13 odd students and 3 faculty members gained an understanding of Chechen cultural identity that no book, film, or classroom discussion could fully convey.

**Personal growth and perspective** — standing amid ancient mountains thousands of kilometers from home, surrounded by natural grandeur and the warmth of new cross-cultural friendships, students experienced the kind of perspective-expanding, horizon-broadening moment that defines the very best of international educational travel. They returned from the highlands not merely with photographs and memories, but with a deepened sense of the world's richness, their own capabilities, and the value of stepping beyond the familiar in pursuit of genuine knowledge and growth.

Day Three of the Chechen educational journey stands as a testament to the Languages Hub's vision of cultural and language education as a holistic, immersive, and life-enriching experience — one that nourishes the mind, the spirit, and the sense of wonder that makes learning a lifelong joy rather than a temporary obligation.

| Detail             | Information                                                                   |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Host               | H.E. Dr. Ahmed bin Abdulrahman Al Saati — Bahraini Ambassador to Russia       |
| Location           | Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Moscow                                     |
| Civic Dimension    | National belonging, diplomatic identity, pride in representing Bahrain abroad |
| Full Documentation | See Pillar 7, Event 7.4                                                       |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB21.IN03 — Civic belonging & international engagement (also Pillar 7)                                                         |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |





### Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed — Opinion Column in Al Watan Newspaper

Gulf University's Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed, Dean of the College of Law, has established himself as one of Bahrain's most distinctive and widely-read opinion writers through his regular column "East and West" (شرق وغرب) published in **Al Watan Newspaper** — one of the Kingdom of Bahrain's most prominent and widely circulated daily newspapers, reaching readers across Bahrain and the wider Arab world.

Over the course of Academic Year 2025–2026, Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed published an extensive and diverse body of opinion articles covering a broad spectrum of social, cultural, psychological, technological, educational, and civic themes — consistently demonstrating the kind of deep, reflective, and accessible intellectual engagement that



positions Gulf University's faculty as genuine contributors to Bahrain's public intellectual life. His column appears with regular frequency, with a published archive now spanning more than 100 articles across multiple volumes.

#### Themes and Topics Covered

The breadth and variety of topics addressed by Prof. Dr. Firas in his published articles reflects the multidisciplinary curiosity, social awareness, and civic commitment that characterize the finest tradition of public intellectual writing. Among the themes explored during the academic year:

**Social & Human Behaviour** — articles examining modern social phenomena including the erosion of meaningful human connection in the digital age ("We No Longer Have Energy for Others"), the paradox of social media relationships ("Social Relations Without Connection"), and the cultural dynamics of honesty and communication ("Candor is Not Always Comfortable").

**Education & Learning** — incisive analysis of contemporary educational challenges, including "Education Doesn't Fail — It Addresses a Human Being Who No Longer Exists" and "When the World Shakes — An Educational Opportunity Appears" — reflecting Prof. Dr. Firas's deep expertise as a senior academic on the evolving nature of teaching, learning, and human development in a rapidly changing world.

**Technology & Artificial Intelligence** — thoughtful engagement with the impact of digital technologies on human behaviour and society, including articles on digital privacy ("We Get Angry About Privacy Violations Yet We Consent to Them"), virtual success ("Successful Virtually"), digital inheritance ("Digital Cemeteries and Our Digital Legacy"), and the human relationship with artificial intelligence ("He Thinks and Does Not Worry").

**Economics & Consumption** — sharp social commentary on modern economic behaviours including the subscription economy ("The Economy of Non-Ownership"), consumer culture ("We Spend and Consume to Forgive Ourselves"), and the culture of perpetual busyness as a proxy for success ("When Did Constant Busyness Become Evidence of Success?").

**Civic, National & Institutional Themes** — articles of direct civic significance including reflections on the role of His Majesty the King in protecting the state ("His Majesty the King's Role in Safeguarding and Protecting the State"), national belonging and unity, and the relationship between law, justice, and institutional values ("Law Between Cunning and Value").

**Entrepreneurship & Personal Development** — practical and reflective writing on ambition, self-presentation, and the gap between aspiration and action ("Entrepreneur Until Further Notice", "Expose Yourself So I May Know Who You Are").

#### Significance for Gulf University and CECEC

Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed's regular column in Al Watan represents a form of community engagement that is both intellectually significant and institutionally important. Every article published extends Gulf University's academic expertise and institutional values into the living conversation of Bahraini society — reaching thousands of daily newspaper readers who encounter, through his writing, the thoughtful, evidence-informed, and humanistic perspective that a university education cultivates.

His column demonstrates that Gulf University's faculty are not only teachers within the classroom but active, contributing members of Bahrain's intellectual community — writers, thinkers, and public voices whose engagement with the great questions of our time serves the community as genuinely and as meaningfully as any workshop, training session, or formal event. CECEC is proud to recognize and highlight Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed's sustained contribution to Bahrain's media and cultural landscape as an integral dimension of Gulf University's community engagement mission in 2025–2026.

| Detail         | Information                                                                           |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Author         | Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed — Dean, College of Law, Gulf University                      |
| Publication    | Al Watan Newspaper (صحيفة الوطن) — leading daily newspaper, Kingdom of Bahrain        |
| Column         | East and West (شرق وغرب)                                                              |
| Total Articles | 37 published articles — Sep 2025 to Jun 2026                                          |
| Themes         | Social behaviour; education; technology & AI; law & justice; economics; civic values  |
| Archive        | <a href="https://alwatannews.net/author/3461">https://alwatannews.net/author/3461</a> |

|           |                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 & OB14.IN04 — Faculty civic engagement & media outreach for community knowledge                                                               |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



### Bahraini National Doctor Day — Appreciation & Celebration with Al Salam Hospital

On the occasion of **Bahraini National Doctor Day**, CECEC at Gulf University marked this meaningful national occasion by celebrating in collaboration with **Al Salam Hospital** — honoring the medical professionals who dedicate their lives to the health, wellbeing, and care of the Bahraini community.

The occasion provided a fitting opportunity for Gulf University to express its genuine institutional appreciation for the doctors and healthcare professionals at Al Salam Hospital whose commitment, expertise, and human dedication make a real and lasting difference in the lives of the patients and community members they serve every day.

Bahraini National Doctor Day is a reminder that the medical profession is not merely a career but a calling — and that those who answer it with excellence, compassion, and unwavering devotion deserve to be recognized, celebrated, and sincerely thanked.

