



THE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



SDG 14 — LIFE BELOW WATER

2025 / 2026



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1. Overview — SDG 14: Life Below Water

Gulf University's contribution to SDG 14 (Life Below Water) during AY 2025–2026 rests entirely on SDM-C programming — neither CECEC nor DTC report any activity against this goal, making SDG 14 one of the University's more narrowly-sourced SDGs, similar to SDG 6 and SDG 7. SDM-C's contribution centres on Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025), where SDG 14 was addressed across 8 of 35 analysed activities (22.9%), anchored by two flagship Day 4 activities: a Guided Educational Tour & Awareness Session on Marine Conservation at the Tubli Bay Reserve and Bahrain Mangroves, and a dedicated workshop titled 'Marine Conservation & Plastic-Free Future' delivered with the Supreme Council for Environment.

ICSIDI 2025 research contributed modestly, with SDG 14 represented in 2.6% of accepted conference papers. The GU Sustainability Club (GUSC) also names marine and ecosystem protection as an explicit, ongoing contribution area. Overall, SDG 14 shows a genuine institutional touchpoint through direct field engagement rather than research or infrastructure, but it remains a single-centre, single-week-anchored goal for AY 2025–2026 itself, with its richer evidence base — detailed student projects, MOUs, and field visits — dating from the prior academic year (see Section 3).

2. Key Highlights for Academic Year 2025–2026

- GUSW2025: SDG 14 (Life Below Water) addressed through 8 of 35 activities (22.9%).
- ICSIDI 2025: SDG 14 represented in 2.6% of conference papers.
- GUSW2025 Day 4: Guided Educational Tour & Awareness Session on Marine Conservation — Tubli Bay Reserve / Bahrain Mangroves Tour.
- GUSW2025 Day 4 workshop: 'Marine Conservation & Plastic-Free Future' with the Supreme Council for Environment.
- GU Sustainability Club (GUSC): marine and ecosystem protection activities are an explicit ongoing contribution area (participation not separately quantified).
- CECEC and DTC: no SDG 14 activity identified in either report.

3. Prior-Year Foundational Activities (AY 2024–2025)

Gulf University's most detailed and varied SDG 14 evidence base — spanning field visits, MOUs, and award-winning student projects — dates from AY 2024–2025 rather than the current reporting year. These activities are included here as documented institutional foundation and context, clearly dated, rather than as AY 2025–2026 achievements. Reporting for the current cycle would benefit from refreshed, current-year equivalents (see Future Directions).

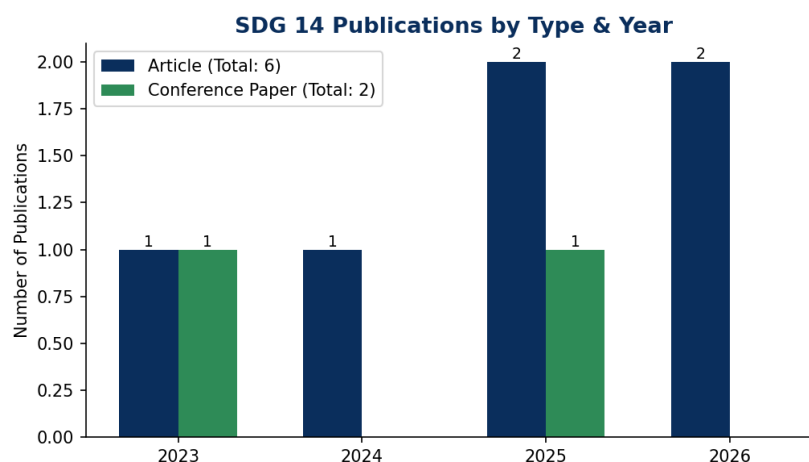
Activity	Date	Description
Field visit to Suprema Marine	23 Nov 2024	Interior Design Engineering Department visit exposing students to sustainable marine manufacturing practices; supports Target 14.a (marine technology transfer)



