



Annual Report

SDM-C

Sustainability and Development Makers Center

Academic Year 2025-2026

Prepared By:

Dr. Omar Blibech | Director of the Sustainability and Development makers Center

A **Vision** aligned with
Global Sustainable Development Goals:



Contents:

- 1.Introduction
- 2.About the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C)
- 3.Strategic Direction and Governance
- 4.Action Plan & Operational Plan 2025-2026
- 5.SDM-C Achieved and Ongoing Projects Dashboard (2021–2026)
- Major Initiatives and Institutional Achievements
- Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025)
- First International Conference on Sustainable Development and Innovation (ICS DI 2025)
- GU–SDGs Monitor Platform
- Gulf University Sustainability Club (GUSC)
- Daily Tree-Planting Campaign
- Carbon-free Campus Initiative
- Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI)
- UI GreenMetric World University Rankings
- Institutional Performance and Sustainability Impact
- Statistical Analysis and Key Achievements
- Future Sustainability Roadmap: Strategic Ongoing and High-Impact Initiatives GUSW2026:
- From Success to Sustainable Transformation
- Future Vision and Strategic Priorities
- Conclusion

1. Introduction

This Annual Report presents a comprehensive overview of the initiatives, projects, activities, achievements, and strategic actions undertaken by the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) at Gulf University throughout the 2025–2026 Academic Year. It reflects the Center's continued commitment to advancing sustainability as a core institutional priority, while supporting Gulf University's strategic objectives, quality enhancement agenda, and contribution to national and international sustainable development aspirations.

Throughout the reporting period, the SDM-C has continued to strengthen the integration of sustainability principles across university operations, academic practices, research, innovation, and community engagement. The Center has actively promoted interdisciplinary collaboration, responsible resource management, environmental stewardship, digital transformation, and emerging technologies to address contemporary societal, economic, and environmental challenges in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Center's activities encompass a broad spectrum of institutional, local, regional, and international initiatives, including strategic partnerships, research projects, professional development programs, awareness campaigns, competitions, community outreach activities, and sustainability-driven innovation. These initiatives contribute to fostering an inclusive, resilient, and future-oriented learning environment while promoting social responsibility, diversity, accessibility, lifelong learning, and stakeholder engagement.

Furthermore, the SDM-C continues to support the University's transition toward a more sustainable campus through the enhancement of environmentally responsible operations, green infrastructure, accessible and inclusive facilities, sustainable campus life initiatives, and innovative learning environments that enhance student experience and institutional resilience. This report demonstrates the SDM-C's strategic contribution across its four core operational pillars:

- Operations & Environment
- Community Engagement
- Research & Innovation
- Education, Knowledge Sharing & Capacity Building

These achievements demonstrate Gulf University's ongoing commitment to embedding sustainability into institutional culture and governance, creating measurable impact for students, staff, industry partners, the wider community, and future generations, while reinforcing the University's position as a regional leader in sustainable higher education.

As part of the University's continuous efforts to enhance the effectiveness, governance, and institutional impact of the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C), and to further align its activities with the University's vision, mission, and strategic objectives, a

revised governance structure was implemented during the 2025–2026 Academic Year. Under a university-level decision, each college formally appointed a designated representative to the Center, establishing a comprehensive interdisciplinary governance framework.

This enhanced structure strengthens cross-college collaboration by promoting integrated planning, coordinated implementation, and shared institutional responsibility for sustainability initiatives. It facilitates the development of interdisciplinary and inter-college projects and initiatives, encourages participatory decision-making, and improves communication, knowledge exchange, and resource sharing across the University.

The revised governance model further enhances institutional engagement, supports more effective monitoring of sustainability performance, and strengthens the Center's capacity to achieve its strategic objectives, key performance indicators, and long-term sustainability goals. By fostering greater collaboration across academic and administrative units, the SDM-C continues to embed sustainability as a shared institutional responsibility and a fundamental component of Gulf University's culture of excellence and continuous improvement.

SDM-C College of Engineering: Information* & Meetings Schedule

- 1- Dr. Omar Blibech /Director
- 2- Mr. Ammar Mohamed / Vice Director
- 3- Mrs. Ameera Hydrose / Coordinator
- 4- Dr. Walid Elfezzani /Member
- 5- Dr. Mohamed Alastal /Member
- 6- Dr. Tanvir Hussein /Member
- 7- Dr. Adel Bilal /Member
- 8- Mr. Mohamed Abdulhameed /Member
- 9- Dr. Baligh Beshr /Member
- 10- Dr. Ammar Mohamed /Member
- 11- Ms. Mahfouda AlAni /Member
- 12- Ms. Nadin Hamada /Member

(*). With reference to College of Engineering Resolution, the updated version issued by the University Level, for the Academic Year 2025-2026..

SDM-C Meetings Schedule / 2025-2026:

- *SDM-C First Meeting: October 2026*
- *SDM-C Second Meeting: March 2026*
- *SDM-C Second Meeting: June 2026*

In addition to the formally scheduled meetings, the Center conducts regular working sessions, including focused coordination meetings, collaborative workshops, and open discussion forums, to ensure continuous engagement among members and stakeholders. A significant proportion of these sessions is dedicated to the planning, coordination, and continuous development of the University's annual ***Sustainability Week***, which has evolved into a flagship institutional initiative and a distinguished milestone for Gulf University with growing local, regional, and international recognition and outreach.

These collaborative sessions provide a dynamic platform for exchanging ideas, developing innovative proposals, identifying opportunities for continuous improvement, fostering interdisciplinary and cross-college collaboration, engaging internal and external stakeholders, and addressing emerging sustainability priorities. They also facilitate the coordinated planning and successful implementation of Sustainability Week activities, while supporting the broader strategic objectives of the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) and reinforcing the University's leadership in sustainability and community engagement. Furthermore, these ongoing engagements facilitate the continuous monitoring of initiatives and projects, periodic review of implementation progress, collaborative problem-solving, and timely follow-up on assigned actions and strategic objectives. This participatory approach promotes continuous improvement, strengthens institutional coordination, enhances responsiveness to emerging challenges and opportunities, and supports the effective achievement of the Center's operational and strategic goals.



Figure 01: SDM-C at Gulf University

2. The SDM-C Mission & Vision.



Figure 2: SDM-C at GU: Core Vision & Mission.

Strategic Direction, Mission and Operational Framework

Throughout the 2025–2026 Academic Year, the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) at Gulf University continued to pursue its strategic aspiration of becoming the leading university-based sustainability and innovation hub in the Kingdom of Bahrain, dedicated to developing, supporting, and scaling innovative ideas and impactful initiatives proposed by faculty members, staff, students, alumni, industry, and community partners. The Center strives to transform these ideas into sustainable projects that contribute to institutional excellence while advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and supporting the objectives of Bahrain Economic Vision 2030.

-Mission:

The Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) serves as a catalyst for sustainability-driven innovation by identifying, nurturing, and supporting emerging and existing initiatives across the University and the wider community. Through structured guidance, interdisciplinary collaboration, capacity-building programmes, technical consultancy, research support, co-creation activities, and strategic partnerships, the Center enables stakeholders to transform innovative concepts into sustainable, practical, and high-impact initiatives that create long-term value for society and contribute to global sustainable development.

-Core Functions:

The SDM-C delivers its mission through the following strategic functions:

Identify strategic opportunities, priorities, and institutional frameworks required to develop and implement sustainability initiatives and projects.

Foster a culture of innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, participatory governance, and shared responsibility to embed sustainability principles throughout the University community.

Provide comprehensive support services, including orientation programmes, co-design workshops, professional training, technical consultancy, mentoring, and research facilitation, to enhance the quality, feasibility, and impact of sustainability initiatives.

Promote and facilitate sustainability projects that engage students, faculty, staff, alumni, industry, government entities, and community organizations through campus-based, community-based, and environmental initiatives.

Establish and strengthen strategic partnerships with national, regional, and international universities, governmental organizations, industry, professional bodies, and civil society to promote collaborative projects, knowledge exchange, and sustainable innovation.

-Responsibilities

The SDM-C operates in alignment with Gulf University's Vision, Mission, Strategic Plan, Quality Enhancement Framework, and institutional commitment to sustainable development. The Center is responsible for leading, coordinating, and supporting sustainability-related initiatives that enhance institutional performance while creating positive environmental, social, educational, and economic impact.

Its responsibilities include facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration, stakeholder engagement, participatory planning, co-creation, applied research, knowledge dissemination, and community partnerships involving faculty members, researchers, administrative staff, students, alumni, governmental institutions, industry, and community organizations. Through

these collaborative efforts, the Center ensures that sustainability initiatives are strategically aligned, evidence-informed, practically feasible, measurable in impact, and responsive to both institutional priorities and national and global sustainability agendas.

-Action Plan, Projects and Achievements:

Guided by its strategic direction, mission, core functions, and institutional responsibilities, the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) continued to implement an integrated portfolio of initiatives, projects, programmes, and strategic actions throughout the 2025–2026 Academic Year. These activities were designed to support Gulf University's Strategic Plan while strengthening the University's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals through four interconnected operational pillars.

3. SDM-C: Core Mission & Areas for Implementation



Figure 3: Sustainability and Development Makers Center at Gulf University: Core Mission Implementation



Figure 4: Sustainability and Development Makers Center at Gulf University: Initiatives for Local/Regional/International Collaborative Projects.

4. The SDM-C: Action Plan and Operational plan

During the 2025–2026 Academic Year, the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) continued to expand Gulf University's sustainability ecosystem through an integrated portfolio of strategic initiatives supporting education, research, innovation, campus operations, digital transformation, community engagement, and institutional partnerships. Building upon the achievements of previous years, the Center strengthened its governance framework, promoted interdisciplinary collaboration, enhanced stakeholder engagement, and implemented innovative projects aligned with the University's Strategic Plan, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030.

A major institutional milestone during the reporting period was the successful delivery of the Second Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025), which further established the event as the University's flagship sustainability platform. The Center also advanced several strategic initiatives, including the development of the GU SDGs Monitoring Platform, the GU Sustainability Ambassadors Programme, the Carbon-Free Campus Initiative, regional sustainability partnerships, the Sustainable Family Project, and preparations for the third edition of Sustainability Week. Simultaneously, the Operational Plan introduced new initiatives focusing on sustainability research grants, curriculum integration, community outreach, industry collaboration, digital transformation, non-print campus development, GreenMetric and UNAI reporting, strategic partnerships, and the establishment of a Sustainability Laboratory. Together, these initiatives demonstrate the SDM-C's growing role in embedding sustainability across institutional governance, teaching and learning, research, operations, and community engagement while reinforcing Gulf University's regional leadership in sustainable higher education.

