University Report on SDG 17
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SDG17: PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS

Building Strategic Partnerships for Sustainable Development in Saudi Arabia: Qassim University's Role in SDG 17

Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17) underscores the importance of partnerships and collaborations in achieving the entire spectrum of sustainable development goals. This essay explores Saudi Arabia's efforts in promoting partnerships for sustainable development and highlights Qassim University's role in fostering strategic collaborations to enhance SDG implementation.

SDG 17 in Saudi Arabia:
Saudi Arabia recognizes that addressing complex global challenges requires collaborative efforts that extend beyond national borders. The country has taken significant steps towards advancing SDG 17:

- International Development Assistance: Saudi Arabia has contributed to international development assistance, supporting various countries in achieving their sustainable development goals. This reflects the nation's commitment to global partnerships and solidarity.
- Bilateral and Multilateral Engagements: The country engages actively in bilateral and multilateral platforms to exchange knowledge, resources, and best practices. These engagements foster dialogue and cooperation on diverse issues, ranging from education and healthcare to economic diversification.
- Investment in Sustainable Projects: Saudi Arabia encourages foreign and domestic investments in sustainable development projects. These investments not only contribute to economic growth but also align with the broader agenda of achieving sustainable development.

Qassim University's Strategic Partnerships:
Qassim University, as a leading educational institution, plays a vital role in advancing the goals of SDG 17 through the establishment of strategic partnerships:

- Public-Private Collaborations: Qassim University collaborates with private corporations to bridge the gap between academia and industry. These partnerships facilitate research, innovation, and technology transfer, fostering sustainable economic growth in line with SDG 17.
- Government and NGO Engagements: The university engages with governmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to address societal challenges collectively. By pooling expertise and resources, these partnerships amplify the impact of projects related to education, healthcare, and community development.
- International Academic Alliances: Qassim University forges partnerships with universities and research institutions worldwide. These international collaborations enable knowledge exchange, joint research endeavors, and cross-cultural understanding, contributing to the global spirit of SDG 17.
- Local Community Involvement: The university collaborates closely with the local community to address its specific needs and challenges. This bottom-up approach ensures that development initiatives are relevant and sustainable, echoing the principles of SDG 17.
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship Ecosystem: Qassim University nurtures an innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem by partnering with startups, incubators, and accelerators. This
promotes the growth of sustainable businesses that align with the goals of economic prosperity and environmental responsibility.

Challenges and Future Outlook:
Despite the progress made, challenges persist in building and maintaining partnerships for sustainable development. These challenges include resource disparities, coordination complexities, and aligning diverse agendas. However, Saudi Arabia's commitment to SDG 17 and Qassim University's proactive engagement suggest a promising future:

Sustainable development requires collaborative efforts that transcend geographical boundaries and sectoral interests. Saudi Arabia's dedication to SDG 17 reflects its understanding of the significance of partnerships in achieving holistic progress. Qassim University, through its strategic collaborations, demonstrates how educational institutions can serve as catalysts for positive change by fostering partnerships that contribute to the realization of sustainable development goals. As these partnerships continue to flourish, they pave the way for a more inclusive, equitable, and prosperous future for Saudi Arabia and the global community.

17.2 Relationships with NGOs, Regional and National Government
Qassim University have a direct involvement with NGOs, regional and national government to achieve the best vision of 2030 and collect the efforts to seek the sustainable goals. Furthermore, Qassim university aligned with the 2030’s KSA vision and is working on facing all the obstacles to reach the future goals.

17.2.4 Does your university as a body, through international collaboration and research, review comparative approaches and develop international best practice on tackling the SDGs?

