

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Al Ain University



جامعة العين
AL AIN UNIVERSITY

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 17

Contribution to SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

Institutional position

Al Ain University advances SDG 8 through a comprehensive employment-policy framework, fair remuneration and pay-scale structures, non-discrimination, worker protections, professional development, entrepreneurship, employer engagement and graduate employability. The University's role spans its responsibilities as an employer and its educational mission to prepare students for productive, ethical and innovative participation in the economy.

AAU's public evidence addresses living wages, equivalent rights for outsourced workers, modern slavery and child labour, pay-scale equity, employment non-discrimination and grievance routes. In 2024, these institutional commitments were complemented by a major career and training exhibition, professional-development series, industry agreements and engagement with the Ministry of Economy.

Principal strengths

Strength area	AAU institutional strength
Employment standards	Policies and UAE labour-law alignment protect pay, contracts, leave, benefits and workplace rights.
Equality at work	Non-discrimination, pay-scale equity and grievance arrangements support fair treatment.
Employability	Career services, professional development and employer exhibitions strengthen entry to work.
Economic partnerships	Government, industry and professional-body relationships connect learning with national priorities.

Institutional approach

AAU's Human Resources Unit, staff policies and contractual arrangements provide the institutional foundation for decent work. Recruitment, appraisal, promotion, remuneration, leave, safety and complaints are governed through published structures and applicable UAE legislation.

The educational dimension is delivered through academic programmes, the Career Development Office, the Alumni Office, the Continuing Education Center, entrepreneurship support and industry partnerships. These structures help students and graduates build capability, access opportunities and respond to changing labour-market needs.

Implementation in 2024

The following evidence shows how the University's institutional approach was translated into activity during the principal reporting year.

2024 evidence	Contribution to the Goal	Sources
Living wage commitment	AAU documented its approach to paying staff and faculty within formal salary structures and UAE employment requirements.	E03
Equivalent rights in outsourcing	Institutional contracting and procurement frameworks addressed worker protections in third-party activity.	E04
Pay-scale equity	AAU's policy framework linked structured pay with measurement and attention to gender pay equity.	E05
Career and training exhibition	More than 30 employers and training entities connected students and graduates with professional opportunities.	E07
Professional-development series	Workshops improved workplace readiness, personal capability and graduate employability.	E08

Strengths across University functions

University function	Contribution and strength
Responsible employer	Employment policies, salary systems, benefits, safety and grievance procedures support fair and accountable work.
Education	Professional programmes and work-relevant curricula build the knowledge and skills required by the UAE economy.
Career development	Employer engagement, training, advising and alumni services connect education with opportunity and progression.
Partnership and growth	Relationships with government, companies and professional bodies support innovation, sector alignment and economic capability.

Current continuity

AAU expanded graduate employment opportunities and professional partnerships in 2025, continuing the University's focus on labour-market access and productive national workforce development.

Institutional conclusion

AAU's SDG 8 strength is its dual role as a responsible employer and a developer of talent. Fair-work policies are reinforced by career services, professional training, industry engagement and entrepreneurship, creating a connected contribution to decent work and economic growth.

Public evidence register

The following public sources support the institutional framework, implementation evidence and continuity presented in this report.

ID	Public source	Relevance	Link
E01	United Nations SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	Goal context	Open evidence
E02	AAU SDG 8 institutional page	University SDG framework	Open evidence
E03	AAU living wage evidence	Fair remuneration	Open evidence
E04	AAU equivalent rights for outsourced workers	Third-party worker protection	Open evidence
E05	AAU pay-scale equity	Gender pay equity	Open evidence
E06	AAU policy on modern slavery and child labour	Fundamental labour rights	Open evidence
E07	AAU Career Development and Training Exhibition 2024	Employer access	Open evidence
E08	AAU Professional Development Series 2024	Job readiness	Open evidence
E09	AAU delegation visits Ministry of Economy 2024	Economic-policy collaboration	Open evidence
E10	AAU Human Resources Unit	Employment governance	Open evidence