Table 1. SDM-C 2025-2026 Action Plan Table with designed "Objectives" and "Status":

Strategic Area	Major Project / Initiative	Key Achievement / Deliverable	Status
Institutional Sustainability	Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025 – 2nd Edition)	Successfully organized the University's flagship sustainability event with multidisciplinary activities aligned with all 17 SDGs.	Completed
Strategic Planning	Preparation for GUSW2026 (3rd Edition)	Strategic planning, stakeholder coordination and programme development initiated for the next edition.	In Progress
Digital Transformation	GU SDGs Monitoring Platform	Development of a centralized digital dashboard for monitoring, reporting and visualizing SDG performance across the University.	In Progress
Student Engagement	GU Sustainability Ambassadors Programme	Established a student ambassador programme to promote sustainability awareness and leadership across campus.	Ongoing
Student Development	Sustainability Club Development & Bootcamp	Strengthened governance, leadership structure and annual engagement plan for the Sustainability Club.	Ongoing
Research & Innovation	Sustainability Research Grants	Development of staff and student sustainability research funding scheme supporting applied research and innovation.	In Progress
Teaching & Learning	Sustainability Curriculum Integration	Integration of SDGs into academic programmes through curriculum mapping, PBL activities and faculty development.	In Progress
Community Engagement	Sustainability Education Outreach	Development of sustainability outreach programmes for schools and community organizations.	In Progress
Community Engagement	Sustainable Family Project	Community initiative promoting sustainable lifestyles and responsible household practices.	In Progress
Regional Collaboration	Partnership with Jubail Industrial College Sustainability Club (KSA)	Established regional student collaboration and exchange of sustainability best practices.	In Progress
National Partnerships	Carbon-Free Campus Initiative (with Ministry of Transportation & Telecommunications)	Development of sustainable mobility initiatives encouraging public transportation and reducing campus carbon emissions.	In Progress
Strategic Partnerships	Sustainability Partnership Programme	Expansion of partnerships with governmental, industrial and community organizations supporting sustainability projects.	Ongoing
Green Campus	Non-Print Campus Initiative	Digital transformation initiative reducing paper consumption through digital services and platforms.	In Progress
Research & Industry	Industry-Linked Research Grants	Development of collaborative research projects addressing industry sustainability challenges.	In Progress
Awareness & Communication	Green Social Media Campaigns	SDG awareness campaigns promoting sustainability culture among university stakeholders.	Ongoing
Institutional Rankings	UI GreenMetric & UNAI Reporting	Collection, validation and submission of sustainability evidence supporting international rankings and reporting.	Ongoing
Campus Development	Sustainability Laboratory (SDM-C Lab)	Planning and feasibility studies for a dedicated Sustainability Laboratory and innovation hub.	Planning / Initial Development

SDM-C Operational Plan:

The Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) Operational Plan 2025–2026 establishes a comprehensive institutional roadmap for embedding sustainability across Gulf University's academic, research, operational, and community functions. The plan translates the University's strategic objectives into measurable sustainability initiatives, projects, and performance indicators, ensuring alignment with Bahrain Economic Vision 2030, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Gulf University's Strategic Plan.

The operational framework adopts a project management approach whereby each initiative is linked to a specific strategic objective, implementation activities, responsible stakeholders, timelines, key performance indicators (KPIs), evidence of achievement, and target completion rates. This governance structure promotes accountability, continuous monitoring, quality assurance, and evidence-based decision-making throughout the implementation cycle.

The plan positions the SDM-C as the University's central sustainability coordination body, responsible for facilitating interdisciplinary collaboration, promoting innovation, strengthening stakeholder engagement, and integrating sustainability into institutional culture. Rather than focusing solely on environmental initiatives, the plan adopts a holistic sustainability model encompassing education, research, innovation, digital transformation, student development, industry collaboration, community engagement, international partnerships, and sustainable campus development.

A major strategic priority is the advancement of Research, Education and Innovation, which represents the largest portfolio within the operational plan. The SDM-C proposes the establishment of participatory sustainability programmes that encourage faculty, students, staff, and community members to develop innovative sustainability projects through structured grant schemes, mentoring, and technical support. The introduction of the Sustainable Family Award, sustainability research grants, curriculum integration initiatives, and education outreach programmes demonstrates the Center's commitment to strengthening sustainability education while expanding applied research and innovation capacity.

The operational plan further reinforces Gulf University's flagship sustainability initiatives through continued development of Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW) and the GU Sustainability Club. These initiatives aim to enhance student leadership, interdisciplinary collaboration, sustainability awareness, and community participation while positioning Sustainability Week as the University's premier annual sustainability event with increasing regional and international visibility. Complementing these initiatives is the Sustainability Ambassadors Boot Camp, which seeks to establish a structured network of student sustainability leaders capable of promoting behavioural change and supporting institutional sustainability objectives.

Digital transformation constitutes another significant pillar of the operational plan. The development of the GU SDGs Digital Platform (GU SDGs Monitor) introduces a centralized digital monitoring system designed to integrate academic and non-academic sustainability data, visualize institutional performance, support evidence-based management, and facilitate international reporting. Alongside this initiative, the Non-Print Campus Project promotes digitalization of administrative and academic processes to reduce paper consumption and improve institutional efficiency.

The plan also emphasizes the importance of strategic partnerships and external engagement. National collaboration is strengthened through the Carbon-Free Campus Initiative, implemented jointly with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications, while broader sustainability partnerships seek to establish formal collaborations with governmental organizations, industry, schools, and community institutions. These initiatives support sustainable mobility, community outreach, applied research, and knowledge exchange while expanding the University's societal impact.

Within the area of community engagement, the operational plan proposes structured programmes that extend sustainability beyond campus boundaries. Planned initiatives include sustainability education outreach activities, community partnership programmes, and Green Social Media Campaigns aimed at promoting environmental awareness, behavioural change, and broader public engagement with sustainability principles. These initiatives reinforce the University's role as an active contributor to national sustainable development efforts.

The operational plan also demonstrates a strong commitment to institutional benchmarking and international recognition. Continued participation in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings and the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) initiative supports Gulf University's objective of enhancing international visibility through systematic sustainability reporting, evidence collection, indicator validation, and continuous performance improvement. Monthly SDG events further contribute to maintaining sustainability awareness throughout the academic year while strengthening stakeholder participation.

Infrastructure development represents an additional strategic priority. The proposed establishment of a dedicated Sustainability Laboratory (SDM-C Hub) will provide a specialized environment for sustainability research, innovation, experimentation, training, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Together with the Green Campus and digital transformation initiatives, this project supports Gulf University's long-term ambition of becoming a regional leader in sustainable higher education and innovation.

Strategic Theme	Key Planned Initiatives
Research, Education & Innovation	Sustainable Family Award, Sustainability Week, Sustainability Club & Ambassadors, Sustainability Research Grants, Curriculum Integration, SDGs Digital Platform, Education Outreach
Student Life & Recruitment	Green Social Media Campaigns, student engagement and behavioural change initiatives
Capacity Building	Sustainability Partnerships and Carbon-Free Campus Initiative
Digital Transformation	Non-Print Campus, GU SDGs Monitoring Platform
Industry Engagement	Industry-Linked Sustainability Research Grants
Community Engagement	Community Partnerships Programme and Sustainability Outreach
Institutional Rankings & SDGs	Monthly SDG Events, UI GreenMetric, UNAI submissions
Campus Development	Sustainability Laboratory (SDM-C Hub) and sustainable infrastructure development

The SDM-C Operational Plan 2025–2026 represents a comprehensive and forward-looking institutional framework that advances Gulf University's sustainability agenda through integrated governance, strategic planning, and evidence-based implementation. Moving beyond isolated sustainability initiatives, the Plan establishes a coordinated institutional approach that embeds sustainability across education, research, innovation, campus operations, community engagement, digital transformation, and strategic partnerships. Through clearly defined objectives, measurable key performance indicators, structured governance mechanisms, and continuous monitoring processes, the Plan provides a robust roadmap for achieving institutional excellence while strengthening Gulf University's contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030. Collectively, these initiatives reinforce the University's position as a leading higher education institution committed to sustainability, innovation, societal impact, and continuous improvement at the national, regional, and international levels.

Table 2. SDM-C Operational Plan 2025-2026

Area	Strategic Objective	Initiative Code	Initiative / Project	Tasks to be Reflected in the Action Plans (Expanded)	Source of Initiative	Target / KPIs	Responsibility	Start	End	Budget	Target Completion %	Evidence of Achievement	Line Manager Notes	QA D-C Notes
Research, Education & Innovation	OB01: Offer distinguished programs	OB01.JN04	Participative Citizen Contributions & Grants <i>(The Sustainable Family Award 2026)</i>	Design a structured Participative Citizen Contribution Framework aligned with SDGs and national priorities Launch annual micro-grant and seed-funding scheme for students, staff, and community-engaged projects Define eligibility, evaluation criteria, funding ceilings, and reporting templates Promote participatory calls encouraging citizen and	VP, Research Council, SD M-C	≥ 3 participations	President, VP, Dean, General Coordinator, Director SDM-C, Vice Director Research Council	December 25	February 26	TBD	70%	Participation records, reports	—	—

				community-driven sustainability solutions Assign academic and technical mentors to funded initiatives Monitor implementation, societal impact, and learning outcomes. (<i>The Sustainable Family Award</i>)										
Research, Education & Innovation	OB01	OB01.IN04	GU Sustainability Week – 3rd Edition	Establish steering & organizing committees Develop detailed program mapped to SDGs Coordinate speakers, partners, exhibitions & workshops Execute event and publish impact report	GU President, SD M-C	5-day flagship event	General Coordinator, Director SDM-C, Steering Committee, PR, IT, SSU	Mar - 26	Sept- 26	TBD	30%	Agenda, attendance, media coverage	—	—
Research, Education & Innovation	OB01	OB01.IN04	GU Sustainability Club (GUSC) Sustainability Ambassadors Boot Camp	Update club charter & governance structure Nominate committee & student ambassadors Develop annual activity & engagement plan Monitor participation and outcomes	SD M-C, SSU, QAD-C	Active club & activities	General Coordinator, Director SDM-C, SSU, Students' Council	Jun- 26	Jul- 26	TBD	40%	Charter, membership list	—	—
Research, Education	OB02: Future	OB02.IN03	GU Sustainability	Design grant framework	VP, Research	Staff & students	President, VP, Dean, General	Sept- 25	Oct	TBD	30%	Grant calls,	—	—

on & Innovation	careers		Research Grant	k & eligibility criteria Launch call for proposals Peer-review and award grants Monitor outputs (papers, prototypes)	Council, SD M-C	t awards	Coordinator, Director SDM-C		- 26			awards		
Research, Education & Innovation	OB03: SDGs in programs	OB03 .IN02	Sustainability Curriculum Integration	Map SDGs to existing programs Design PBL modules and workshops • Invite international experts Evaluate learning outcomes	VP, QA D-C, SD M-C	≥ 2 trainings	President, VP, Dean, General Coordinator, Director SDM-C	Dec - 25	Dec - 26	TBD	30%	Training reports	—	—
Research, Education & Innovation	OB03	OB03 .IN02	GU SDGs Digital Platform	Define system requirements & KPIs Develop SDGs mapping dashboard Integrate academic & non-academic data Launch platform and train users (GU SDGs Monitor)	President, SD M-C, IT	Live platform	General Coordinator, Vice-Director SDM-C, IT, AR-U	Jun - 26	Sep - 26	TBD	80%	Platform analytics	—	—
Research, Education & Innovation	OB03	OB03 .IN03	Sustainability Education Outreach	Identify partner schools Design outreach modules & materials Train student facilitators Deliver outreach & assess impact	VP, QA D-C, Research Council	≥ 1 project	General Coordinator, Director SDM-C, CECEC	Sep - 25	Sep - 26	TBD	40%	Outreach reports	—	—

Student Life & Recruitment	OB04: Equality & inclusion	OB04 .IN02	Green Social Media Campaigns	Develop annual digital content calendar Launch SDGs-focused campaigns Monitor engagement analytics Report outreach impact	VP, SD M-C	≥ 2 campaigns	General Coordinator, Vice-Director SDM-C, Facilities	Mar - 26	Oct - 26	TBD	30%	Analytics dashboards	—	—
Capacity Building	OB05: Modular learning	OB05 .IN03	Sustainability Partnerships <i>Carbon Free-Campus initiative in partnership with The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications (MTT)</i>	Identify strategic partners Negotiate MoUs & sponsorships Launch joint activities Review partnership outcomes	VP, SSU, SD M-C	2–3 agreements	President, VP, General Coordinator, Director SDM-C	Sep-25	Dec - 26	TBD	70%	Signed MoUs	—	—
Digital Transformation	OB08	OB08 .IN03	Non-Print Campus	Assess digital readiness Procure equipment & platforms Train staff & students Monitor usage reduction of print	VP, SD M-C	Equipment procured	General Coordinator, Director SDM-C, IT	Sep-25	Dec - 26	TBD	80%	Procurement & usage logs	—	—
Industry Engagement	OB10	OB10 .IN03	Industry-Linked Research Grants	Identify industry partners Define joint research themes Fund and supervise projects Publish applied research outcomes	VP, Research Council	≥ 3 grants	President, VP, General Coordinator, Vice-Director SDM-C	Feb-26	Dec - 26	TBD	40%	Grant agreements	—	—
Community Engagement	OB14	OB14 .IN03	Community Partnerships	Map community needs	VP, QA D-C,	≥ 2 partnerships	General Coordinator, Director	Nov - 25	Dec - 26	TBD	50%	Agreements &	—	—

			ps Program	Establish advisory input Launch joint sustainability projects Evaluate societal impact	SD M-C		SDM-C, CECEC					reports		
Rankings & SDGs	OB29	OB29 .IN01	Monthly SDGs Events	Design annual SDGs calendar Organize monthly events Reward participation Track engagement metrics	VP, SSU, SD M-C	≥ 3 events	General Coordinator, Vice-Director SDM-C, Facilities	Sept-25	Oct-26	TBD	40%	Event records	—	—
Rankings	OB32	OB32 .IN01	UI GreenMetric & UNAI	Collect sustainability data Prepare ranking submissions Validate indicators Submit and archive evidence	VP, QA D-C, SD M-C	Reports submitted	President, VP, General Coordinator, Vice-Director SDM-C	Sept-26	Dec-26	TBD	40%	Submission files	—	—
Campus Development	OB33	OB33 .IN01	GU Sustainability LAB	Finalize design & specifications Secure approvals & funding Implement construction/phasing Commission and evaluate feasibility	VP, SD M-C	Approved hub	General Coordinator, Director SDM-C, Facilities	Sept-25	Dec-26	TBD	20%	Designs, approvals	—	—