Center for International Cooperation and Knowledge
https://icu.qu.edu.sa/content/p/3 [1]

Scientific and research cooperation and exchange of experiences and knowledge with universities and similar competence bodies are among the most important means of developing knowledge, education and scientific research and bringing it to advanced levels capable of achieving the university's mission, vision and plans and finding solutions to the problems and challenges faced by the university. Cooperation between universities and scientific research centers also contributes effectively to the development of educational programs, the establishment of the concept of the knowledge economy, helps to achieve standards of excellence and quality, strengthens academic ties between universities, exchanges experiences with successful experiences, and provides joint research initiatives and projects. Therefore, the university was keen to have a center specialized in activating scientific cooperation between the university and distinguished scientific and research bodies locally and internationally in the field of research and education.
The Center was established under the name of the International Cooperation and Scientific Societies Unit in 1427 AH and was changed to the name of the Center for Cooperation and International Relations at Qassim University by the letter of His Excellency the Minister of Education No. 644 dated 19/5/1437. During the past period, the center's work was specialized in sponsoring service contracts and agreements between the university (represented by some colleges) and other universities of excellence in the field of agreement and following up on its administrative and financial implementation.

In view of the urgent need to develop the work of the center, expand its tasks, and activate its role at the university to include, in addition to its previous work in sponsoring service contracts and agreements between the university and other scientific and research bodies, and following up on their implementation and evaluation administratively and financially, activating the visiting professors' programs to include a mechanism to attract prominent local and international scientists and researchers to participate in the university's educational and research programs in a way that contributes to the development of education and quality, the development of educational programs and plans, scientific research and knowledge exchange, and the development of a plan to organize events Scientific at the university (conferences, seminars, workshops and the like) and coordination with the organizers at the university, and developing a plan to organize the participation of faculty members in conferences, seminars, workshops and the like.

Therefore, it was approved to change the name of the center to the Center for International Cooperation and Knowledge Exchange in order to indicate the new name directly to the work and activity of the center. Also, a council has been formed for the center with specific tasks that contribute to activating the role of the center and achieving its objectives. Administrative units have been formed in the center, including the Scientific and Research Cooperation Unit, the Scientific Activities Unit, the Visiting Professors Unit, and the Financial and Administrative Affairs Unit.

**Vision:**
The university should make the most of scientific, knowledge and research cooperation with universities and scientific institutions and scientific events in the development of Qassim University's educational, scientific and research programs, excellence and quality.

**Mission:**
Activating scientific cooperation, research and educational partnership, and knowledge exchange with distinguished and internationally prestigious universities and scientific and research institutions in a way that enhances the role of Qassim University in sustainable development and building a knowledge society.

**Objectives of the Center:**
1. Activating scientific and research cooperation with universities and educational institutions to achieve continuous development and modernization of the university's scientific, educational and research programs.

2. Study the proposed cooperation agreements, companies and twinning programs, recommend activating and sponsoring the distinguished ones, following up on their implementation and evaluation.

3. Enhancing opportunities to benefit from the Kingdom's international agreements in the educational and research fields that serve the university and its development plans.

4. Activating the benefit of scientific and research exchange through visiting professors programs.
5. Proposing an annual plan for conferences, seminars, workshops and the like, and coordinating with the organizers at the university.

6. Develop an organizational plan for faculty members at the university to attend conferences, seminars and workshops.

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**Student Scientific Trip to Japan**

https://twitter.com/QassimUniv1/status/1679536243485335553 [2]

@QassimUniv1

With the participation of 124 students from 17 Saudi universities.

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**HRH Prince Faisal bin Mishaal congratulates the University on winning two medals at the Geneva International Exhibition of Inventions**

https://www.qu.edu.sa/content/news/2738 [3]

His Royal Highness Prince Dr. Faisal bin Mishaal bin Saud bin Abdulaziz, Governor of Qassim Region, congratulated the university on the occasion of winning two medals (gold and silver) at the Geneva International Exhibition of Inventions.
International Exhibition of Inventions, among more than 750 innovations from 25 countries that participated in the exhibition, expressing his pride and pride in the achievements that the university used to achieve in various local and international events and forums.

His Highness thanked all the university's employees, led by His Excellency Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman bin Hamad Al-Dawood, President of the University, for their efforts to improve the educational, research and service process at the university, especially in the field of innovations and scientific research and the university's advanced scientific levels, appreciating those efforts that contributed to the quality of the university's scientific outputs and their achievement of advanced positions in local and international forums.