Activity	Date	Description
Scientific Research and SDGs Workshop	16 Jan 2025	Delivered by Dr. Muhammad Al-Sheikhly and Dr. Tanweer; explored the role of academic research in advancing SDG 14 alongside other goals
‘The Role of Youth in Water Sustainability’ Workshop	30 Jan 2025	With the Bahrain Scientific Center for Sustainable Development Goals, part of the Supreme Council for Environment's national ‘Sustainable Water’ campaign with UNEP
ASRY MOU	30 Jan 2025	Partnership agreement with the Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (ASRY) providing student training and research opportunities in the marine/shipbuilding sector
Submerged Objects Experience	20 Feb 2025	Mechanical Engineering Department hands-on experiment (Dr. Ola Fatla, Engineer Omar Mousa) on center-of-pressure for submerged objects, relevant to marine/fluid mechanics
‘Together Towards Comprehensive Awareness and Sustainable Safety’ Exhibition	4 Mar 2025	With the Ministry of Interior and Coast Guard; safety awareness with a coastal/marine dimension
ASRY Journey (PR student visit)	30 Apr 2025	Introduction to Public Relations course field trip to ASRY, focused on corporate communications in a maritime industrial setting
Seas Cleaning Project — Autonomous Oil Skimmer RC Boat	26 May 2025	Student project (Fatema Al Jowder, supervised by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Abdulrazaq); solar-powered oil-spill recovery system; internationally recognised with a gold medal at ITEX 2020 and multiple patents/publications
Marine Life Resort — ‘Oceanic Tones’	AY 2024–2025	Student design project (Nada Yaser Abdulla, supervised by Dr. Ashraf); sustainable coastal resort concept addressing Targets 14.1, 14.2, and 14.7



4. GU Research & Publications Related to SDG 14



Publication Type	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Article	1	1	2	2	6
Conference Paper	1	0	1	0	2

Gulf University's SDG 14-linked research base totals 8 publications (6 articles, 2 conference papers). Note: the source chart's own 'Total' row is internally inconsistent with its year-by-year figures (it lists totals of 2 and 0 respectively); the totals above are recalculated directly from the year-by-year data and should be treated as the correct figures.

5. Summary of Impact and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

KPI	Indicator Description	2025–2026 Result	Status
KPI 1	Activities addressing SDG 14 within GUSW2025	8 of 35 activities (22.9%)	Achieved
KPI 2	Marine conservation field/awareness activities delivered	2 — Tubli Bay Reserve/Mangroves Tour; 'Marine Conservation & Plastic-Free Future' workshop	Achieved
KPI 3	ICSDI 2025 research papers addressing SDG 14	2.6% of accepted papers	Achieved
KPI 4	GUSC ongoing marine/ecosystem protection activity	Named as an ongoing contribution area; not separately quantified	Ongoing
KPI 5	SDG 14-linked publications	8 publications (6 articles, 2 conference papers)	Achieved

6. Conclusion and Future Directions

SDG 14 is a goal where Gulf University has a genuine, credible touchpoint — direct field engagement at Tubli Bay and the Bahrain Mangroves is a meaningful, hands-on activity — but AY 2025–2026 itself has not yet grown beyond a single-week, single-centre commitment. The University's richest SDG 14 evidence (the ASRY partnership, the award-winning Oil Skimmer boat, the Marine Life Resort design project) dates from AY 2024–2025; none of these has a confirmed AY 2025–2026 equivalent yet documented.

**Future directions:**

- Confirm whether the ASRY MOU, student marine-engineering projects, and related AY 2024–2025 activities have continued or been renewed in AY 2025–2026, and document their current-year status explicitly rather than by default carry-forward.
- Convert the GUSW2025 Tubli Bay/Mangroves tour and plastic-free workshop into a recurring, year-round GUSC programme rather than a once-a-year Sustainability Week activity.
- Quantify GUSC's ongoing marine and ecosystem protection activities (e.g., number of clean-up events, participants, area covered) to give KPI 4 a real, trackable baseline.
- Deepen the Supreme Council for Environment partnership beyond a single workshop into a structured, recurring marine-conservation collaboration or research placement.
- Explore whether CECEC or DTC could contribute a marine/coastal-linked community or digital initiative, since both currently report zero activity on this goal.
- Set a minimum annual target (e.g., ≥ 2 marine-conservation field activities per year, plus one GUSC-led initiative outside Sustainability Week) to move this goal beyond its current single-week concentration.

Compiled from:

Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center (IEC) -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/innovation-entrepreneurship-center/annual-report/IEC-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

Sustainability Development Makers- Center -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/sustainability-and-development-makers-center/SDM-C-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

Community Engagement & Continuing Education Center (CECEC) -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/community-engagement-and-continuing-education-center/annual-reports/CECEC-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

Digital Transformation Center (DTC) -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/digital-transformation-center/annual-report/DTC-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

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