SDM-C Achieved and Ongoing Projects



GU Sustainability Week | 16th -20th November 2025 | Gulf University -Bahrain Campus

5-Days Activity DATA & STATISTICS

The second edition of Sustainability Week GUSW2025, organized by Gulf University–Bahrain, on November 16th -17th 2025, highlights the institution’s sustained commitment to embedding the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within its academic, research and community engagement frameworks. Held under the theme “Co-innovating, Leading, Sustaining...”, the GUSW2025 second edition strategically broadened its collaborative scope through active participation from GCC partner institutions, government entities, professional bodies, industry stakeholders and civil society organizations. The “05 Day-Activities” program

engaged students, faculty, staff, and external experts in a structured sequence of high-impact activities including the ICSDI International Conference keynotes, presentations, thematic panel discussions, technical workshops, capacity-building workshops, demo-based sessions, field-based environmental activities, thematic exhibitions and innovation-driven competitions. These activities were intentionally aligned with SDG targets to enhance institutional capacity, promote interdisciplinary collaboration and advance sustainable development practices across environmental, social, and economic domains.



SUSTAINABILITY WEEK 2nd Edition

Gulf University & GCC Partner Institutions: "Co-innovating, Leading, Sustaining..."

16th -17th, The ART HOTEL
18th-20th, GULF UNIVERSITY CAMPUS



For registration



SPONSORS



الجامعة الخليجية GULF UNIVERSITY

DAY
1

Sunday 16th November 2025
The ART HOTEL

09:00 - 10:00 AM
Participants Registration & Welcome Process

10:00 - 11:10 AM
Event Inauguration: Opening Ceremony & Speeches
GUSW2025 - ICSDI International Conference Inaugural
GUSW2025 Exhibition Tour
Honoring Session
Ministry of Environment / The Supreme Council for Environment (SCE) in Bahrain / Ministry of Interior / Ministry of Health / Ministry of Industry and Commerce / Ministry of Health / Ministry of Youth Affairs
- The Supreme Council for Youth & Sports / Ministry of Works / Ministry of Labor / Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning / The Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture / Nasser Centre for Science and Technology (NCST) / The Supreme Council for Women / Bahrain Polytechnic / RFH المؤسسة الملكية للأعمال الإنسانية / BSC - Bahrain Science Centre for SDGs / IGA Bahrain / BIPS / UN Bahrain / UNIDO-ITPO Bahrain
Opening & Welcoming Speech: Professor Mohanad Alifras, GU President / Dr. Asaad Moosa, Director at USPC - UK / Dr. Omar Blibech, Director of the SDM-C, GU / Dr. Mohamed Alshekhy, UR-C Chairperson, GU

10:50 - 11:45 AM
Keynotes Speeches
Mr. Afif El Barhoumi, UNIDO-ITPO, Bahrain
Dr. Mussab Aswad, Vice Director of Academic Affairs, Nasser Center for Science and Technology, "Data Security in Smart City: Between Challenges and Digital Sustainability"
Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nurunnabi, Director of the Centre for Sustainability and Climate, Prince Sultan University, KSA, UNESCO-Chair—Green Skills and Climate Actions. UN SDGs and its status in the MENA Higher Education
Dr. Samir Alharbi, Vice Rector for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, Shaqra University - KSA
Prof. Sian Davies-Vollum, Deputy Dean - Faculty of Education, Arts, Science and Technology, University of Northampton, UK.

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM
Prayer & Coffee Break
ICSD Parallel Sessions Starting

Panel Discussion: Global SDG Efforts Through Local Initiatives
Mrs. Dima Nahouli, Nasser Center for Science and Technology
Prof. Christina Georgantopoulou, Bahrain Polytechnic / Dr. Wajid Khan, Bahrain Polytechnic
Dr. Raweya Almannaei, Bahrain Polytechnic, "Towards Smart City: Case Study of Manama"
Eng. Arch. Noor Mukhaimeer, Eng. Fayeza Taleb Ghafoury, Ministry of Works, "Sustaining & Maintaining Historical Educational Infrastructures in Bahrain"
Prof. Karen Jones, Dean - Faculty of Business & Law, University of Northampton, UK.
Dr. Rumpa Roy, QAD-C, GU

12:30 - 1:00 PM
Panel Discussion: HEIs, Professional Societies' Role and the SDGs Achievement in the Era of AI
Dr. Meryem Fati, GU Vice President
Dr. Nehal Almurbati, BIPS - Bahrain Intellectual Property Society
Dr. Amal Salem Shahin, Bahrain Polytechnic
Dr. Vasileios Paliktzoglou, Bahrain Polytechnic, "Ethical Considerations for Responsible AI Integration in Education"
Mrs. Shahd Abdulkarim Alsaie, Ministry of Health, "Universities as Engines of Population Health: A Systems Approach to SDG Integration"
Dr. Kareem Mohamed, Gulf University, "AI and Blockchain Technologies in Sustainable Innovative Education"

1:00 - 2:00 PM
Networking Lunch

2:00 - 2:30 PM
Panel Discussion: Innovation for a Sustainable Education, Affordable Resources & Gender Equality
Mrs. Donia Faisal Sarhan, Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning Sustainability Development Office, Shaqra University – KSA
Dr. Ebtisam Alwaheebi, Shaqra University – KSA
Mr. Youssef Ahmad, جمعية المكتبات والمعلومات البحرينية - استراتيجيات المكتبات لدعم أهداف التنمية المستدامة
Mr. Yousif Alshaikh, GU
Dr. Aseel Al-Ayash, GU
Dr. Tamer Alkadash, GU

2:30 - 3:30 PM
Panel Discussion & Interactive Session: Sustainable Societal Transformation, Social Design for Poverty Alleviation & Affordable Solutions
Dr. Siddiq Balal, GU, "Societal Marketing Orientation as a Driver of Sustainable Competitive Advantage and SDGs Impact"
Mr. Abdullah Almannai, Ministry of Interior, مبادرة تعالي
Mr. Ahmad Sami Boujandel, Ministry of Interior, مبادرة خير فاعل
Dr. Marwan Milhem, Gulf University

3:30 - 4:00 PM
Workshop: Co-innovation & Systems Thinking for Health Promotion, Nutrition & Zero Hunger Strategies
Mr. Ali Al-Arabi, Health Promotion Directorate, Ministry of Health, "Health Promotion Initiatives at Workplace"
Christina Deligianni, VERIMPACT, UK
Dr. Hesham Elmarsafawy, Gulf University, "Systems Thinking for Healthcare Sustainability"
Dr. Muskan Nagi, "Mental Healthcare in Achieving Social Inclusion and Equity"
Mr. Shaheen Rasheed, Co-Founder & COO – Insure Tech & Health-Tech Startup, Assets Manager, Hejaz Mena W.L.L.
جمعية حفظ البحوث - BAHRAIN



الجامعة الخليجية

GULF UNIVERSITY

DAY
2


Sunday 17th November 2025


The ART HOTEL

10:00 - 10:30 AM

Presentation Session: Sustainable Water & Innovative Sanitation Solutions — Bahrain Context & GCC
 Mohamed Zayer, Nikolaos Vasilikos, Bahrain Polytechnic, "Sustainable and green water desalination system", under "Sustainable Water & Innovative Sanitation Solutions: Bahrain Context & GCC"
 Mr. Shaheen Rasheed, Co-Founder & COO – Insure Tech & Health-Tech Startup, Assets Manager, Hejaz Mena W.L.L.
 Dr. Oula Fatla, Dr. Nooran Darwish, GU

10:30 - 11:45 AM

Panel Discussions: Sustainability Networks, The Future of Renewable Energy and Economic Growth — Comparative Models
Session 01 (10:30 – 11:45 AM)
 Dr. Tanvir Hussein & Mr. Shaheen Rasheed, "Leveraging Networking and Rankings to Accelerate Progress on SDGs"
 Dr. Asma Yahia Al-Amoodi, UoB
 Prof. Dr. Oliver Frör, "A Case Study of German Networks for Sustainability Management in Universities", Germany
 Anna Schmidt-Fiedler, Head of Social Innovations and Sustainability Office, Adam Mickiewicz University Poznan — Poland
 Dr. Yaser Maghrbi, Director of Research Operations at Université Côte d'Azur — France
 Dr. Jain Tony, GU

Session 02 (11:00 - 11:45 AM)
 Prof. Dr. Isa S. Qamber
 Mr. Khaled Salman Alkasmī – Ministry of Industry and Commerce. جهود وزارة الصناعة والتجارة في دعم التصنيع المتقدم والمستدام
 Eng. Arch. Noor Mukhaimer, "Ministry of Public Works' initiatives in the field of sustainability and green buildings for new construction projects" — مبادرات وزارة الأشغال في مجال الاستدامة والمباني الخضراء للمشاريع الإنشائية الجديدة
 | Dr. Saleh N. Al-Saadi, Director of the Sustainable Energy. Research Centre at Sultan Qaboos University, OMAN
 Dr. Liudmila Cazacova, AURAK-UAE, "Building Performance Simulation as Educational tool for Energy Efficient Design"
 Josephine Pham, Yellow Door Energy -UAE
 Dr. Yousef Alqurashi, Shaqra University, KSA
 Mr. Ali Salman Baba, Tarsheed
 Mr. Ali Habib, Ameeri Group
 Dr. Naglaa El-Gammal, GU
 Mr. Mohamed Abdulhameed, GU

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM
Coffee Break

12:00 - 1:00 PM
 "Orange Economy Workshop by UNIDO-Bahrain",
 Exhibition & Demo-Sessions: Green Tech & Industrial Innovations and Initiatives for Sustainability
 Mr. Ameer Hassan Abubakr & Mr. Isa Awachi, UNIDOITPO, Bahrain, Workshop on "Orange Economy"
 Exhibits by -
 The Bahrain Science Center for SDGs
 Naser Centre for Science and Technology
 Ministry of Health — تعزيز إدارة الصحة
 جمعية المكتبات والمعلومات البحرينية
 Polytechnic Bahrain
 UNIDO-ITPO
 RAM Clinics
 Green Innova
 Xtrude Engineering
 Eureka
 VR/AR-NJ
 Ameeri Group
 STC
 Fatema Alansari Design & Execution
 Katheeb

1:00 - 2:00 PM
 Demo-based Inductions & "Green Startup Ideas Challenge" — Sustainable Business Pitches (Inter-Colleges Initiatives)
 Dr. Walid Elfezzani, GU, "Eco-Smart NFC Business Card: A Sustainable Wooden Design"
 Dr. Osama Al-Rawi & Student Sharifa Al-Jowder, GU, "Solar Panel System for Maximum Power Tracking System Using Arduino UNO"
 Mr. Ammar Mohamed, GU, "Is AI-Powered Media the Key to a Greener Tomorrow?"
 Dr. Ahmad Al-Alstal, GU, "Sustainability Reporting in Accounting Practice for Startups: IFRS Standards S1 & S2"
 Ms. Ambi Rachel, Ms. Ameera Hydrose, GU