The Deanship of Community Service signs a cooperation agreement with Al-Rajhi Endowment Foundation in Qassim

In the presence of the Emir of the region

The Deanship of Community Service signs a cooperation agreement with Al-Rajhi Endowment Foundation in Qassim

His Royal Highness Prince Dr. Faisal bin Mishaal bin Saud, Governor of Qassim Region, witnessed the signing of a partnership agreement between the Deanship of Community Service at Qassim University, and Sheikh Sulaiman Al-Rajhi Endowment Foundation - Qassim Branch, which includes partnership and cooperation between the Deanship and the Foundation in establishing and implementing training and community courses and programs in the Qassim region, and providing scientific and academic consultations.

The agreement was signed at the closing ceremony of the scientific and advocacy programs of the Sulaiman Al-Rajhi Endowment Foundation, at the Foundation's headquarters in Buraidah.

At the end of the ceremony, His Highness the Governor of Qassim Region honored Qassim University, represented by the Vice President for Educational Affairs, His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ahmed bin Saleh Al-Tami, and His Excellency Prof. Dr. Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al-Turki, Dean of the Deanship of Community Service, for the university's cooperation with the Sulaiman Al-Rajhi Endowment Foundation.

The Deanship of Community Service pays great attention to charitable and social institutions and institutions in the region through cooperation and partnership in everything that would serve the region and social work in it.

"Cooperation" Agreement between Qassim University and 'stc' to benefit from graduation projects and research

Qassim University, represented by the College of Engineering, signed a cooperation agreement with the Saudi Telecom Company in Qassim at the college’s headquarters yesterday.

The agreement, which was signed by the Dean of the College, Dr. Fahd bin Abdul Rahman Al-Mufadhi, and the Director of the Saudi Telecom Company in Qassim, Dr. Muhammad bin Suleiman Al-Nasser, aims at cooperation between the two sides in many fields, foremost of which is the focus on graduation projects that address issues of common interest in the field of electronics and communications engineering, and cooperation in the fields of scientific research specialized in electronics and communications engineering, and faculty members specialized in the field of technical consultancy will also be used, along with Enhancing the cooperative training program for students of the Department of Communications and Electronics Engineering at the university through an integrated program that covers the various stages and technologies available in the company, and contributing to the development of the laboratories of the Department of Communications Engineering by providing them with appropriate equipment, in addition to involving a number of college students in the "Toastmasters" program offered by the telecommunications company in cooperation with the Toastmasters International Organization.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed the importance of community partnership between the public and private sectors and what can result from it at the level of society and university students in particular.

For his part, the Vice Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. Salim Saleh Al-Saleem, stressed that the memorandum of understanding is an initiative of the College of Engineering at the university and the Saudi Telecom Company in the region, through which we seek to link, train and qualify the student for the labor market and prepare him to engage in it by informing and training him on the latest technologies used in the labor market and to improve the educational environment for college students and develop it to be a stimulating environment for innovation and creativity, and these main objectives are one of the most prominent strategies of the Kingdom’s Vision 2030 and what emerged from it, which is National Transformation Program 2020. In addition to these goals, other equally important goals are such as supporting faculty members and encouraging them to carry out scientific research that focuses on the most advanced technologies used by telecommunications companies in their field.

He pointed out that the cooperation between the two sides exists during the last period, as the company annually conducts cooperative training for a number of students of the Faculty of Engineering and periodically receives college students during field visits.

In the presence of the Prince of Qassim and His Highness the Vice President of the University signs an agreement with the Urban Observatory in the region

The Center for Sustainable Development at the University signed a memorandum of cooperation agreement with the Urban Observatory in the Municipality of the region, where the signing took place yesterday, Tuesday, at the Emirate's Diwan under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Dr. Faisal bin Mishaaal bin Saud bin Abdulaziz, Governor of Qassim, Chairman of the Regional Council, and in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Fahd bin Turki bin Faisal bin Turki, Deputy Governor of Qassim Region, and His Excellency Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Dawood, Rector of the University. And the Secretary of the region, Eng. Mohammed Al-Majali, with the aim of enhancing complementarities between government sectors in the region to serve development programs.

