SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Al Ain University

جامعة العين
AL AIN UNIVERSITY

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 3

Smoke-Free Policy and Tobacco-Control Programme

DIRECT RESPONSE: YES — PARTIAL SMOKE-FREE CAMPUS

Al Ain University has a formal smoke-free policy. Smoking is prohibited throughout university buildings and the specifically listed teaching, research, work, service, circulation, storage, sports and recreation areas. The policy permits smoking only outdoors. It is published in official handbooks, backed by defined student disciplinary sanctions, and reinforced through reporting-year awareness, health screening and tobacco-cessation education.

INDICATOR RESPONSE

1. Institutional response and classification

Al Ain University (AAU) maintains a university-wide smoking policy designed to protect the health and comfort of students, faculty, staff and visitors from exposure to tobacco smoke. The policy is embedded in the University's formal governance publications and is reinforced through student discipline, public-health education, specialist lectures, awareness displays, cessation guidance and preventive health activities.

For THE Indicator 3.3.6, AAU is classified as a partial smoke-free campus. The University prohibits smoking in all owned or operated buildings and facilities and identifies a comprehensive list of smoke-free locations. The same policy permits smoking in outdoor areas of the university premises. This documented indoor prohibition with outdoor permission corresponds to THE's partial smoke-free category, rather than the full smoke-free category that requires tobacco prohibition at every indoor and outdoor campus location.

Public evidence: E01 THE Sustainability Impact Ratings Methodology 2026 • E02 AAU public SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack • E03 AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024 • E04 AAU Faculty Handbook 2023–2024

1.1 Evidence of institutional implementation

Requirement	AAU institutional evidence	Evidence IDs
Formal no-smoking policy	Published in AAU's Student and Faculty Handbooks and consolidated policy materials	E02–E08
Indoor scope	No smoking in any university building or facility; named academic, administrative, service, circulation, storage, sports and recreation areas	E03–E06
Outdoor scope	Smoking permitted only outdoors under the published AAU rule	E03–E06
Policy enforcement	Three specified student disciplinary outcomes for non-compliance	E03, E05, E07
Awareness and cessation	2024 No-Tobacco World Day programme plus established lectures, clinics, exhibits, brochures and community outreach	E09–E17
Public accessibility	Handbooks, institutional SDG evidence, news records, service pages and photo records remain publicly accessible	E02–E19

FORMAL POLICY

2. No-smoking policy: purpose, status and reach

> **A FORMAL UNIVERSITY-WIDE HEALTH PROTECTION RULE**
>
> AAU's Faculty Handbook states the University's commitment to a smoke-free environment that protects the health and comfort of the university community from the adverse effects of tobacco smoke. The Student Handbook presents the same institutional position and translates it into clear operational rules for campus life.

The policy applies to buildings and facilities owned or operated by AAU. It is not limited to classrooms: its express scope covers teaching, research, administration, study, catering, circulation, storage, safety-sensitive, sports and recreation locations. Publishing the rule in both student-facing and faculty-facing handbooks establishes a common institutional standard across the university community. AAU's dedicated public SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack and current handbook editions maintain public access to the policy framework.

Public evidence: E02 AAU public SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack • E03 AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024 • E04 AAU Faculty Handbook 2023–2024 • E05 AAU Student Handbook 2025–2026 • E06 AAU Faculty Handbook 2025–2026 • E07 AAU Students Policies — compiled public document • E08 AAU University Policies — compiled public document

Indoor Areas:

Al Ain University (AAU) maintains a strict no-smoking rule inside all campus buildings. The university's policy explicitly **prohibits smoking inside any building or facility** on its premisesaau.ac.ae. This ban covers all indoor spaces such as lecture halls, laboratories, conference rooms, offices, and other enclosed areas, in line with protecting students and staff from secondhand smoke. AAU describes itself as "committed to providing a smoke-free environment" to safeguard the health and comfort of the university communityaau.ac.ae. Accordingly, **every indoor facility at AAU is designated as a smoke-free zone**aau.ac.ae.

AAU No Smoking Policy

https://www.aau.ac.ae/publications/handbooks/al_ain_university_faculty_handbook__2023_2024_en.pdf

AAU is committed to providing a smoke-free environment to protect the health and comfort of members of the university community from the adverse effects of tobacco smoke. This policy shall be implemented by the following rules and regulations, which may be changed from time to time.