2:00 - 2:30 PM
Closing Remarks & Refreshment

2:30 PM
GUSW2025 - ICSDI International Conference Closing








الجامعة الخليجية

GULF UNIVERSITY

DAY
3


Sunday 18th November 2025


GULF UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

10:00 - 10:45 AM

Interactive Session & Panel Discussion: Reducing Inequality through Inclusive Architecture & Urban Planning

Eng. Arch. Noor Al Mutawa, NJ Engineering, "From Visual Chaos to Urban Harmony: A Planning Vision"

Arch. Safa Isa Jasim, Capital Governorate

Eng. Arch. Manar Sirriyah, Design Studio Architect

Dr. Anis Semlali, AURAK-UAE, "Cultivating Sustainable Thinking: Integrating Biomimicry and Parametric Design to Architecture"

Mr. Abdulrahman Yusuf Salmeen, Compliance & Corporate Governance, Diyar Al Muharraq W.L.L

Eng. Fatema Alansari

Arch. Mahdi Aljallawi

Dr. Ashraf Nadheer, GU

10:45 - 11:00 AM

Technical Break

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Community Service Workshop & Demo-based Sessions: Healthy Communities, Assistive Smart & Passive Technologies, Renewables & Sustainability in Everyday Life

iGA - MyGov, Live demo "How digital transformation supports smart cities & sustainability"

Prof. Mathioulakis Dimitrios, Prof. Christina Georgantopoulou, Bahrain Polytechnic, "Residential Geothermal Cooling in Bahrain: a Sensitivity Study"

Marina Deligianni, VERIMPACT, UK

Mrs. Zainab AbdAli, Health Promotion Directorate, "A Talk for Diabetes Community"

Mr. Ali Al-Aradi, Health Promotion Directorate, Ministry of Health, "Men's Health"

Ms. Afaf Omar Trabelsi, HR & Legal Affairs Manager, Remza Investment Company & Nasser Pharmacy Co.

Dr. Idris Algahzali, GU

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Themed Networking Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 PM

Presentation & Panel Discussion: Eco-Friendly Infrastructure & Innovations for Smart Cities

iGA - Benayat.bh, "Advancing SDG 11 in Bahrain"

Arch. Safa Isa Jasim, Capital Governorate. تجربة المدن الصحية في محافظة العاصمة

Dr. Nehal Almurbati, BSCS - Bahrain Smart City Society

Eng. Mustapha Magdi, Eureka Smart Living

Arch. Sandra Job, Gulf University

2:00 - 3:30 PM

Workshop: LCA, EPD, Responsible Consumption, Sustainable Production & Waste Reduction

Ms. Lubna Hazem Sinan, CEO - Milieu Environmental Consultancy - Jordan

Nidukki Bahrain

Crown Industries

Masar Recycling

Arch. Kai Miethig, WAISTE

Dr. Abu Bashar, Gulf University, "How to build brand loyalty and drive revenue by courageously encouraging mindful consumption"

Arch. Sandra Job, GU, "Redefining Waste: Sustainable Art Installation" (Demo-session)

3:30 - 4:30 PM

"The Campus Boost Initiative for Sustainability": Empowering the Sustainability of Individual Initiatives and Community Productivity

Productive Families Exhibition — معرض العائلات المنتجة

Clothing swap and Donation Drive — KISWA Bahrain

Farmers Market Bahrain

HR Club, Sustainability Club & GU Entrepreneur Students Projects








الجامعة الخليجية GULF UNIVERSITY

DAY
4

Sunday 19th November 2025

GULF UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

8:00 - 10:00 AM
Off-Campus Activity: Guided Educational Tour & Awareness Session on Marine Conservation and the Protection of Life Below Water
GU Sustainability Club
Tubli Bay Reserve / Bahrain Mangroves Tour

9:30 - 10:30 AM
Presentation: Climate Change & Global Impact
Mr. Hamad Sawar, General Directorate of Civil Defense - Ministry of Interior. خطة الطوارئ الوطنية للكوارث
Dr. Ameera Ali Al-Nooh, Ministry of Health, "Climate Change & Global Health Impact"
BSC - GUSW2025 Competition "Eco-Friendly Innovation – Inter-Universities/Schools Challenge": Announcement & Debriefing by BSC – Bahrain Science Centre for SDGs / Dr. Jaafar Alsoudy, Gulf University

10:30 - 11:00 AM
Technical Break & Refreshment

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Workshop: Marine Conservation & Plastic-Free Future
Eng. Sadiq Salah Rahma, SCE - Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain
Mrs. Rahma Aleskafi, Protecting Bahrain's Coastal Heritage - Global Shapers Community - Budaiya Hub in partnership with Bahrain Science Center for SDGs (BSC)
Dr. Ameer Eweida, Marine Conservation Science, University of Miami, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas
Dr. Walid Elfezzani, GU

12:00 - 1:00 PM
Networking Lunch & Culinary Experience with Healthy Food

1:00 - 2:00 PM
Training Session: Sustainable Land Use Planning & Biodiversity Conservation
iGA-Bahrain — Planning.bh & Benayat.bh, Sustainable Land Use with Zoning and Development Data, Connecting Planning with Implementation Towards Land Use Planning & Biodiversity Conservation

2:00 - 4:00 PM
The Competition End: Eco-Friendly Innovation – Inter-Universities/Schools Challenge — Closing & Awards
Bahrain Science Center for SDGs & GUSW2025 Steering Committee
Dr. Jaafar Alsoudy, Dr. Walid Elfezzani
GU Sustainability Club

4:00 - 5:00 PM
Community Engagement: Site Clean-up & "Plant Your Tree"
GU Campaign by STC & Campus Inhabitants — Green Lifestyle Show by GUSC

1:00 - 3:00 PM
Off-Campus Activity: Guided Field Trip and Nature Walk
GU Students & Participants
Nearby Park or Nature Reserve — Karzakan Forest, Bahrain



الجامعة الخليجية

GULF UNIVERSITY

DAY
5


Sunday 20th November 2025


GULF UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

10:00 - 10:45 AM

Panel Discussion: Sustainable Governance for Peace & Justice, Collaborative Approaches & Ethical Leadership
 Prof. Firas Mohammed
 Dr. Mahmoud Zaghoor, GU, "Aligning HRM Strategies and Practices with the UN 2030 Agenda: Challenges and Opportunities"
 Dr. Fatema Janahi, University of Bahrain
 Mr. Mohsen Al-Ghurairi, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Human Rights Observatory, Bahrain
 Dr. Heba Alsaleh, GU

10:45 - 11:30 AM

Workshop: GCC Global Partnerships for Sustainability — Networking for SDG Impact
 The Alumni Club of Bahrain
 Dr. Mohammed Al Mannai, BIPS - Bahrain Intellectual Property Society
 Dr. Oualid Abidi, Australian University, Kuwait
 Dr. Hayam Elsehmawy, Gulf University, "الإطار القانوني للشرائط المستدامة في دول مجلس التعاون بين التشريع والممارسة"
 Ms. Fatima Al-Shuwaikh, Director of the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre, Gulf University

11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Coffee Break

12:00 - 1:00 PM

Partners in Promoting Environmental Sustainability, Health, Equity and Sustainability in Communities
 Eng. Ali Mohamed Alsaei, SCE - Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain
 Dr. Muskan Nagi, GU
 Mrs. Hawra Alsheala, Health Promotion Directorate, Ministry of Health, "Infectious Diseases"
 Mrs. Zainab AbdAli, Health Promotion Directorate, "Winter Diseases"

1:00 - 2:00 PM

"Eat Local" Themed Lunch

2:00 - 3:00 PM

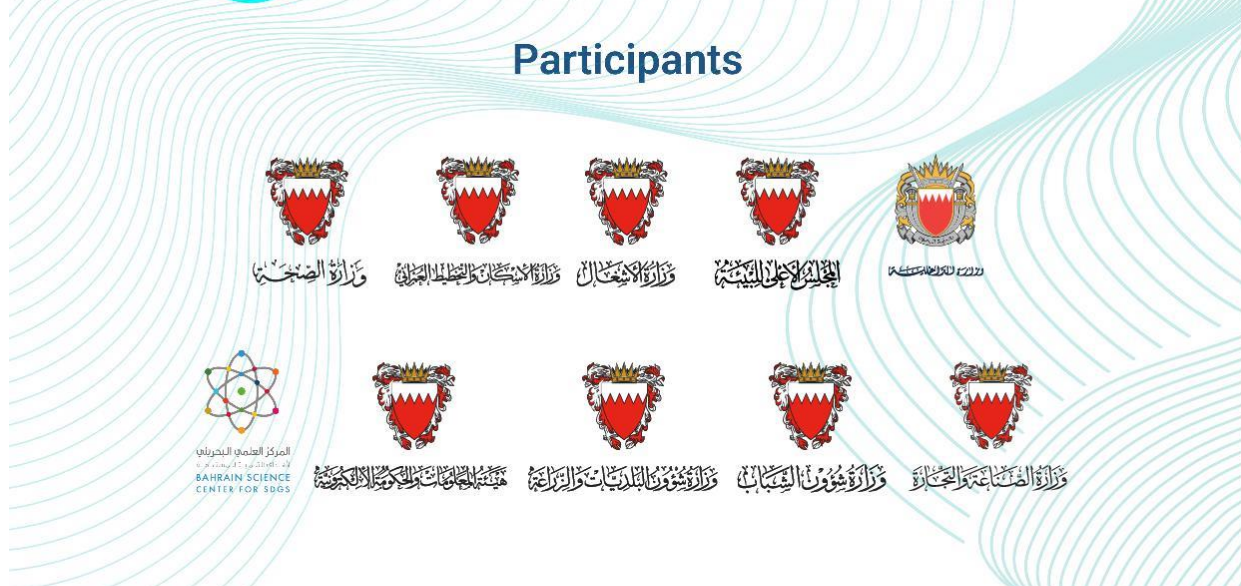
Workshop & Interactive Session: Creativity, Youth Capacity-Building and Industry Collaboration for Sustainability
 Dr. Tamer Alkadash
 Dr. Maryam Janahi, Ministry of Interior, "Youth capacity building and cooperation" — بناء قدرات الشباب والتعاون
 Dr. Mohammed Isam, GU
 GU-HR Club
 GU - Sustainability Club

3:00 - 4:00 PM

Honoring Participants/Partners/Sponsors & Closing Speech & Ceremony







Sponsored By **Academic Partners** **Strategic Partners**

Logos of partner organizations:

- STC
- RAM Clinics
- UNIDO
- Hassser Centre For Science & Technology

stc

بوليتكنك البحرين
BAHRAIN POLYTECHNIC

الجمعية الكيميائية
ACS

عيادات راح
RAM
CLINICS

UNIDO

مركز ناصر العلمي والتقني
Nasser Centre for Science & Technology

BIPS
الجمعية الباثية
Bahrain Biotechnology Association

جمعية المرصد
لحقوق الإنسان

البلاد

الجمعية Bahrain Library & Information Association

GUSW2025 2nd Edition: Statistical Summary

The Sustainability Week Second Edition (GUSW2025), held from 16–20 November 2025 under the theme "*Co-innovating, Leading, sustaining...*", represented Gulf University's most comprehensive sustainability event to date. Building upon the success of the inaugural edition, the five-day programme successfully integrated education, research, innovation, community engagement, and institutional collaboration into a single multidisciplinary platform that explicitly addressed all 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event further expanded its national, regional, and international reach through extensive participation from universities, governmental organizations, industry, international organizations, NGOs, professional bodies, and community partners, reinforcing Gulf University's role as a regional hub for sustainability leadership and innovation.

The programme delivered 52 organized activities distributed over five thematic days, of which 35 major strategic activities were comprehensively analysed and mapped against the SDGs for statistical reporting. Activity implementation remained consistently balanced throughout the week, with Day 1 and Day 4 each delivering 8 major activities (22.9%), Day 2 contributing 7 activities (20.0%), and Days 3 and 5 each comprising 6 activities (17.1%). This balanced distribution demonstrates effective programme planning while maintaining participant engagement throughout the event duration.