His Highness the Emir of the region indicated in his speech after the signing of the agreement that solidarity in sustainable development must be present in all government agencies so that the work provided is an elaborate work based on studies and research, while providing the necessary information for urban, planning and environmental development, stressing that every work plan, training and benefit that comes from local cadres is one of the gains, especially as it gives the people of this country experience and information for permanent development that takes their hands.

His Highness blessed the signing of the agreement, indicating that it reflects fruitful cooperation between government agencies, stressing that it comes from the roles played by the Regional Council through integration and unification of efforts provided by government sectors in all relevant common issues and topics, as the agreement came based on the recommendation made by the Regional Council with the aim of benefiting from the services of the university and the Council, and allocating them to monitor and identify development needs throughout the region.

The agreement includes a number of areas of cooperation through the support of the University's Center for Sustainable Development with a number of specialized experts, in addition to preparing a scientific and professional framework for the indicators that the Urban Center requests to study from the university, as well as conducting a number of specialized studies and research according to the request of the Observatory while providing it with periodic publications and research that are useful in accomplishing the tasks of the Observatory in addition to directing a number of scientific theses that are prepared at the university.
In the presence of the Prince of Qassim, the University and the Department of Education sign an agreement to enhance partnership and exchange experiences between them

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Qassim University signed a joint cooperation agreement with the General Administration of Education in Qassim Region, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Dr. Faisal bin Mishaaal bin Saud, Governor of Qassim Region, in order to strengthen the bonds of work and partnership between the two sides and exchange experiences and means with the aim of developing the educational process, developing students’ skills, student activities and programs, in addition to paying attention to the gifted, investing young people’s time, activating scientific research and identifying and activating cooperation mechanisms between them.

This agreement, which was signed on behalf of the university by Dr. Ali Al-Saif, Vice President for Educational Affairs, and on behalf of the Department of Education, Mr. Abdullah bin Ibrahim Al-Rukayan, Director General of Education in Qassim Region, comes from the directives of His Highness the Governor of Qassim Region, regarding the integration of efforts and strengthening cooperation and partnership relations between the various development agencies in the region, and in support of cooperation and partnership relations between the university and the General Administration of Education in Qassim Region.

The two signatories to the agreement aspire to achieve their common goals, which are to build the student’s Islamic, national and intellectual personality cognitively, skillfully and values, and to work to enhance loyalty and national belonging and consolidate the correct concepts among students of both sexes, in addition to providing advanced and accredited education to prepare fully qualified competencies that meet the needs of the labor market, supporting sustainable development programs and projects in the Qassim region, and contributing to building a knowledge society.

The agreement also aims to provide distinguished community services and applied research in a way that elevates the local community and contributes to building a knowledge-based economy, using the latest administrative, technical and information methods, and contributing to community service through training and continuing education, consolidating the concepts of sustainable development, preserving the environment, and information awareness, in addition to providing various sources of information for educational, research and applied purposes, especially those related to community issues, and the building, development and maintenance of those sources that this requires.

For his part, Dr. Ali Al-Saif, Vice President for Educational Affairs, stressed that this agreement is expected to enhance cooperation between the General Administration of Education in Qassim, and the university’s colleges and deanships, in the field of public lectures, seminars, specialized training programs, research and specialized scientific studies, participation in the implementation of programs for people with special needs, and encouraging scientific studies and research in these fields.
Al-Saif added that under this agreement, joint work teams will be formed between the two sides, workshops, meetings and visits will be held for joint programs and activities, and mutual facilities will be provided by both parties to achieve the optimal environment for the implementation of joint programs and activities.

UQU President Witnesses the Signing of a Cooperation Agreement with BIAC to Prepare an Intellectual Property Portfolio

https://www.qu.edu.sa/content/news/1465 [8]

His Excellency Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman bin Hamad Al-Dawood, President of the University, witnessed on Tuesday morning, 9/2/1441 AH, at the main lobby headquarters in the University City, the signing of a cooperation agreement between the Innovation and Intellectual Property Center at the University, and the company operating the Badir program in King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (Business Incubators and Accelerators Company - BIAC), with the aim of preparing an intellectual property portfolio that includes intellectual property policies, regulations and procedural guide for the University's Innovation and Intellectual Property Center.