CECEC's participation in marking this day reflects the university's broader commitment to building meaningful relationships with Bahrain's healthcare community and to celebrating the individuals and institutions whose work contributes so fundamentally to the wellbeing of our society.

| Detail      | Information                                                                 |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Recognition | Appreciation Shield — exceptional loyalty & dedication in community service |
| Basis       | Outstanding patient satisfaction rates & devotion to duty                   |
| Format      | Community visit & formal shield presentation by CECEC                       |

|           |                                                                                                    |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB16.IN02 — Civic recognition of excellence in community service & dedication                      |
| SDGs      | SDG 3 — Good Health   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



### Security Awareness Exhibition — "Together" Programme for Combating Violence & Addiction | Ministry of Interior

As part of Gulf University's steadfast commitment to promoting security awareness among its students, staff, and the wider local community, CECEC organized a two-day **Security Awareness Exhibition** in collaboration with the **"Together" Programme for Combating Violence and Addiction** — one of the Kingdom of Bahrain's most important and impactful community safety initiatives, operating under the auspices of the Ministry of Interior.

The exhibition provided a rich, informative, and genuinely engaging platform through which attendees — students, faculty, administrative staff, and community visitors alike — could deepen their understanding of the critical issues of drug abuse prevention, community safety, and the values of positive, responsible citizenship that are at the heart of a healthy, cohesive, and resilient Bahraini society.

Over two days, the exhibition showcased the Ministry of Interior's dedicated efforts in the fight against drug abuse — presenting the breadth, seriousness, and sustained commitment of Bahrain's institutional response to one of the most challenging social issues facing communities globally and locally. Visitors were guided through informative displays, awareness materials, and interactive content that translated complex public health and security issues into clear, accessible, and practically relevant messages for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

At the core of the exhibition's message were three interconnected pillars of community wellbeing that the "Together" Programme champions with conviction: **prevention** — equipping individuals with the knowledge, awareness, and personal resilience to make informed choices and resist the social pressures that can lead toward substance abuse; **safety** — reinforcing the community's confidence in the institutions and programmes working daily to protect Bahrain's citizens, residents, and families; and **positive citizenship** — cultivating among students and community members a sense of personal responsibility, civic pride, and active commitment to building the kind of safe, drug-free, and opportunity-rich community that every Bahraini deserves.

CECEC's decision to host this exhibition on the Gulf University campus carries its own significance. Universities are formative environments — spaces where young people are making some of the most consequential choices of their lives, forming their values, and establishing the habits and relationships that will shape their futures. By bringing the "Together" Programme directly into this environment, Gulf University demonstrated that security awareness and drug prevention are not external concerns to be addressed elsewhere, but values that belong at the very centre of a university community committed to the holistic development and genuine wellbeing of every student it serves.

CECEC is proud of this collaboration with the Ministry of Interior's "Together" Programme and commends the extraordinary work being done by Bahrain's security and prevention institutions in service of a safer, healthier, and more cohesive Kingdom.

Strategic Linkage:

| Detail             | Information                                                                        |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Pillar             | Pillar 6: Community Services                                                       |
| Objective          | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Civic participation & community awareness initiatives      |
| Collaborating Body | "Together" Programme for Combating Violence and Addiction — Ministry of Interior   |
| Duration           | Two-day security awareness exhibition                                              |
| Audience           | GU students, staff, and wider local community                                      |
| Themes             | Drug abuse prevention; community safety; positive citizenship                      |
| Ministry Link      | Ministry of Interior, Kingdom of Bahrain                                           |
| Relationship       | Strengthens existing MoI partnership (Sustainable Security Exhibition — Event 6.4) |

SDG Alignment:

- **SDG 3 — Good Health & Wellbeing:** Drug abuse prevention and community safety awareness directly protect the physical and mental health of students, staff, and community members — making this exhibition a frontline contribution to community wellbeing.
- **SDG 4 — Quality Education:** The exhibition extended Gulf University's educational mission into the critical domain of personal safety, health literacy, and civic responsibility — equipping participants with practical, life-relevant awareness.
- **SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities:** Community safety and drug prevention awareness events ensure that life-saving information reaches all community members equally — regardless of background, age, or socioeconomic status.
- **SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities & Communities:** Promoting safety, prevention, and positive citizenship contributes directly to the creation of more cohesive, secure, and sustainably thriving communities across Bahrain.
- **SDG 16 — Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions:** The exhibition highlighted the Ministry of Interior's institutional commitment to community safety — reinforcing public trust in Bahrain's security institutions and their preventive, community-oriented approach to combating violence and addiction.
- **SDG 17 — Partnerships for the Goals:** The collaboration between Gulf University/CECEC and the Ministry of Interior's "Together" Programme exemplifies the cross-sector, government-academia partnership that amplifies community safety awareness and institutional impact.





## Together from the Beginning" (معاً منذ البداية) - Health Awareness Programme for First-Time Parents | Gulf University

Pillar: Pillar 4: Social Engagement (also Pillar 5: Industry Collaboration)

Objective: OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 - Community health awareness & social engagement initiatives

SDGs: SDG 3 - Good Health & Wellbeing | SDG 4 - Quality Education | SDG 5 - Gender Equality | SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities | SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals

As part of Gulf University's commitment to the holistic wellbeing of its students and staff, CECEC organized "Together from the Beginning" (معاً منذ البداية) — a dedicated health awareness programme designed for first-time mothers and fathers among Gulf University's employees and students. Held over three consecutive days, 9–11 June 2026, the programme represented a pioneering and deeply human initiative — one that recognizes that the journey into parenthood is among the most significant and transformative experiences in any person's life, and that a university community has a genuine responsibility to support its members through that journey with knowledge, compassion, and practical care.

### Programme Vision

The programme was built around a clear and empowering vision: to equip young people — first-time mothers and fathers — with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to navigate the journey from pre-marriage preparation, through pregnancy and childbirth, to



early parenthood. A particular emphasis was placed on shared responsibility between partners, mutual emotional support, and the cultivation of a positive, healthy relationship between spouses at every stage of this transformative life journey.