A diverse portfolio of activity formats was implemented to maximise knowledge exchange, stakeholder participation, and experiential learning. Panel discussions, think tanks, and policy dialogues represented the largest category, accounting for approximately 28.6% of all activities, reflecting the event's emphasis on interdisciplinary dialogue and collaborative policy development. Technical workshops and professional training sessions constituted 22.9%, highlighting the strong focus on capacity building and practical skills development. Networking activities and field/community engagement initiatives each contributed 11.4%, promoting institutional collaboration and experiential sustainability practices. On-campus awareness activities and demonstration, exhibition, and competition events each represented 8.6%, while presentation sessions accounted for 5.7% and international keynote addresses comprised 2.9% of the programme. Collectively, this balanced activity portfolio provided participants with opportunities for learning, collaboration, innovation, and community engagement through multiple complementary formats.

One of the defining achievements of GUSW2025 was its comprehensive alignment with all seventeen Sustainable Development Goals. Analysis of activity distribution demonstrates particularly strong emphasis on environmental sustainability and public well-being. SDG 13 (Climate Action) received the highest level of integration, with 16 activities (45.7%), reflecting Gulf University's strategic commitment to climate resilience, environmental stewardship, and carbon reduction initiatives. SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) ranked second with 14 activities (40.0%), followed by SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) with 12 activities (34.3%). Several SDGs—including No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Life Below Water, and Life on Land—were each addressed through 8 activities (22.9%), while Clean

Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, and Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure each recorded 7 activities (20.0%). The remaining goals—Reduced Inequalities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and Partnerships for the Goals—were each represented through 6 activities (17.1%), confirming balanced institutional commitment across the entire SDG framework.

Participation statistics demonstrate the event's substantial institutional and societal impact. GUSW2025 brought together approximately 165 verified contributors representing more than 60 institutions across nine countries, establishing one of the University's largest international collaborative platforms. Estimated daily attendance ranged between 120 and 200 participants, generating an overall footfall of approximately 600–800 visitors during the five-day programme. Participant representation reflected broad stakeholder diversity, including approximately 80 students, 65 academic participants, 35 governmental representatives, 25 industry professionals, and approximately 15 representatives each from international organizations and non-governmental organizations, illustrating the event's success in facilitating cross-sectoral dialogue and collaboration.

The exhibition programme further strengthened stakeholder engagement by hosting 18 exhibiting organizations across 20 exhibition booths throughout the five-day event. Exhibitors represented a balanced cross-section of sectors, comprising eight private-sector and industrial organizations, seven governmental and public institutions, three academic and research institutions, and two United Nations and international organizations. The exhibition showcased innovations and best practices across health and well-being, renewable energy, sustainable engineering, environmental technologies, education, digital transformation, and scientific research, providing a dynamic platform for networking, knowledge transfer, and public engagement. Geographically, exhibitors included 16 national organizations and two international entities, demonstrating both strong local partnerships and growing international collaboration.

The Sustainability Club (GUSC) played a central operational and leadership role throughout GUSW2025. Student members contributed extensively to event planning, programme coordination, volunteer management, operational supervision, stakeholder engagement, sustainability awareness campaigns, environmental conservation activities, marine ecosystem protection initiatives, and documentation of evidence and reporting. These activities directly supported multiple SDGs while demonstrating the University's commitment to student leadership, experiential learning, civic engagement, and participatory governance.

Research and innovation formed another cornerstone of the programme through the successful organization of the First International Conference on Sustainable Development and Innovation (ICSIDI 2025). The conference attracted research contributions spanning a broad spectrum of SDGs, with the strongest representation observed in Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7) and Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), followed by substantial contributions addressing Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). This distribution demonstrates the conference's interdisciplinary research orientation and its contribution to advancing sustainability knowledge within higher education.

Among the flagship community initiatives, the Daily Tree-Planting Campaign emerged as one of the most visible sustainability actions. Implemented in strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture and stc Bahrain, the campaign promoted environmental restoration, biodiversity enhancement, and community participation while directly supporting SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and SDG 15 (Life on Land). This initiative exemplified the University's commitment to translating sustainability principles into tangible environmental action through effective public–private partnerships.

Stakeholder mapping further highlights the breadth of institutional collaboration achieved during GUSW2025. Participants included ministries and government agencies, universities and research institutions, United Nations organizations, professional bodies, civil society organizations, private-sector companies, engineering and environmental consultancies, healthcare providers, technology firms, innovation centres, and internal Gulf University units. This multidisciplinary ecosystem facilitated knowledge exchange, policy dialogue, collaborative research, innovation, and community engagement while strengthening Gulf University's regional sustainability network.

Comparison with the inaugural GUSW2024 demonstrates significant institutional growth and programme maturity. Although the total number of activities was intentionally streamlined from 38 to 35 strategically designed high-impact activities, the event expanded from approximately 25–30 participating organizations to more than 45 institutions, increased geographical representation from predominantly national participation to over ten participating countries, introduced the University's first international sustainability conference, strengthened interdisciplinary research integration, expanded experiential community-based activities, and achieved comprehensive coverage of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. These developments illustrate a clear transition from an awareness-oriented sustainability event to a mature, internationally connected platform supporting education, research, innovation, policy dialogue, and sustainable development.

Overall, the statistical evidence demonstrates that GUSW2025 significantly enhanced Gulf University's sustainability profile through measurable achievements in stakeholder participation, interdisciplinary collaboration, SDG integration, research dissemination, student leadership, community engagement, environmental action, and international partnerships. The event has evolved into the University's flagship sustainability initiative, providing a robust institutional platform for advancing sustainability education, fostering innovation, strengthening strategic partnerships, and supporting Bahrain's national sustainability agenda while contributing meaningfully to the global implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

GUSW2025

GU SUSTAINABILITY WEEK – 2ND EDITION

Gulf University Campus | November 16th – 20th, 2025

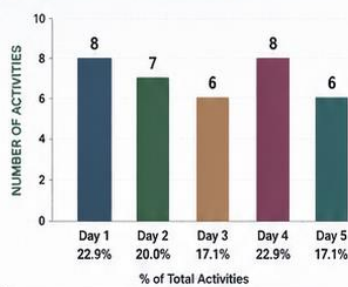
“Co-innovating, Leading, Sustaining...”



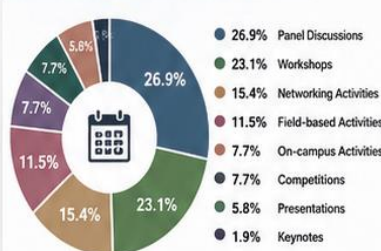
Gulf University Bahrain
& GCC Partner Institutions



ACTIVITIES PER DAY



ACTIVITIES BY TYPE



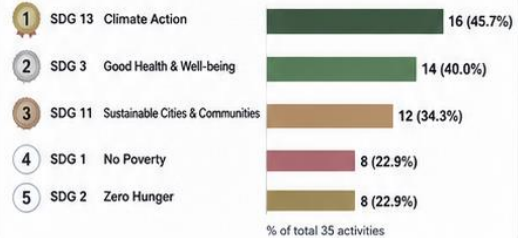
5 DAYS – SDG MAP



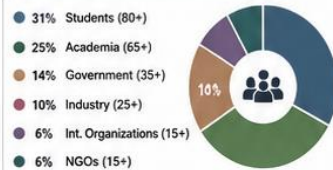
ACTIVITIES ADDRESSING EACH SDG



TOP 5 SDGs BY COVERAGE



PARTICIPANTS BY CATEGORY



EXHIBITORS BY SECTOR



GEOGRAPHIC REACH



SUSTAINABILITY CLUB CONTRIBUTIONS



ICSDI INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



COMPARISON: GUSW2024 vs GUSW2025

Indicator	GUSW2024	GUSW2025	Change
Number of Activities	38	35	-3
Number of Institutions	30	45+	+15+
Countries Participated	1	10+	+9+
SDGs Covered	6	17	+11
International Conference	X	✓	New
International Partners	Limited	Extensive	Significant
Stakeholder Engagement	Growing	Strengthened	Higher
Impact & Visibility	Regional	Regional & Global	Greater



The Gulf University Sustainability Club (GUSC)

During the 2025–2026 Academic Year, the Gulf University Sustainability Club (GUSC) continued to strengthen its role as one of the University's leading student-led sustainability initiatives, making significant contributions to sustainability leadership, community engagement, environmental stewardship, and the successful implementation of institutional sustainability programmes. Operating under the umbrella of the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C), the Club actively supported Gulf University's strategic objectives, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030 through a broad range of student-led initiatives, awareness campaigns, environmental actions, and community partnerships.

A major achievement during the reporting period was the Club's extensive contribution to the successful organization and delivery of the Second Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025). Throughout the planning, preparation, implementation, and post-event reporting phases, GUSC members demonstrated outstanding leadership by coordinating with university committees, mobilizing student volunteers, supporting logistics and session management, facilitating stakeholder engagement, and contributing to the overall success of the University's flagship sustainability event.



Figure 9. The Sustainability Club: Contributions & Achievements

Beyond Sustainability Week, the Club significantly expanded its institutional role by promoting student leadership and community participation through collaborative projects with governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, industry partners, and local communities. These initiatives strengthened civic engagement, encouraged volunteerism, and

enhanced students' capacity to contribute to sustainable development through practical, real-world experiences.

Environmental conservation remained a key priority throughout the year. GUSC successfully organized and supported numerous environmental initiatives, including tree-planting campaigns, campus clean-up drives, biodiversity conservation activities, and environmental awareness programmes, directly contributing to climate action, ecosystem protection, and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles within both the University and the wider community.

The Club also played an important educational role by delivering sustainability awareness campaigns, exhibitions, demonstrations, workshops, and student engagement activities designed to increase knowledge of environmental responsibility and sustainable living. These initiatives encouraged behavioural change and promoted a culture of sustainability among students, staff, and visitors while reinforcing Gulf University's commitment to sustainability education.

Marine and ecosystem conservation activities represented another notable achievement during the year. Through guided visits, awareness programmes, and environmental protection campaigns, Club members actively promoted biodiversity conservation and increased public awareness of marine ecosystem preservation, supporting national and global environmental priorities.

In addition to field activities, GUSC made substantial contributions to institutional quality assurance and sustainability reporting. Club members supported the collection of evidence, documentation of activities, impact assessment, photography, media coverage, and preparation of sustainability reports, strengthening Gulf University's institutional reporting for sustainability rankings, performance monitoring, and continuous improvement.

The Club's activities collectively demonstrated a strong contribution to multiple Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), while also supporting SDGs 16, 5, 3, and 1 through leadership, stakeholder collaboration, and community engagement initiatives.

The 2025–2026 Academic Year marked a period of significant growth for the Gulf University Sustainability Club. The Club evolved beyond its traditional role as a student organization into a strategic institutional partner that actively supports sustainability governance, environmental action, community empowerment, student leadership, and evidence-based institutional sustainability reporting. Through its diverse contributions, GUSC has strengthened Gulf University's sustainability culture, enhanced student engagement, expanded community impact, and reinforced the University's position as a leading institution committed to sustainable development at the national, regional, and international levels.

Daily Tree-Planting Campaign: 2025–2026

The Daily Tree-Planting Campaign was one of the flagship environmental initiatives implemented during the Second Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025), held from 16–20 November 2025. Organized by the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) in collaboration with the Gulf University Sustainability Club (GUSC), the campaign

demonstrated Gulf University's commitment to translating sustainability principles into tangible environmental action through active community participation and strategic partnerships.



Figure 10. The Daily Tree-Planting Campaign 25-26; SDGs Linkage

Implemented in strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture (Kingdom of Bahrain) and stc Bahrain, the initiative exemplified an effective public-private partnership model for promoting environmental sustainability, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience. The campaign involved daily tree-planting activities throughout Sustainability Week, engaging students, faculty members, staff, volunteers, and external stakeholders in practical environmental action that extended beyond the University campus total participants were 113.

The initiative sought to increase green coverage, contribute to ecological restoration, promote sustainable urban development, and enhance environmental awareness through experiential learning and community engagement. Beyond the direct environmental benefits, the campaign provided participants with opportunities to strengthen environmental stewardship, civic responsibility, volunteerism, and collaborative action, reinforcing the University's culture of sustainability and social responsibility.