This agreement comes from the keenness of the Innovation and Intellectual Property Center at the university to prepare integrated policies that are compatible with the Kingdom's Vision 2030 and the National Transformation Plan 2020, through the preparation of the center's work policies and regulations and promoting the concept of intellectual property through the establishment of training courses and workshops, where Prof. Dr. Ahmed Al-Turki, Vice President for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, signed on behalf of the university, along with Khalid bin Yousef Al-Mahfouz, Director of Development and Partnerships at "Biak", in the presence of the Vice President for Educational Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Al-Adheeb.

His Excellency the President of the University welcomed all attendees from the university and abroad, congratulating the signing of the agreement, stressing that the university has started from an early date to establish a committee to follow up on any infringement of intellectual property rights, and some penalties have been imposed, noting that the university considers the infringement of the rights of others a betrayal, in addition to that a number of promotions have been stopped in the Scientific Council for this reason, indicating that the university welcomes hosting seminars and programs in this regard, calling on God to grant success and payment to all, and to reconcile workers to implementing the agreement in the interest of both parties.

For his part, Dr. Abdullah Al-Muhaimeed, supervisor of the Innovation and Intellectual Property Center at the university, explained that this agreement aims to build systems and policies related to intellectual property rights, qualify the university's work team and enhance awareness of the importance of intellectual property, in addition to supporting, generating and exploiting intellectual property for all sectors and departments of the university, the center's regulations, and the procedural manual, as well as creating a database for investors, and benefiting from the expertise and facilities available to both parties, provided that coordination is made between them. In advance, this
Agreement shall enter into force as of the date of its signature by the Parties for a period of one calendar year.

**The University Signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Dawah Committee in Africa**

[https://www.qu.edu.sa/content/news/2236](https://www.qu.edu.sa/content/news/2236)

Within the framework of its keenness to spread science and knowledge and enhance cooperation with all parties, the university concluded, on Tuesday, 3/3/1442 AH, a memorandum of understanding with the Dawah Committee in Africa, with the aim of enhancing cooperation between the two sides, where the memorandum was signed by the Chairman of the Dawah Committee in Africa, His Highness Prince Dr. Bandar bin Salman bin Muhammad Al Saud, along with His Excellency Prof. Dr. Abdul Rahman bin Hamad Al-Dawood, President of the University, in the main lobby of the university city.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Vice President of the University, Dr. Muhammad Al-Saawi, the Vice President for Educational Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Al-Adeeb, the Vice President for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, Prof. Dr. Ahmed Al-Turki, the Vice President for Planning, Development and Quality, Prof. Dr. Khaled Al-Harbi, and the Director of the Center for International Cooperation and Knowledge Exchange, Dr. Abdullah Al-Hadiya, in addition to the delegation accompanying the Chairman of the Dawah Committee in Africa.

The agreement seeks to enhance the role of the Dawah Committee in Africa in providing its services represented in nominating scholarship students to join the university in all disciplines according to the required specifications and regulations in force in it, as this agreement comes within the framework of the university’s efforts to enhance cooperation with many government and private agencies, through the exchange of experiences in all fields to ensure the achievement of the university’s vision and mission, and ensure access to its services to various parts of the world, especially the peoples of African countries that are in the past The need for science and knowledge.

On the sidelines of the signing ceremony of the memorandum of understanding, the university presented a brief explanation of the mechanism for accepting scholarship students, the number of students and nationalities, presented by the Dean of the Deanship of Admission and Registration, Dr. Fahd Al-Ahmad, and the Dean of the Deanship of Student Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Al-Ajlani, the admission requirements, mechanisms for submitting scholarship students, admission procedures, benefits for students, and other matters related to accepting students, receiving them and completing their procedures, and providing all the services that the student needs, including financial rewards upon arrival, monthly bonus, securing housing in student housing, and providing all Services from the supermarket, discounted meals.

They also touched on the services provided by the library in the morning and evening, student clubs that are interested in scientific aspects, activities and programs inside and outside the university, including various visits and scientific institutions, providing all sports and scientific aspects, Umrah trips, travel tickets, and other services provided by the university to scholarship students from different countries of the world.
References