### **Target Audience**

The programme was specifically designed to serve three groups within the Gulf University community:

- Engaged or newly married university students and staff
- Expecting couples awaiting the arrival of their first child
- Students and employees preparing for marriage and family formation

### **Programme Objectives**

The programme addressed five interconnected dimensions of healthy early family life: Preparing young people approaching marriage to understand and embrace their new roles and responsibilities in married life. Strengthening shared planning for a healthy pregnancy and childbirth, grounded in mutual understanding and respect between partners. Raising awareness of the physical, psychological, and social changes that accompany marriage, parenthood, and the transition into early family life. Providing practical, evidence-based health guidance across the stages of pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and child development — while actively promoting equal and supportive partnership between spouses throughout. Strengthening emotional communication and mutual support between partners and equipping them with the skills needed to manage the pressures, adjustments, and challenges that family life inevitably brings.

Programme Structure — Three Workshops Over Three Days

The programme was delivered across three structured and interactive workshops — one per day — across 9, 10 & 11 June 2026, with each session combining expert lectures, interactive training activities, and practical exercises. Each workshop was designed to accommodate 20 to 35 participants and was delivered by a multidisciplinary team of specialists including physicians from primary healthcare centres, health promotion specialists from the Ministry of Health's Health Promotion Management Directorate, and social researchers.

#### **Day 1 — Workshop 1: Foundations of a Healthy Marriage**

The first workshop introduced participants to the essential foundations of a healthy marital relationship — covering the concept of a healthy marriage from a social research perspective, the importance and process of pre-marriage medical examinations delivered by a qualified physician, and the art of understanding and navigating different personality types, presented by a health promotion specialist from the Health Promotion Management Directorate.

#### **Day 2 — Workshop 2: The Journey of Parenthood**

The second workshop guided participants through the journey of becoming parents — covering reproductive health and pregnancy planning from a health promotion perspective, the full journey of pregnancy, childbirth, breastfeeding, and early infant care presented by

a specialist physician, and positive parenting skills alongside the importance of a healthy, supportive relationship between mother and father, explored through a social research lens.  
Day 3 — Workshop 3: Family Stability & Sustainable Wellbeing

The third and final workshop focused on long-term family wellbeing and sustainable health — covering self-care practices and healthy lifestyle patterns for new parents, strategies for managing marital and family disagreements constructively, routine health checks and vaccination schedules for mother and child, and a closing session incorporating a post-programme evaluation to measure participants' knowledge gain and satisfaction.

**Expected Outcomes**

The programme was designed to deliver five meaningful and measurable outcomes for its participants: strengthened couple engagement and mutual support throughout the parenting journey; reduced anxiety and fewer marital challenges in the early stages of family life; improved pregnancy outcomes and better infant health through informed preparation; greater readiness and confidence for the experience of first-time parenthood; and the establishment of stable, healthy, and nurturing family environments grounded in shared responsibility and mutual care.

**Programme Evaluation**

Programme effectiveness was measured through pre- and post-programme questionnaires administered to all participants — enabling systematic, evidence-based assessment of knowledge gain, attitude change, confidence levels, and overall participant satisfaction across the three workshop days.

**Delivering Partners**

The programme was delivered in close collaboration with specialist contributors from the Ministry of Health's Health Promotion Management Directorate and primary healthcare centres across Bahrain — bringing qualified physicians, certified health promotion specialists, and experienced social researchers directly onto the Gulf University campus in service of its student and staff community.

**Strategic Linkage:**

| Detail           | Information                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Primary Pillar   | Pillar 4: Social Engagement                     |
| Secondary Pillar | Pillar 5: Industry Collaboration & Consultation |
| Programme Title  | Together from the Beginning (معاً منذ البداية)  |
| Dates            | 9, 10 & 11 June 2026 — 3 consecutive days       |

|                     |                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Format              | 3 workshops — one per day — lectures, interactive training & practical activities                                                                           |
| Participants        | 20–35 per session — GU students and employees                                                                                                               |
| Audience            | Engaged, newlywed, expecting, or family-planning students and staff                                                                                         |
| Delivering Partners | Ministry of Health — Health Promotion Management Directorate; Primary Healthcare Centres                                                                    |
| Evaluation          | Pre & post programme questionnaires for all participants                                                                                                    |
| Objective           | OB16.IN02 & OB16.IN04 — Community health awareness & social engagement                                                                                      |
| SDGs                | SDG 3 — Good Health & Wellbeing   SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 5 — Gender Equality   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 17 — Partnerships for the Goals |

### SDG Alignment:

**SDG 3 - Good Health & Wellbeing:** The programme directly promotes physical and mental health across the full cycle of pre-marriage, pregnancy, childbirth, and early parenthood — providing evidence-based health guidance at one of the most critical and health-sensitive transitions in a young person's life.

**SDG 4 - Quality Education:** The three-workshop structure delivered expert, structured, and practically applicable health education to a university audience — extending Gulf University's educational mission into the domain of life skills, family health literacy, and parental preparedness.

**SDG 5 - Gender Equality:** The programme's explicit emphasis on shared parental responsibility, equal partnership between spouses, and the active involvement of fathers alongside mothers reflects a progressive, gender-equitable approach to family health and parenting education.

**SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities:** By delivering free, expert-led health awareness programming directly on campus, CECEC ensured that all students and employees - regardless of economic background or access to private healthcare — could benefit equally from this life-enhancing programme.

**SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals:** The collaboration between CECEC and the Ministry of Health's Health Promotion Management Directorate and primary healthcare centres exemplifies the cross-sector, government-academia partnership that brings specialist expertise directly into the university community in service of holistic public health.