The campaign made a direct contribution to three key United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- SDG 13 – Climate Action: Supporting climate change mitigation through tree planting, carbon sequestration, environmental awareness, and promotion of sustainable environmental practices.

-SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities: Contributing to greener, healthier, and more resilient urban environments by increasing vegetation and supporting sustainable public spaces.

-SDG 15 – Life on Land: Promoting biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, and protection of terrestrial environments through tree planting and ecological enhancement initiatives.

As one of the most visible community engagement activities of GUSW2025, the Daily Tree-Planting Campaign strengthened collaboration between Gulf University, government entities, industry partners, and the wider community while demonstrating the University's commitment to environmental sustainability through measurable, action-oriented initiatives total 345 participants including students, faculty, staff, community members etc. The campaign also enhanced student engagement by providing hands-on learning experiences that connected sustainability education with practical implementation, further reinforcing Gulf University's role as a leading higher education institution promoting sustainable development and environmental responsibility in Bahrain.

The Daily Tree-Planting Campaign represents a successful example of how collaborative environmental action can generate lasting ecological, educational, and societal impact. It highlights Gulf University's commitment to integrating sustainability into community engagement, fostering strategic partnerships, empowering students as environmental ambassadors, and advancing national and global sustainability priorities through practical, high-impact initiatives.

GU–SDGs Monitor Platform 2025-2026: Initiative, Achievement and Institutional Impact:

The GU–SDGs Monitor Platform represents one of Gulf University's most significant digital sustainability initiatives developed during the 2025–2026 Academic Year under the leadership of the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C). The platform was designed as an integrated institutional monitoring and decision-support system to systematically measure, evaluate, and visualize the University's contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all academic, research, operational, and community engagement activities.

The platform provides a centralized digital framework for collecting, organizing, analysing, and reporting sustainability-related data generated throughout the University. Moving beyond conventional reporting approaches, the GU–SDGs Monitor enables continuous performance measurement by linking institutional activities directly to the relevant SDGs, thereby supporting evidence-based planning, quality assurance, strategic decision-making, and continuous institutional improvement.



Figure 11. The GU-SDGs Monitor Platform

A key innovation of the platform is its comprehensive coverage of the University's core functions. It measures SDG contributions across teaching and learning, including curriculum mapping, programme learning outcomes, course activities, student projects, assessments, field visits, workshops, and extracurricular initiatives. It also evaluates the University's research contribution by mapping publications, conferences, funded projects, innovation activities, and collaborative research against the SDGs. Beyond academic activities, the platform captures sustainability performance related to campus operations, environmental initiatives, community engagement, partnerships, professional development, governance, and institutional events, providing a holistic picture of Gulf University's sustainability performance.

The GU-SDGs Monitor has significantly enhanced the University's capacity to quantify the effectiveness and impact of sustainability initiatives through a range of measurable indicators and performance dashboards. By enabling real-time monitoring and visual reporting, the platform supports the evaluation of institutional progress towards strategic objectives while identifying areas of strength, opportunities for improvement, and emerging priorities. This data-driven approach facilitates more effective resource allocation, informed decision-making, and continuous enhancement of sustainability practices across the University.

The platform also serves as an important institutional evidence repository, supporting national and international reporting requirements. It provides structured evidence for university rankings, sustainability benchmarking exercises, accreditation processes, annual sustainability reporting, and submissions to international frameworks such as the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) initiative, and other sustainability assessment systems. By consolidating

From a governance perspective, the GU–SDGs Monitor strengthens institutional accountability by promoting coordinated data collection and collaboration among colleges, academic departments, administrative units, and external stakeholders. It supports interdisciplinary engagement, facilitates cross-functional communication, and enables University leadership to monitor institutional performance through comprehensive dashboards and analytical reports.

The SDM-C Achieved & Ongoing Projects Dashboard:



Sustainability
and Development
Makers Center

College of Engineering

الجامعة الخليجية
GULF UNIVERSITY

Project/Action/Initiative Title	Academic Year	Brief Description	Linked SDGs	Status
QJ-Green Campus Project: The "360° Campus"	2021 - today	 Comprehensive sustainability transformation through energy-efficient building upgrades, daylight optimization, smart lighting and sensor systems, green facades, solar integration and water recycling solutions, landscape architecture development, expanded landscaped areas, and greenhouse-based local production, non-profit campus project. Integrated waste management and recycling programs, life-cycle extension initiatives such as the Objector Chair, adaptive reuse of shipping containers for eco-friendly learning spaces, and the rehabilitation in duration of IT equipment. Complementary initiatives include the DataFALL for sustainable innovation, on-campus seminars and events, planting activities, sustainability-focused competitions and events, and sustainable mobility solutions through dedicated QJ carpooling mobile application.	 13 SDGs  11, 15, and SDG 12, 13, and SDG 15.	Continuous Progress-On-Going
QJ-AR Greening Metric Ranking System / Project Development	2021-2022	 Project submission and questionnaire development: University Ranking Systems, GreenMetric, GreenTree, Green Scoring Sheet, Green Metric Querymail, UQM Template Division, University and Research Accreditation Metrics. Post-implementation	17 SDGs.	Completed.

[illegible]

			aligned in interests, and activities engaged in a global manner, community outreach, innovation activities, and has become strong as we began to implement the SDG-C of our university			
OU/SGP2024 - Sustainability Week 1 st Edition	2024-2025		SDG-C University Sustainability Week 1 st Edition, October 2024, 2024		17,800\$	Completed
SGP-C Grants in Progress with the BSC			the SDG-C Fellowship Program with the Business Schools and its involvement in the SDG-C and national projects and policies, innovation, and outreach activities to enhance public participation, create engaged leadership, and promote green innovation, education and project donor cooperation activities		800-4,800 \$, 11,600 \$, 5,000 \$, 1800 \$17	On-Going
OU/UG/Grading Meet- Ranking	2024-2025		Personal Data Collection & Evaluation		17,800\$	Completed
OU/SGP2025 - Sustainability Week 2 nd Edition	2025-2026		SDG-C University Sustainability Week 2 nd Edition, November 2025, 2025		17,800\$	Completed
OU-SCOA Hosting Platform	2020-2029		SDG-C University Sustainability Week 1 st Edition, October 2024, 2024		17,800\$	In-Progress
OU-SCOA Hosting Platform	2020-2029		the SDG-C Fellowship Program is a certificate of recognition for the activities and engagement of SDG-C university sustainability and performance against global SDGs, creating data on local innovation and development, promoting entrepreneurship, and international alignment across stakeholders, organizations, and community engagement.		17,800\$	On-Going

GU Sustainability Club partnership/scholarship with the Jubail Industrial College Sustainability Club - KSA.	2025-2026	 Initiative: A strategic twinning partnership between the GU Sustainability Club and Jubail Industrial College Sustainability Club (KSA) to exchange best practices, co-develop SDG-aligned initiatives, and strengthen student-led sustainability collaboration at regional level.	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 12, SDG 13, and SDG 17.	In Progress
إبتداء من عام ٢٠٢٥ GU Carbon-Free Campus Initiative	2025-2026	 The initiative is led by Gulf University in collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation and Information, is a strategic mobility-behaviour intervention designed to reduce private vehicle dependency among university students and staff and encourage the use of public transport.	SDG 7, SDG 11, SDG 12, and SDG 13.	In Progress
'Sustainable Family' Project	2025-2026	 The Sustainable Family Project is a GU community-engagement initiative that promotes sustainable lifestyles at household level through awareness, education, and practical actions aligned with SDGs, fostering responsible consumption, environmental stewardship, and social well-being.	SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 12, and SDG 13.	In Progress
Preparing for the GUSW2026 Sustainability Week 3rd Edition.	2025-2026	 Preparatory activities are underway for GUSW2026 - Sustainability Week (3rd Edition), focusing on strategic planning, stakeholder coordination, SDG-aligned programming, and the development of high-impact sustainability initiative program and event's agenda.	17 SDGs	In Progress

The dashboard documents the progressive evolution of Gulf University's sustainability agenda, illustrating how individual initiatives have collectively contributed to building an integrated institutional sustainability ecosystem. Rather than functioning as an isolated project register, the dashboard serves as a dynamic management and governance tool that enables the University to monitor progress, evaluate achievements, identify emerging priorities, and communicate sustainability performance to internal and external stakeholders. Each initiative is systematically linked to its implementation period, strategic purpose, relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and current implementation status, thereby strengthening institutional accountability and evidence-based decision-making.

The dashboard highlights the successful implementation of numerous strategic initiatives spanning campus sustainability, research and innovation, education, digital transformation, community engagement, international collaboration, student leadership, and institutional partnerships. Among its major achievements are the continuous development of the GU Green Campus Project (360° Campus), the successful establishment of the UI GreenMetric institutional framework, the implementation of recurring sustainability induction programmes, international conferences and symposiums, the development of the GU SDGs Toolkit, the establishment of standardized Green Campus performance indicators, the launch of the GU Sustainability Club, the successful organization of the first and second editions of Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW), and the introduction of innovative digital initiatives such as the GU SDGs Monitoring Platform.

The dashboard also illustrates the Center's transition from implementing individual sustainability projects to developing comprehensive institutional programmes with long-term strategic impact. Recent initiatives, including the GU Sustainability Ambassadors Programme, the Carbon-Free Campus Initiative, the Sustainable Family Project, the regional partnership with the Jubail Industrial College Sustainability Club, and preparations for the Third Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2026)—demonstrate the Center's growing emphasis on behavioural change, student leadership, regional collaboration, digital transformation, and community impact. Many of these initiatives remain actively progressing, reflecting the SDM-C's commitment to continuous innovation and sustainable institutional development.

A defining feature of the dashboard is its comprehensive alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. While several initiatives focus on priority goals such as Quality Education (SDG 4), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), Climate Action (SDG 13), Life on Land (SDG 15), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17), many flagship projects, including the UI GreenMetric Programme, Sustainability Week, and the GU SDGs Monitoring Platform, address all 17 SDGs, reflecting Gulf University's holistic approach to sustainable development.

From a governance perspective, the dashboard serves as a strategic performance management tool that enhances institutional transparency, facilitates progress monitoring, and supports evidence-based sustainability reporting. It provides University leadership with a clear overview of completed, ongoing, and future initiatives while strengthening institutional readiness for

international rankings, accreditation processes, sustainability reporting, and strategic planning. The inclusion of project status indicators (Completed, Ongoing, Continuous Progress, and In Progress) enables continuous monitoring of implementation performance and reinforces a culture of accountability and continuous improvement.

Overall, the SDM-C Achieved & Ongoing Projects Dashboard (2021–2026) demonstrates Gulf University's sustained commitment to embedding sustainability across every aspect of institutional life. It showcases a mature sustainability governance model that integrates strategic planning, innovation, digital transformation, education, research, campus operations, student engagement, and community partnerships into a coherent institutional framework. As both a management and reporting instrument, the dashboard provides a clear roadmap of the University's sustainability achievements while supporting future initiatives that will further strengthen Gulf University's leadership in sustainable higher education at the national, regional, and international levels.

“Carbon-free Campus” Initiative 2025-2026: Initiative and Institutional Impact



**CARBON-FREE
CAMPUS**

A Gulf University Sustainability Initiative

مبادرة حرم جامعي خال من الكربون **Carbon-free Campus Initiative**

Sustainable Mobility via Public Transport Use

Gulf University | 2026



Gulf University | 2026

1. Project Title: Carbon-free Campus Initiative

“Zero Car in the Parking”

Transforming Students Mobility through Sustainable Transport Adoption.

2. Project Background and Rationale

The “Zero Car in the Parking” initiative, led by **Gulf University** in collaboration with the **Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications**, is a strategic mobility-behaviour intervention designed to reduce private vehicle dependency among university students and staff and encourage the use of public transport.

١. عنوان المشروع:

مبادرة حرم جامعي خالي من الكربون

«صفر عربة في مواقف السيارات»

تحويل تنقل الطلبة من خلال اعتماد وسائل النقل المستدامة.