## Pillar 6 - SDG Contribution Summary

| SDG                             | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 3 - Good Health & Wellbeing | Tolerance events, inclusion initiatives, health recognition on National Doctor Day, IoT environmental monitoring, and the Security Awareness Exhibition all contribute to the physical, mental, social, and environmental wellbeing of the university and wider community.                 |
| SDG 4 - Quality Education       | Excellence ceremonies, school visits, awareness lectures, national celebrations, Prof. Dr. Firas Mohammed's 37 published newspaper articles, and the Security Awareness Exhibition collectively embed lifelong learning, civic literacy, and health awareness values across the community. |
| SDG 5 - Gender Equality         | Bahraini Women's Day breakfast explicitly celebrated women's contributions at the highest institutional level — a direct and visible commitment to gender equality and the recognition of                                                                                                  |

|                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                               | women's vital role in the success of Gulf University and the Kingdom of Bahrain.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| SDG 10 -Reduced Inequalities                  | Events supporting People of Determination, older persons, women, school students, drug prevention awareness, and all community members reflect inclusive values at every level — ensuring no segment of Bahraini society is left behind or overlooked.                                                                               |
| SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities & Communities     | National celebrations, tolerance events, the Silver Jubilee, security and drug prevention exhibitions, and the Sustainable Security Exhibition all contribute to the social cohesion, cultural richness, and civic vibrancy of Bahraini society.                                                                                     |
| SDG 16 - Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions | National allegiance ceremony, Bahrainouna collaboration, Sustainable Security Exhibition (2nd edition), older persons' legal awareness lecture, tolerance ceremony, and the Security Awareness Exhibition with the Ministry of Interior's "Together" Programme all reinforce civic values, institutional trust, and the rule of law. |
| SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals           | 19 events across government ministries, civil society bodies, schools, media, healthcare institutions, national platforms, and the Ministry of Interior demonstrate Gulf University's exceptional and growing community partnership network.                                                                                         |

## Pillar 6 - Community Services by Category

| Category                          | Volume                                                                               | Count     |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| National & Civic Events           |  | 5         |
| Awareness & Education Events      |  | 5         |
| Recognition & Excellence Events   |  | 3         |
| Inclusion & Social Justice Events |  | 2         |
| Health & Wellbeing Events         |  | 1         |
| Cultural & Media Engagement       |  | 3         |
| TOTAL                             |                                                                                      | 19 events |



## Pillar 7 Overview

Pillar 7 encompasses CECEC's continuing education programmes — with the Languages Hub delivering one of the most ambitious, distinctive, and internationally significant cultural programmes in Gulf University's history during AY 2025–2026. The Russian and Caucasus Cultural Programme took students from a Bahrain campus to Moscow, Chechnya, the Bahraini Embassy in Russia, and a mountain field expedition — while also launching a new university podcast series and celebrating one year of Russian language teaching.

### From Moscow to Bahrain — Russian Art Exhibition & Cultural Workshops

Gulf University opened its doors to a vibrant celebration of Russian art and culture, hosting the "From Moscow to Bahrain" Russian Art Exhibition and accompanying workshops on the first floor of the university campus. The event invited students, faculty, staff, and community members to step into a richly curated cultural experience — one that brought the artistic heritage, creative traditions, and cultural depth of Russia directly into the heart of the Bahraini academic community.

The exhibition served as a living bridge between two distinct and proud cultures — the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Russian Federation — creating a space where art transcended language and geography to foster genuine human connection, mutual appreciation, and cross-cultural understanding. Visitors were invited not only to observe but to engage, with dedicated workshops providing hands-on opportunities to explore Russian artistic traditions, creative techniques, and cultural expressions in an interactive and welcoming setting.

This event is a natural continuation of Gulf University's growing and distinctive engagement with Russian-Bahraini cultural exchange — a journey that has included the establishment of Bahrain's first Russian Language Centre, the hosting of the Day of Slavic Literacy and Culture, and the delivery of Russian language training workshops through CECEC. The "From Moscow to Bahrain" exhibition represents the latest and perhaps most visually compelling chapter in this evolving cultural partnership — one that enriches Gulf University's campus life, broadens the cultural horizons of its community, and positions the university as a genuine hub of international cultural dialogue within the Kingdom of Bahrain.

CECEC is proud to have brought this exhibition to the Gulf University community, reaffirming its belief that cultural engagement — in all its forms — is an essential dimension of a truly holistic university experience and a powerful instrument for building the intercultural understanding and global citizenship that our rapidly changing world demands.

Cultural

| Detail         | Information                                             |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Format         | Art exhibition & interactive cultural workshops         |
| Location       | First Floor, Gulf University Campus                     |
| Cultural Focus | Russian art, artistic heritage, and creative traditions |
| Audience       | Students, faculty, staff, and community visitors        |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN03 & OB14.IN01 — Languages Hub cultural immersion & international partnership programme                                             |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |

## A. Cultural Events — CECEC, Academic Year 2025–2026

| # | Cultural Event                                                       | Date / Period                 | Organizer                                | Partners / Stakeholders                                          | Linked SDGs              | Description                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Grandma Cinderella Theatre Play                                      | 4–6 Dec 2025                  | CECEC (venue host)                       | GU Theatre / independent theatrical production team              | SDG 3, 4, 10, 11, 17     | Two-evening theatrical production on GU's main stage, opening the university's theatre to the wider Bahraini community for a family-friendly reimagining of the Cinderella story |
| 2 | Creative Students Camp                                               | 4–5 Jan 2026                  | CECEC                                    | GU students (cross-faculty)                                      | SDG 3, 4, 10, 11, 17     | Multi-day immersive student camp blending creativity, volunteerism, and community-building outside the academic setting                                                          |
| 3 | International Day of Tolerance Ceremony                              | 9 Dec 2025                    | CECEC                                    | Shu'lat Al-Mahaba Wal Salam Society (Flame of Love and Peace)    | SDG 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17 | Annual ceremony (marking the UN's 16 Nov International Day of Tolerance) held in GU's Big Hall, celebrating peace and coexistence in Bahraini society                            |
| 4 | Bahrain National Day — Student-Led Campus Celebration                | 16 Dec 2025                   | GU Students (CECEC-supported)            | Cross-faculty student groups                                     | SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17    | Student-organized celebration of Bahrain's National Day, showcasing creative displays and expressions of national pride                                                          |
| 5 | Gulf University Renews National Allegiance Ceremony                  | 4 June 2026                   | CECEC / GU Administration                | University-wide (students, faculty, staff)                       | SDG 4, 16, 17            | University-wide patriotic ceremony renewing allegiance to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa                                                                              |
| 6 | Bahraini Women's Day — VP Breakfast for Female Staff                 | 1 Dec 2025                    | Dr. Meryem Fati, VP for Academic Affairs | Female staff across GU departments                               | SDG 5                    | Breakfast gathering honoring female staff's contributions, hosted personally by the VP for Academic Affairs                                                                      |
| 7 | Teachers' Day — Interactive Student Gratitude Board                  | From 5 Oct (3-day activation) | CECEC                                    | GU students and faculty                                          | Not stated in report     | Interactive campus board where students left personal gratitude messages for faculty, marking World Teachers' Day                                                                |
| 8 | From Moscow to Bahrain — Russian Art Exhibition & Cultural Workshops | 1–3 November 2025             | Languages Hub, CECEC                     | Russian cultural partners                                        | SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17    | Art exhibition and hands-on workshops bringing Russian artistic heritage and traditions to GU's campus                                                                           |
| 9 | Russian Cultural Days — Performances, Poetry & Film Premiere         | 1-3 Nov 2025                  | Languages Hub, CECEC                     | Chechen State Pedagogical University (CSPU); Al Dana Epix Cinema | SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17    | Day-long cultural showcase: Arabic plays by CSPU students, Russian poetry recitations, musical performances, and evening premiere of the film "A                                 |