٢. خلفية المشروع ومبرراته

تُعد المبادرة التي تقودها الجامعة الخليجية بالتعاون مع وزارة المواصلات والاتصالات، تدخلاً استراتيجياً يستهدف أنماط التنقل المستدام ويهدف إلى الحد من الاعتماد على المركبات الخاصة بين طلبة وموظفي الجامعة، وتشجيع استخدام وسائل النقل العام.



Gulf University | 2026

The Carbon-free Campus Initiative is one of the flagship sustainability projects developed by the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) at Gulf University during the 2025–2026 Academic Year. Implemented in strategic collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications (Kingdom of Bahrain), the initiative introduces an innovative behavioural-change model that promotes sustainable mobility by encouraging students and staff to reduce dependence on private vehicles and increase the use of public transportation as a practical contribution to carbon emission reduction.

The initiative forms an integral component of Gulf University's broader Green Campus Strategy, reflecting the University's commitment to environmental sustainability, climate resilience, and responsible resource management. Rather than focusing solely on transportation, the project seeks to cultivate long-term behavioural change by embedding sustainable mobility practices within the University's culture and everyday campus life.

The project, entitled "Zero Car in the Parking", encourages members of the University community to voluntarily adopt public transportation as an environmentally responsible alternative to private vehicle use. Through awareness campaigns, stakeholder engagement, educational activities, and collaboration with governmental partners, the initiative promotes sustainable travel habits while demonstrating the environmental, social, and economic benefits of reducing carbon emissions associated with daily commuting.

A key innovation of the initiative is its emphasis on measurable impact. The project is designed to monitor changes in transportation behaviour through performance indicators such as participation rates, reductions in private vehicle use, estimated carbon emission savings, and increased adoption of sustainable mobility options. This evidence-based approach enables continuous evaluation of the initiative's effectiveness while supporting data-driven sustainability reporting and institutional decision-making.

Beyond its environmental objectives, the initiative contributes to improving campus quality of life by reducing traffic congestion, encouraging healthier and more sustainable commuting behaviours, strengthening environmental awareness, and fostering a culture of shared responsibility among students and staff. The collaboration with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications further demonstrates Gulf University's commitment to supporting national sustainability priorities through strategic public-sector partnerships.

The Carbon-free Campus Initiative directly advances several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

- SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy, by promoting energy-efficient and sustainable transport solutions.
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities, by encouraging sustainable urban mobility and reducing transport-related environmental impacts.
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production, by fostering responsible transportation choices and resource-efficient lifestyles.
- SDG 13 – Climate Action, through initiatives aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting climate change mitigation.

The Carbon-free Campus Initiative represents a pioneering institutional achievement that combines sustainability, innovation, behavioral science, and strategic partnership within a single integrated programme. By encouraging the adoption of sustainable mobility practices,

the initiative supports Gulf University's long-term vision of developing a low-carbon, environmentally responsible campus while contributing to Bahrain's sustainability agenda and the global implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It also serves as a scalable model for higher education institutions seeking to integrate climate action into campus operations through practical, measurable, and community-centered solutions. Total participants were 76 including students, faculty, staff, volunteers, and employee of Ministry of Transport.

Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI) 2025-2026: Description and Institutional Impact:

The Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI) is an innovative community engagement programme developed by the Sustainability and Development Makers Centre (SDM-C) at Gulf University during the 2025–2026 Academic Year. Designed under the theme "Small Daily Actions, Lasting Generational Impact", the initiative extends the University's sustainability mission beyond campus by empowering families to adopt practical, sustainable lifestyles that generate long-term environmental, social, and economic benefits.

The initiative is founded on the principle that meaningful sustainability begins at the household level. Rather than promoting isolated awareness campaigns, the GU-SFI encourages continuous behavioural change by translating sustainability concepts into simple, realistic, and measurable daily practices that can be integrated into everyday family life. Through this approach, Gulf University aims to foster responsible citizenship, strengthen environmental stewardship, and cultivate a culture of sustainability that positively influences both present and future generations.





Project Title
Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI)
"Small Daily Actions, Lasting Generational Impact"
Greening Homes | Strengthening Finances
| Shaping Responsible Generations

Project Process & Timeline
(6 Months)
January – June 2026

Gulf University | 2026



1. Project Overview

The **Sustainable Family Initiative (SFI)** is a community-centered, behavior-driven social innovation project developed by Gulf University to promote a new Bahraini model of sustainable family living.

The initiative empowers families to consciously manage environmental, social, economic, emotional, and financial resources to meet present needs without compromising future generations. It translates sustainability from abstract concepts into realistic daily household practices, proving that small, consistent actions can collectively generate measurable impact.

The initiative is inclusive and voluntary, open to:

- Gulf University students' families
- All Bahraini families (citizens and residents)

Families participate as living sustainability units, supported by structured guidance, student mentorship, and an evidence-based assessment framework.

Gulf University | 2026

The Sustainable Family Initiative adopts a holistic perspective, recognizing that sustainable development encompasses environmental responsibility, social well-being, economic resilience, and responsible resource management. Families participating in the programme receive structured guidance, educational resources, mentoring, and evidence-based assessment tools that support the implementation of sustainable practices within their homes and communities, total participant were 211 including students, family members of students snf community at large . This structured framework enables participants to monitor their progress while encouraging continuous improvement and long-term behavioral transformation.

A distinctive feature of the initiative is its strong emphasis on community participation and inclusivity. The programme is open to Gulf University students and their families, as well as families across the Kingdom of Bahrain, thereby extending the University's sustainability impact beyond the campus and strengthening its role as a catalyst for community development. By engaging households directly, the initiative creates opportunities for intergenerational learning, shared responsibility, and collaborative action towards sustainable living.

The project is implemented over a structured six-month period (January–June 2026), during which participating families progressively adopt sustainability practices through a carefully designed action plan. The programme encourages incremental improvements across various aspects of daily life, demonstrating that consistent small actions can collectively generate significant environmental and societal impact over time.

The Sustainable Family Initiative also serves as an important educational and research platform. By combining mentorship, capacity building, and evidence-based assessment, the programme enables Gulf University to evaluate behavioral change, measure sustainability outcomes, and generate valuable insights that can inform future community-based sustainability programmes. This data-driven approach reinforces the University's commitment to continuous improvement and evidence-informed decision-making.

The initiative contributes directly to several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly:

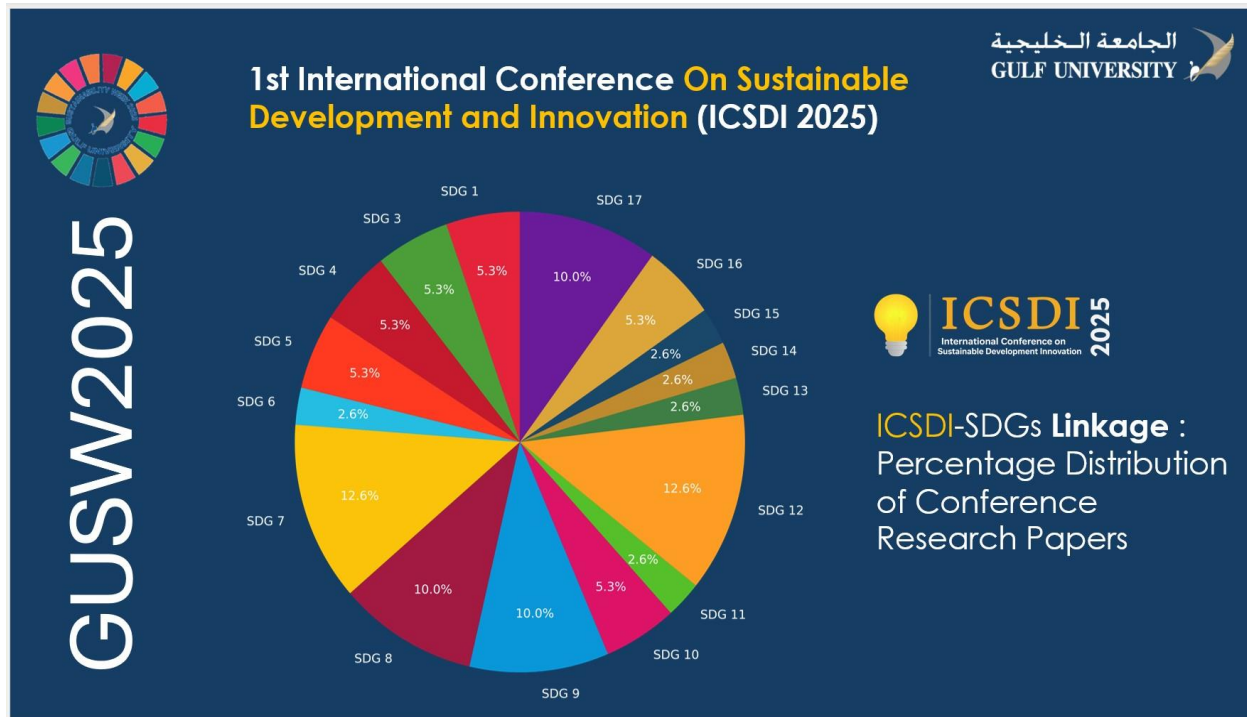
- SDG 1 – No Poverty, this initiative also serves to uplift their economic condition and will ensure economic crises will not come to them.
- SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being, by promoting healthier and more sustainable lifestyles.
- SDG 4 – Quality Education, through lifelong sustainability learning and environmental awareness.
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities, by encouraging sustainable household and community practices.
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production, through efficient resource use, waste reduction, and responsible consumption.
- SDG 13 – Climate Action, by encouraging behavioral changes that contribute to reducing environmental impacts and supporting climate resilience.

The Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI) represents a pioneering institutional achievement that broadens Gulf University's sustainability agenda from campus-based initiatives to community-centered transformation. By empowering families to become active partners in sustainable development, the initiative strengthens community resilience, promotes environmental responsibility, and demonstrates how higher education institutions can create lasting societal impact through innovation, education, and collaborative engagement. As one of the SDM-C's flagship community initiatives, the programme exemplifies Gulf University's commitment to advancing sustainable development through practical action, evidence-based implementation, and long-term behavioral change that benefits both current and future generations.

First International Conference on Sustainable Development and Innovation (ICS DI 2025): Summary of Achievement and Institutional Impact

The First International Conference on Sustainable Development and Innovation (ICS DI 2025) represents one of the landmark academic achievements of the University Research Council in

collaboration with the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) during the 2025–2026 Academic Year. Organized as an integral component of Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025), the conference established an international interdisciplinary platform that brought together researchers, academics, industry professionals, policymakers, and sustainability practitioners to exchange knowledge, present innovative research, and discuss practical solutions addressing contemporary sustainable development challenges.



The conference significantly strengthened Gulf University's research ecosystem by promoting multidisciplinary collaboration across engineering, architecture, environmental sciences, technology, education, business, and social sciences. Through the presentation of peer-reviewed research papers, keynote addresses, and scholarly discussions, ICSDI 2025 reinforced the University's commitment to advancing research excellence while supporting innovation that contributes to sustainable development at the local, regional, and international levels.

A distinctive feature of the conference was its comprehensive alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The analysis of accepted research papers demonstrates broad thematic coverage across multiple sustainability dimensions, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of the conference. The largest proportion of research contributions addressed SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy and SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production, each representing 12.6% of the published papers. These were followed by SDG 8 – Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, and SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals, each contributing 10.0%, highlighting the conference's emphasis on sustainable innovation, industrial transformation, economic resilience, and collaborative partnerships.

Additional research contributions addressed SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 16, each accounting for 5.3% of conference papers, demonstrating balanced attention to poverty reduction, health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, reduced inequalities, and peace, justice, and strong institutions. Emerging sustainability topics related to SDGs 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 13 (Climate Action), 14 (Life Below Water), and 15 (Life on Land) each represented 2.6% of the research portfolio, illustrating the conference's broad engagement with environmental sustainability and ecosystem protection.

Beyond the statistical distribution of research themes, ICSDI 2025 successfully fostered interdisciplinary collaboration by encouraging researchers from diverse academic backgrounds to address complex sustainability challenges through integrated approaches. The conference also strengthened Gulf University's international academic network by facilitating research partnerships, scholarly dialogue, knowledge exchange, and future collaborative opportunities among higher education institutions, governmental organizations, industry, and international stakeholders.