| #  | Cultural Event                                                               | Date / Period | Organizer            | Partners / Stakeholders                     | Linked SDGs           | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|    |                                                                              |               |                      |                                             |                       | Chechen Tale: Lady of the Mountain"                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 10 | Samovar Russian Tea Ceremony — Cultural Immersion Experience                 | 18 May 2025   | Languages Hub, CECEC | GU students & faculty members               | SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17 | Interactive immersion into the Russian samovar tea tradition, hospitality customs, and social rituals                                                                                                        |
| 11 | Languages Hub Students Visit Bahraini Embassy in Moscow                      | 3 Dec 2025    | Languages Hub, CECEC | Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Moscow | SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17 | Cultural/diplomatic visit connecting GU's Russian-language students with Bahrain's diplomatic mission in Moscow                                                                                              |
| 12 | Russian Language Day & Slavic Writing and Culture Day — One-Year Anniversary | 10 June 2025  | Languages Hub, CECEC | GU students & faculty members               | SDG 4, 10, 11, 16, 17 | Anniversary celebration marking one year of Bahrain's first university-level Russian language programme, held alongside the international Slavic Writing & Culture Day (honoring Saints Cyril and Methodius) |

## B. Sustainability Community Service Projects - Student-Organized/Involving Students (2025–2026)

| #  | Project Name                                                       | Participants                                                   | Project Duration                  | Project Area |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| 1  | Daily Tree-Planting Campaign (GUSW2025)                            | GUSC members + community volunteers; 900 seedlings distributed | 16–20 Nov 2025 (5 days)           | SI, WR       |
| 2  | GUSC Campus Clean-Up Drives                                        | 120 studnets+10 Faculty (GUSC-led)                             | Ongoing / recurring, AY 2025–2026 | WS           |
| 3  | GUSC Biodiversity Conservation Activities                          | Students & Faculty (GUSC-led)                                  | Ongoing / recurring, AY 2025–2026 | SI           |
| 4  | GUSC Marine & Ecosystem Protection Activities                      | Students & Faculty (GUSC-led)                                  | Ongoing / recurring, AY 2025–2026 | ED           |
| 5  | "I Read" Marathon (Ithra), 5th Edition                             | 173 readers                                                    | 5–7 Feb 2026 (3 days)             | ED           |
| 6  | Smart IoT Weather Station (student PBL project)                    | 5 student and one faculty (College of Engineering students)    | Semester-based, AY 2025–2026      | EC, ED       |
| 7  | "Sustainathon" Competition — Smart IoT Pollution Monitoring System | 1 (Hassan Ali Hassan)                                          | Competition-based, Feb 2026       | EC, ED       |
| 8  | Innovation and Sustainable Tech Solutions Competition              | GU students + invited secondary school students                | 10 April 2025 (1 day)             | ED, GD       |
| 9  | Youth Empowerment Idea Recognition (Sustainability Week workshop)  | GU female students & faculty                                   | Nov 2025, during GUSW2025         | ED, GD       |
| 10 | INJAZ Sustainability Hackathon (GWECCC)                            | 10 students                                                    | 8–11 Sept 2025 (4 days)           | ED, EC       |

| #  | Project Name                                        | Participants                                                                          | Project Duration             | Project Area |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| 11 | Saudi Arabia–Bahrain collaborative green initiative | 22 Students from GU & Al Khamisa Secondary School, Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia            | Nov 2025, during GUSW2025    | ED, EC       |
| 12 | Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI)              | Gulf University students' families and all Bahraini families (citizens and residents) | 6 Months (January–June 2026) | EC, ED, WR   |



## Russian Cultural Days —Performances, Poetry & Film Premiere

The first day of the Russian Cultural Days at Gulf University drew to a close in a spirit of inspiration, creativity, and genuine cross-cultural friendship — marking the beginning of what proved to be a landmark cultural event in the university's academic calendar and a defining moment in CECEC's Languages Hub programme.

The day's celebrations were brought to life through the remarkable talents of students from the **Chechen State Pedagogical University (CSPU)**, who graced the Gulf University campus with performances that bridged continents, languages, and traditions in a single, unforgettable afternoon. Short Arabic plays performed by CSPU students — demonstrating both linguistic accomplishment and cultural sensitivity — were met with warmth and admiration by the Gulf University audience. Russian poetry recitations followed, offering attendees a window into the literary soul of Russian and Chechen cultural heritage, delivered with passion and eloquence. Musical pieces completed the performance programme, filling the campus with melodies that spoke a universal language transcending any single culture or nationality.

The performances created something rare and precious: a genuinely shared cultural space where Bahraini students and faculty, international visitors, and guests from across the community could sit together, listen together, and experience together the beauty that emerges when different cultures choose connection over distance. The atmosphere was one of warmth, mutual admiration, and the kind of friendship that only authentic cultural exchange can produce.

The evening brought an equally memorable conclusion to the first day, as guests gathered at **Al Dana Epix Cinema** for the premiere screening of "**A Chechen Tale: Lady of the Mountain**" — a powerful and artistically rich cinematic portrayal of Chechen heritage, identity, and resilience. The film screening served as a fitting finale to a day that had celebrated culture in all its forms — from the performing arts to the literary tradition to the cinematic

medium — and left audiences with a deepened appreciation for the richness and complexity of the cultures represented.

CECEC is proud to have hosted this inaugural day of the Russian Cultural Days as part of its Languages Hub initiative — a programme that places cultural immersion, multilingual engagement, and international partnership at the centre of Gulf University's continuing education mission. The Russian Cultural Days represent the most ambitious and visible expression to date of CECEC's vision for a Languages Hub that goes beyond language instruction and creates genuine, living, breathing cultural experiences for the entire Gulf University community and beyond.

| Detail                | Information                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| International Partner | Chechen State Pedagogical University (CSPU)                                 |
| Campus Programme      | Arabic plays, Russian poetry, musical performances                          |
| Evening Event         | Film Premiere: 'A Chechen Tale: Lady of the Mountain' — Al Dana Epix Cinema |
| Significance          | First GU-hosted international academic cultural performance event           |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN03 & OB14.IN01 — International academic cultural exchange & Languages Hub programme                                                 |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |







### □ Samovar Russian Tea Ceremony — Cultural Immersion Experience

The Languages Hub at Gulf University's Community Engagement and Continuing Education Centre (CECEC) organized a warm, immersive, and culturally enchanting **"Samovar" Russian Tea Ceremony** — inviting students into an authentic Russian cultural experience that transported participants far beyond the classroom and into the heart of one of the world's most rich and distinctive cultural traditions.

The samovar — a beautifully crafted heated metal container traditionally used in Russia to boil water for tea — is far more than a vessel for brewing. It is a cultural icon, a gathering point, and a symbol of the warmth, hospitality, and communal spirit that define Russian domestic and social life. Around the samovar, families and friends gather, stories are shared, and the bonds of human connection are deepened over the simple but profound ritual of sharing tea together. By centering this cultural event on the samovar tradition, the Languages Hub offered students not merely an introduction to a cultural practice but an invitation into a way of life — one characterized by generosity, togetherness, and the art of slowing down to truly connect.

The ceremony was designed as a fully interactive cultural experience — one in which students were not passive observers of Russian culture but active participants in it. Through the ritual preparation and sharing of tea in the authentic Russian tradition, guided exploration of the cultural significance of the samovar and the tea ceremony in Russian social life, introduction to Russian cultural customs, etiquette, and traditions associated with hospitality and communal gathering, and the creation of an atmosphere genuinely inspired by authentic Russian ambiance, the event succeeded in making Russian culture tangible, accessible, and genuinely engaging for every student who participated.

The "Samovar" Russian Tea Ceremony is a testament to the Languages Hub's vision of language and cultural education as an immersive, experiential, and deeply human endeavor — one that goes far beyond vocabulary lists and grammar exercises and reaches into the lived experience of the cultures whose languages it teaches. True cultural competence is built not only in the classroom but in moments like these: moments of shared experience, genuine curiosity, and the kind of cross-cultural connection that leaves a lasting impression on everyone involved. The event forms a natural and enriching part of the Languages Hub's growing Russian cultural programme at Gulf University — a programme that has now encompassed the establishment of Bahrain's first Russian Language Centre, the "From Moscow to Bahrain" Art Exhibition, the Russian Cultural Days featuring performances by students of the Chechen State Pedagogical University, and now the intimate authenticity of the Samovar Tea Ceremony. Together, these initiatives constitute one of the most comprehensive and ambitious Russian cultural engagement programmes offered by any university in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

| Detail         | Information                                                                   |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Organizer      | Languages Hub, CECEC — Gulf University                                        |
| Format         | Interactive cultural immersion experience                                     |
| Cultural Focus | Russian tea ceremony tradition, samovar culture, hospitality & social customs |
| Significance   | Demonstrates Languages Hub's holistic approach to cultural education          |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN03 — Languages Hub cultural immersion & experiential education beyond the classroom                                                 |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



### Languages Hub Students Visit Bahraini Embassy in Moscow

Gulf University's Languages Hub students experienced one of the most memorable and emotionally resonant moments of their Russian cultural journey when they visited the **Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Moscow** — finding, in the heart of a foreign capital thousands of kilometers from home, a warm and welcoming piece of their beloved homeland. The students were received with exceptional warmth and generosity by **His Excellency Dr. Ahmed bin Abdulrahman Al Saati, the Bahraini Ambassador to the Russian Federation** — whose gracious welcome made every student feel not as a visitor in a formal diplomatic setting, but as a member of a family, welcomed into a second home.

The visit to the Bahraini Embassy in Moscow was far more than a diplomatic courtesy call — it was a profound and multilayered experience that touched the students at the deepest levels of cultural identity, national belonging, and personal growth. To stand inside the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in one of the world's great capitals — to



see the flag, to hear Arabic spoken with warmth and familiarity, to be welcomed by a distinguished representative of their nation — was for many students a moment of genuine emotional significance: a reminder of who they are, where they come from, and what they carry within themselves as they navigate the richness and complexity of a foreign culture.

His Excellency the Ambassador did not merely receive the students — he invested in them. Offering his personal support, guidance, and insight drawn from years of diplomatic service and international experience, Dr. Al Saati provided the students with an irreplaceable perspective on what it means to represent Bahrain with distinction abroad: the responsibility it carries, the pride it inspires, and the opportunities it creates. His words broadened the students' horizons — not only in terms of cultural awareness and international understanding, but in terms of their own sense of identity, capability, and the role they can play as ambassadors of their nation in every interaction they have beyond Bahrain's borders.

The meeting deepened the students' connection to their homeland in a way that only distance can make possible — reminding them that Bahrain is not merely a place but a living, breathing identity that travels with them wherever they go, expressed in the way they speak, the values they embody, and the manner in which they represent their country and their university in every encounter. The Languages Hub students left the Embassy not only enriched by the experience, but strengthened in their sense of who they are and inspired to carry that identity with pride, distinction, and purpose throughout their international journey.

This extraordinary visit stands as one of the most distinctive and meaningful chapters in the Languages Hub's Russian cultural programme — a moment where language learning, cultural immersion, national identity, and diplomatic engagement converged into a single, unforgettable experience that will remain with these students for the rest of their lives.

| Detail       | Information                                                                     |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Host         | H.E. Dr. Ahmed bin Abdulrahman Al Saati — Bahraini Ambassador to Russia         |
| Location     | Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Moscow, Russian Federation                   |
| Participants | Gulf University Languages Hub students                                          |
| Significance | First diplomatic engagement by GU Languages Hub students on international visit |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN03 & OB14.IN01 — International engagement & national identity (also Pillar 6)                                                       |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



**🎙️ First Podcast Episode — Bahrain Strategic Planning Society at GU Studios (also Pillar 5)**

CECEC recorded the first episode of a new expert podcast series at Gulf University's own studios, hosted with Ms. Samaa Al Raees, President & Founder of the Bahrain Strategic Planning Society — launching an innovative media knowledge platform that will feature upcoming conversations with Bahrain's leading thinkers and institutional leaders.