As a flagship academic event within GUSW2025, ICSDI 2025 contributed significantly to Gulf University's research visibility, institutional reputation, and commitment to sustainability-oriented innovation. The conference demonstrated the University's capacity to generate impactful research that supports evidence-based solutions for sustainable development while reinforcing its strategic mission of integrating research, education, innovation, and community engagement.

The First International Conference on Sustainable Development and Innovation (ICSDI 2025) represents a major institutional milestone for the Sustainability and Development Makers Center and Gulf University. It successfully established a high-quality international research platform that promotes interdisciplinary scholarship, supports the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, encourages innovation-driven research, and strengthens the University's position as an emerging regional leader in sustainability research and knowledge creation. Through its comprehensive SDG-oriented research portfolio and international collaboration, the conference has laid a strong foundation for future editions and for the continued advancement of sustainability-focused research excellence.

Sustainability Roadmap: Strategic Ongoing Projects and High-Impact Initiatives

As part of its commitment to continuous improvement and long-term sustainability leadership, the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) continues to advance a portfolio of strategic initiatives that remain under active development and implementation. These future-oriented projects are designed to strengthen Gulf University's environmental performance, research capacity, educational excellence, community engagement, and innovation ecosystem while accelerating progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030.

Key priorities include the continued expansion of Green Campus initiatives, focusing on campus afforestation, biodiversity enhancement, sustainable landscaping, urban agriculture, waste

reduction, recycling and composting systems, and environmentally responsible campus operations. Simultaneously, the Center is advancing energy efficiency and low-carbon transition projects through energy audits, green building retrofitting, renewable energy integration, sustainable mobility programmes, public transportation initiatives, and further development of the Carbon-free Campus Initiative.



Within education and research, ongoing efforts focus on strengthening the integration of sustainability across academic curricula, expanding interdisciplinary learning opportunities, organizing expert seminars and professional development programmes, supporting sustainability research grants, promoting citizen science initiatives, and encouraging applied research that addresses national and global sustainability challenges.

The SDM-C is also fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship through the planned establishment of a Green Innovation Incubator, sustainability-focused startup support, and innovation competitions that encourage students and researchers to transform sustainable ideas into impactful solutions and entrepreneurial ventures.

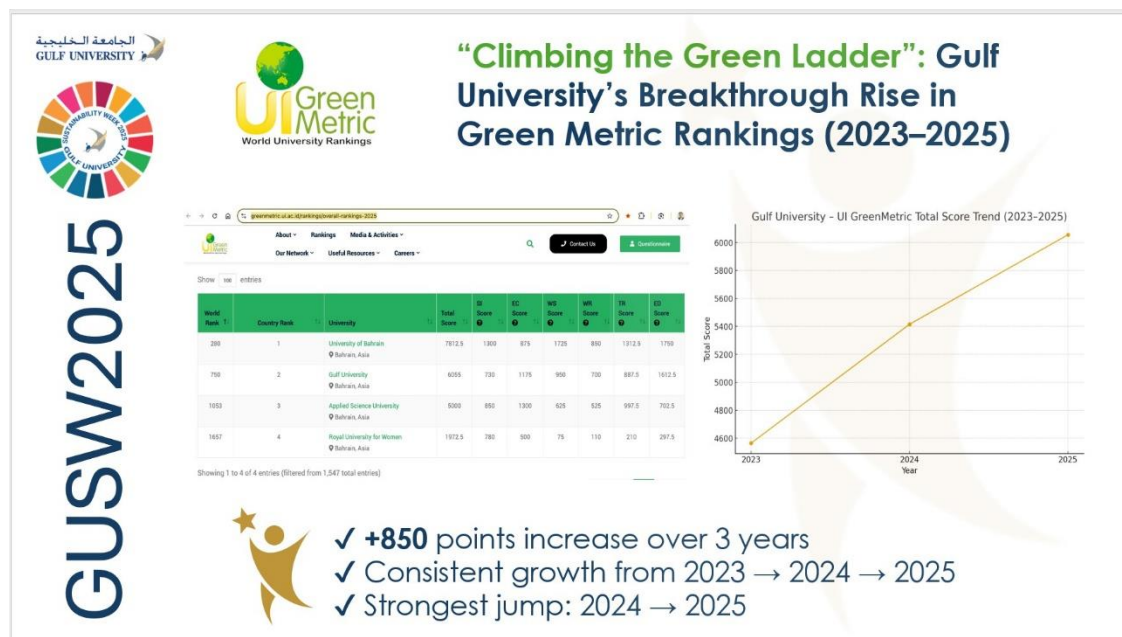
Collaboration remains a strategic priority, with continued efforts to strengthen partnerships with governmental organizations, industry, non-governmental organizations, schools, and international universities through joint projects, research collaborations, academic exchanges, and community engagement programmes. These partnerships are complemented by outreach initiatives including environmental restoration campaigns, sustainability education programmes, student volunteer activities, and the continued development of the Gulf University Sustainability Club and Sustainability Ambassadors Programme.

These ongoing initiatives reinforce Gulf University's long-term commitment to creating a resilient, innovative, and environmentally responsible university ecosystem that promotes experiential learning, research excellence, community impact, and sustainable development through collaborative action, continuous innovation, and evidence-based implementation.

UIGreenMetric World University Rankings: Institutional Achievement (2023–2025)

The UI GreenMetric World University Rankings represent one of the world's leading sustainability benchmarking systems, evaluating universities based on their performance across environmental sustainability, infrastructure, energy and climate change, waste management, water resources, transportation, and sustainability education and research. Through the strategic leadership of the Sustainability and Development Makers Centre (SDM-C), Gulf University has demonstrated remarkable progress over the 2023–2025 reporting period, reflecting its strong institutional commitment to continuous sustainability improvement and international excellence.

The University's performance illustrates a clear upward trajectory across three consecutive years. Gulf University achieved a cumulative increase of more than 850 points between 2023 and 2025, demonstrating sustained progress in institutional sustainability performance. The results indicate consistent year-on-year growth, with notable improvements from 2023 to 2024, followed by the largest increase between 2024 and 2025, highlighting the successful implementation of strategic sustainability initiatives and the effectiveness of institutional planning and governance.



The 2025 results position Gulf University as the highest-ranked university in the Kingdom of Bahrain within the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, reflecting its leadership in sustainable higher education at the national level. This achievement is the outcome of continuous investment in Green Campus development, sustainable infrastructure, environmental management, digital transformation, community engagement, sustainability education, research, and institutional governance. The University's sustained improvement also demonstrates the effectiveness of the SDM-C in coordinating sustainability initiatives and embedding sustainability principles across academic and operational activities.

The positive trend shown in the University's total GreenMetric score confirms the successful implementation of a long-term sustainability strategy based on continuous improvement rather

than isolated initiatives. The significant increase in performance reflects measurable progress across the GreenMetric assessment categories, including campus setting and infrastructure, energy and climate action, waste management, water conservation, sustainable transportation, and education and research related to sustainability.

Beyond the numerical achievements, Gulf University's progress in the UI GreenMetric Rankings strengthens its international reputation and reinforces its commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030. The continuous enhancement of sustainability performance provides evidence of effective institutional governance, strategic planning, and data-driven sustainability management while supporting international benchmarking, accreditation, and global visibility.

Overall, the University's remarkable improvement in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings (2023–2025) represents a major institutional milestone. Achieving an increase of over 850 points within three years, maintaining consistent annual growth, and recording the strongest improvement between 2024 and 2025 demonstrate Gulf University's successful transformation into a more sustainable, resilient, and internationally competitive higher education institution. This accomplishment reflects the University's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship, innovation, operational excellence, and continuous advancement towards becoming a regional leader in sustainable higher education.

Designing the upcoming GUSW2026: Building on Success, Expanding Impact....

Transforming the Achievements of GUSW2025 into Broader Impact, Innovative Leadership and Global Engagement

Following the successful delivery of the Second Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025), the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) has initiated the design and development of the Third Edition (GUSW2026) with a broader strategic vision, enhanced institutional impact, and expanded national, regional, and international engagement.

A defining feature of GUSW2026 is its strategic alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, with particular emphasis on **Target 9.5**: "Enhance scientific research and upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing research and development." This thematic focus reflects Gulf University's commitment to strengthening research excellence, technological innovation, knowledge transfer, and industry collaboration as key drivers of sustainable development.

The third edition represents a significant evolution of the University's sustainability agenda by expanding the programme's scope beyond awareness and engagement towards developing future sustainability leaders equipped with advanced knowledge, practical skills, and innovation capabilities. The Bootcamp is designed to empower students as *Sustainability Ambassadors*, enabling them to lead sustainability initiatives, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, develop innovative solutions, and act as catalysts for sustainable transformation within the University and the wider community. Building upon the achievements and lessons learned from previous editions, the upcoming programme introduces the *Sustainability Ambassadors Bootcamp 2026* as one of its

flagship initiatives to further strengthen sustainability leadership, research capacity, innovation, and community impact.

Through this strategic direction, the Bootcamp seeks to cultivate a new generation of sustainability leaders capable of integrating research, innovation, digital technologies, entrepreneurship, and interdisciplinary collaboration into practical sustainability solutions. Participants will engage in advanced training, collaborative workshops, innovation challenges, mentorship programmes, and applied projects addressing real-world sustainability issues while supporting national priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Compared with the successful second edition, the Third Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2026) is designed to deliver greater breadth, diversity, and measurable impact through expanded participation from international universities, governmental organizations, industry partners, research institutions, professional bodies, and community organizations. The programme will further strengthen Gulf University's international partnerships, research collaborations, innovation ecosystem, and institutional visibility while providing enhanced opportunities for knowledge exchange, technology transfer, and interdisciplinary networking.

The Sustainability Ambassadors Bootcamp also supports Gulf University's long-term objective of embedding sustainability leadership within its academic culture by developing students' competencies in sustainability governance, scientific research, innovation management, entrepreneurship, project leadership, and evidence-based decision-making. This approach ensures that sustainability ambassadors become active contributors to institutional development, community engagement, and future sustainability initiatives.

Overall, the Sustainability Ambassadors Bootcamp 2026 represents the next stage in the evolution of Gulf University's flagship sustainability programme. Building on the outstanding success of GUSW2025, the third edition introduces a more ambitious and research-driven framework that expands institutional impact, strengthens innovation and industrial collaboration, and aligns strategically with SDG Target 9.5. Through this initiative, Gulf University continues to reinforce its position as a regional leader in sustainable higher education by investing in research excellence, technological innovation, and the development of future sustainability leaders capable of driving transformative change at the national, regional, and international levels.

Conclusion

The 2025–2026 Academic Year marks another significant milestone in Gulf University's sustainability journey, demonstrating the successful evolution of the Sustainability and Development Makers Center (SDM-C) into a strategic institutional driver of sustainable development. Through integrated governance, evidence-based planning, interdisciplinary collaboration, and continuous innovation, the Center has successfully embedded sustainability across education, research, campus operations, community engagement, and institutional development.

During the reporting period, the SDM-C delivered several flagship achievements, including the successful implementation of Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025), the First International Conference on Sustainable Development and Innovation (ICS DI 2025), the GU–SDGs Monitor Platform, the Carbon-free Campus Initiative, the Sustainable Family Initiative, and the continued expansion of student leadership through the Sustainability Club and Sustainability Ambassadors Programme. These initiatives, together with Gulf University's continuous improvement in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, demonstrate measurable institutional progress and a growing regional and international sustainability impact.

Looking ahead, the SDM-C remains committed to advancing its strategic roadmap through expanded Green Campus initiatives, research and innovation, digital transformation, community partnerships, and the development of GUSW2026, with a stronger emphasis on scientific research, technological innovation, and SDG Target 9.5. Collectively, these achievements reinforce Gulf University's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030, further positioning the University as a leading institution for sustainable higher education, innovation, and societal impact.

SDM-C

College of Engineering | Gulf University.

July 2026.

Dr. Omar Blibech

Director | Sustainability and development Makers Center.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dr. Omar Blibech". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D" and "B".