| Detail     | Information                                                                  |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Guest      | Ms. Samaa Al Raees — President & Founder, Bahrain Strategic Planning Society |
| Venue      | Gulf University Studios — first production                                   |
| Format     | Expert podcast series — Episode 1 of upcoming series                         |
| Innovation | GU Studios as a new community knowledge platform                             |

|           |                                                                                              |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN03 & OB13.IN01 — Media knowledge platform & innovation (also Pillar 5)                |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



**🎓 Russian Language Day & Slavic Writing and Culture Day — One Year Anniversary**

The Languages Hub at Gulf University marked a proud and celebratory milestone in its short but extraordinarily rich history — hosting the **Russian Language Day and Slavic Writing & Culture Day** event in commemoration of **one full year of Russian language teaching** at the Languages Hub. The occasion brought together students, faculty, guests, and cultural enthusiasts in a vibrant celebration of language, culture, heritage, and the remarkable journey that Gulf University's Languages Hub has undertaken in its inaugural year of Russian language education. One year. Twelve months of lessons, conversations, cultural discoveries, and human connections forged through the shared endeavor of learning one of the world's great languages. In that single year, the Languages Hub established Bahrain's first dedicated Russian language programme within a university setting — and built around it an entire



ecosystem of cultural engagement that has taken students from the classroom to the art exhibition, from the tea ceremony to the theatre, from the campus to the mountains of Chechnya and the corridors of the Bahraini Embassy in Moscow. Russian Language Day was the moment to pause, reflect, and celebrate how far this extraordinary journey has come.

**Slavic Writing & Culture Day — A Celebration of Heritage**

The event was held in conjunction with **Slavic Writing and Culture Day** — an annual celebration of the Cyrillic alphabet and the rich literary, artistic, and cultural traditions of the Slavic peoples. This international occasion, observed across Slavic nations and communities worldwide, honors the legacy of Saints Cyril and Methodius — the 9th-century Byzantine missionaries who created the Glagolitic alphabet, the precursor to Cyrillic, and with it laid the foundations for the written cultures of dozens of nations and hundreds of millions of people. By celebrating this day at Gulf University, the Languages Hub placed its Russian language programme within a context of deep cultural and historical significance — connecting students in Bahrain to a literary and civilizational tradition that spans more than a millennium.

**A Year of Achievement — Languages Hub Russian Programme**

The first anniversary celebration offered a natural moment to reflect on the achievements of the Languages Hub's Russian language programme in its inaugural year — a year that has been, by any measure, extraordinary. From the first Russian language classes taught in Bahrain at university level, to the "From Moscow to Bahrain" art exhibition, the Russian Cultural Days featuring students from the Chechen State Pedagogical University, the Samovar Tea Ceremony, the visit to the Bahraini Embassy in Moscow, and the mountain field expedition in Chechnya — the Languages Hub has delivered, in a single academic year, a Russian cultural programme of a depth, ambition, and impact that would be remarkable for an institution many years its senior.

Russian Language Day was the celebration that this achievement deserved — a joyful, proud, and genuinely moving affirmation that the decision to establish a Russian language programme at Gulf University was not merely an academic initiative but the beginning of something lasting: a cultural bridge between Bahrain and the Russian-speaking world that will continue to grow, deepen, and enrich both communities for years to come.

*Together, we open new horizons.*

| Detail           | Information                                                                                      |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Event            | Russian Language Day & Slavic Writing and Culture Day                                            |
| Milestone        | One full year of Russian language teaching at GU Languages Hub                                   |
| Cultural Context | Slavic Writing & Culture Day honors Saints Cyril & Methodius — creators of the Cyrillic alphabet |
| Significance     | Bahrain's first university-level Russian language programme anniversary                          |
| Message          | Together, we open new horizons (معاً نفتح آفاقاً جديدة)                                          |

|           |                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN03 & OB14.IN04 — Languages Hub anniversary celebration & cultural programme milestone                                               |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Pillar 7 — SDG Contribution Summary

| SDG                           | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 4 — Quality Education     | All Languages Hub activities extend education into immersive cultural, linguistic, international, and media domains — developing intercultural competence and global awareness. |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities | International cultural engagement exposes students to diverse traditions, reducing cultural barriers and promoting equal recognition of all identities.                         |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities   | Cultural exhibitions, performances, tea ceremonies, and the podcast series contribute to the cultural richness and global connectivity of Bahrain's community.                  |
| SDG 13 — Climate Action       | Chechen mountain field experience raised students' awareness of natural ecosystems, environmental change, and the importance of conservation.                                   |

| SDG                      | How This Pillar Contributes                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SDG 15 — Life on Land    | First-hand engagement with Chechnya's mountain ecosystems raises environmental appreciation and awareness of natural heritage conservation.                          |
| SDG 16 — Peace & Justice | Cultural exchange, diplomatic Embassy engagement, and cross-cultural artistic performance are foundations of peaceful international understanding.                   |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships    | CSPU partnership, Bahraini Embassy engagement, Bahrain Strategic Planning Society MOU, and Russian cultural institutions reflect GU's growing international network. |

 **Paid Training Workshops — Continuing Education Programme**

As part of its continuing education mandate, CECEC delivered a series of specialized paid training workshops during Academic Year 2025–2026 — offering professionally certified, expert-led learning experiences to institutions and individuals across the Kingdom of Bahrain. These workshops represent the commercial dimension of CECEC's training portfolio, complementing the 117 free community workshops delivered under Pillar 1 and demonstrating the centre's capacity to design and deliver high-quality, revenue-generating professional development programmes across a diverse range of disciplines.

All paid workshops were delivered by qualified Gulf University faculty members and specialist practitioners within their expert domains, reflecting the academic credibility and professional depth that distinguishes CECEC's training provision.

| Detail               | Information                                                                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Total Paid Workshops | 7 specialist professional development sessions                                           |
| Total Trainers       | 9 qualified faculty members and specialist practitioners                                 |
| Notable Client 1     | King Saud University, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia — Advanced Statistical Analysis            |
| Notable Client 2     | Shura Council, Kingdom of Bahrain — Crises, Disasters & Response Mechanisms              |
| Thematic Areas       | Leadership; Artificial Intelligence; Media & PR; Statistical Analysis; Crisis Management |
| Significance         | Revenue-generating commercial dimension of CECEC's professional training portfolio       |

|           |                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Objective | OB21.IN01 — Generate revenue through paid continuing education programmes (also OB13.IN01)                                       |
| SDGs      | SDG 4 — Quality Education   SDG 8 — Decent Work & Growth   SDG 9 — Innovation   SDG 16 — Peace & Justice   SDG 17 — Partnerships |



## Paid Training Workshop Listing — AY 2025–2026

| # | Workshop Title                                                                              | Trainer(s)                                           | Client / Organisation             |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Designing & Implementing Digital PR Campaigns Using AI Tools                                | Mr. Ammar Mohammed                                   | External Clients                  |
| 2 | Advanced Executive Leadership Skills                                                        | Dr. Marwan Milhem                                    | External Clients                  |
| 3 | Extracting KPIs Through Strategic Planning & SWOT Analysis                                  | Dr. Baligh Basher                                    | External Clients                  |
| 4 | AI Journalism: From Understanding to Application                                            | Dr. Abdullah Altaher                                 | External Clients                  |
| 5 | Artificial Intelligence Between Legal Texts & Practical Applications                        | Dr. Hesham Alawsi                                    | External Clients                  |
| 6 | Advanced Statistical Analysis                                                               | Dr. Mohammed Saeed, Dr. Ali Ateeq, Dr. Ahmad Alastal | King Saud University, KSA         |
| 7 | الأزمات والكوارث وآليات التعامل معها ومواجهتها<br>(Crises, Disasters & Response Mechanisms) | Dr. Siddiq Bilal                                     | Shura Council, Kingdom of Bahrain |

| Theme Area                           | Workshops | Trainers                                             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Leadership & Strategic Management    | 2         | Dr. Marwan Milhem; Dr. Baligh Basher                 |
| Artificial Intelligence & Technology | 2         | Dr. Abdullah Altaher; Dr. Hesham Alawsi              |
| Media & Digital Communication        | 1         | Mr. Ammar Mohammed                                   |
| Research & Advanced Data Analysis    | 1         | Dr. Mohammed Saeed, Dr. Ali Ateeq, Dr. Ahmad Alastal |
| Crisis Management & Governance       | 1         | Dr. Siddiq Bilal                                     |

Pillar 7 — Languages Hub & Continuing Education Programme

| Category                             | Volume      | Count |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Art Exhibitions & Cultural Workshops | <div></div> | 1     |
| Cultural Performances & Cinema       | <div></div> | 1     |
| Cultural Immersion Experiences       | <div></div> | 1     |
| Diplomatic & Civic Engagement        | <div></div> | 1     |
| International Field Expeditions      | <div></div> | 1     |
| Media & Podcast Platforms            | <div></div> | 1     |
| Anniversary Celebrations             | <div></div> | 1     |



# Overall Achievement Summary — CECEC 2025–2026

| Pillar                           | Events/Activities | Objective      | Achievement                | Status             |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Pillar 1: Training Workshops     | 124 workshops     | OB16.IN01      | 130%+ of target — EXCEEDED | ✅ Outstanding      |
| Pillar 2: Donations & CSR        | 2 initiatives     | OB14.IN02      | Both fully delivered       | ✅ Achieved         |
| Pillar 3: Resources & Facilities | 3 events          | OB16.IN03      | All 3 delivered            | ✅ Achieved         |
| Pillar 4: Social Engagement      | 15 events         | OB16.IN02      | All delivered — EXCEEDED   | ✅ Outstanding      |
| Pillar 5: Industry Collaboration | 14 events         | OB13.IN01      | All delivered — EXCEEDED   | ✅ Outstanding      |
| Pillar 6: Community Services     | 18 events + media | OB16.IN02      | All delivered — EXCEEDED   | ✅ Outstanding      |
| Pillar 7: Languages Hub          | 7 events          | OB21.IN03      | All delivered              | ✅ Achieved         |
| GRAND TOTAL                      | 180+ activities   | All Objectives | All met or exceeded        | ✅ Exceptional Year |

## SDG Coverage Across All 7 Pillars — 2025–2026

| Category                        | Volume                            | Count |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| SDG 3 — Good Health & Wellbeing | <div><div></div></div>            | 7     |
| SDG 4 — Quality Education       | <div><div></div></div>            | 7     |
| SDG 5 — Gender Equality         | <div><div></div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| SDG 8 — Decent Work & Growth    | <div><div></div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| SDG 9 — Industry & Innovation   | <div><div></div><div></div></div> | 5     |
| SDG 10 — Reduced Inequalities   | <div><div></div></div>            | 7     |
| SDG 11 — Sustainable Cities     | <div><div></div></div>            | 7     |
| SDG 13 — Climate Action         | <div><div></div><div></div></div> | 3     |
| SDG 15 — Life on Land           | <div><div></div><div></div></div> | 2     |
| SDG 16 — Peace & Justice        | <div><div></div></div>            | 7     |
| SDG 17 — Partnerships           | <div><div></div></div>            | 7     |

## Conclusion & Outlook 2026–2027

Academic Year 2025–2026 stands as the most productive, diverse, and impactful year in CECEC's history at Gulf University. Across seven strategic pillars, the centre delivered 180+ activities and initiatives — from 124 free community training workshops reaching 1,291+ beneficiaries, to an internationally acclaimed Languages Hub programme spanning Moscow and the Chechen mountains, to 14 formal industry and government partnerships, to 18 community service events that touched every corner of Bahraini civic and social life.

This extraordinary year unfolded in the context of Gulf University's Silver Jubilee — 25 years of academic leadership and community service — and CECEC's contribution to that anniversary is a fitting reflection of what the centre represents: a university that does not merely educate within its walls but reaches outward, with generosity and ambition, into the life of its community and its nation.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, CECEC is committed to: expanding the Open Prisons training programme to 70+ workshops; establishing 2+ new government ministry partnerships; formalizing the Bahrain Strategic Planning Society and Bahrain Special Olympics MOUs into active programme delivery; growing the Languages Hub podcast series; and launching new joint health awareness programmes with the Ministry of Health. The foundation is exceptional. The ambition is greater still.

### **Community Engagement & Continuing Education Centre (CECEC)**

Gulf University | Kingdom of Bahrain

*Annual Report 2025–2026 | Director: Dr. Marwan Milhem*

***"Together we build our future."***