Rules and Regulations

I. There shall be no smoking of tobacco products within any building or facility owned or operated by the University, except as provided below.
II. Smoking is permitted in the outdoor areas of the university premises.
III. While all other buildings and facilities on University property are smoke free, it should be particularly noted, there shall be no smoking in:

a. conference rooms, classrooms, laboratories or lecture halls; or in auditoriums;

b. offices;

c. libraries and bookstores;

d. cafeterias and food and beverage service areas;

e. storage or warehouse areas, and anywhere that hazardous sub stances are found;

f. corridors, lobbies, entries or stairways;

g. Sports or recreational areas

Smoking

https://www.aau.ac.ae/publications/handbooks/al_ain_university_student_handbook__2023_2024_en.pdf

Al Ain University is a smoke-free environment, so as to ensure an overall healthy environment to all mebers. This policy is applied according to the following rules:

I. No smoking inside any building owned or operated by the University, particularly in the following areas:

• lecture halls, conference rooms, laboratories and amphitheaters.

• Offices.

• Libraries and book stores.

• Cafeteria and vending areas.

• Stores, warehouses and whereabouts of any hazardous materials.

• Corridors and lounges

• Recreational and sports zones.

II. Smoking is allowed outside University buildings.

III. If the student does not comply with the University's smoking policy, he will be subjected to one of the following penalties:

• Receiving a level one disciplinary warning along with withdrawing any grants or financial assistance offered in the semester in which the offense is committed; whether this grant is an academic excellence grant or a humanitarian aid grant. The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.

• Withdrawing of one or more courses of the semester in which the offense is committed based on the courses' date of registration. The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.

• Cancelling the final exam of one or more courses of the semester in which the offense is committed; according to the courses' order in the exam timetable, as well as receiving a 'Fail' grade in the course(s). The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.

Outdoor Areas:

While indoor smoking is completely banned, AAU **does allow smoking in outdoor areas of the campus**. The official policy states that "*smoking is allowed outside University buildings*"[aau.ac.ae](). In practice, this means students, staff, and visitors may smoke in open-air spaces on campus (unless otherwise marked), rather than having a totally tobacco-free campus. There are **no indications of fully enclosed smoking rooms on campus**, so smokers are expected to go outdoors. The outdoor smoking is typically confined to **open areas away from building entrances**, aligning with general UAE norms that permit smoking in open-air public spaces where no prohibitory signs are present[gulfnews.com](). AAU's approach thus stops short of a 100% smoke-free campus, instead enforcing a smoke-free indoor environment and permitting smoking in designated outdoor zones.

2.1 Indoor and outdoor application

Campus location	Policy status	Published scope
University buildings and facilities	**SMOKE-FREE**	Smoking prohibited in every building or facility owned or operated by AAU
Teaching and research	**SMOKE-FREE**	Classrooms, conference rooms, laboratories, lecture halls, auditoriums and amphitheatres
Work and study	**SMOKE-FREE**	Offices, libraries and bookstores
Food and beverage	**SMOKE-FREE**	Cafeterias, vending areas and food-and-beverage service areas
Safety-sensitive spaces	**SMOKE-FREE**	Stores, warehouses and locations where hazardous substances or materials are present
Movement and access	**SMOKE-FREE**	Corridors, lobbies, lounges, entries and stairways
Sport and recreation	**SMOKE-FREE**	Sports and recreational areas
Outdoor campus areas	**SMOKING PERMITTED**	The published policy permits smoking outdoors / outside university buildings

Public evidence: E03 AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024 • E04 AAU Faculty Handbook 2023–2024 • E05 AAU Student Handbook 2025–2026 • E06 AAU Faculty Handbook 2025–2026

18.8 Smoking

Al Ain University is a smoke-free environment, so as to ensure an overall healthy environment to all mebers. This policy is applied according to the following rules:

1. No smoking inside any building owned or operated by the University, particularly in the following areas:
    - lecture halls, conference rooms, laboratories and amphitheaters.
    - Offices.
    - Libraries and book stores.
    - Cafeteria and vending areas.
    - Stores, warehouses and whereabouts of any hazardous materials.
    - Corridors and lounges
    - Recreational and sports zones.
2. Smoking is allowed outside University buildings.
3. If the student does not comply with the University's smoking policy, he will be subjected to one of the following penalties:
    - Receiving a level one disciplinary warning along with withdrawing any grants or financial assistance offered in the semester in which the offense is committed; whether this grant is an academic excellence grant or a humanitarian aid grant. The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.

- Withdrawing of one or more courses of the semester in which the offense is committed based on the courses' date of registration. The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.
- Cancelling the final exam of one or more courses of the semester in which the offense is committed; according to the courses' order in the exam timetable, as well as receiving a 'Fail' grade in the course(s). The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.

COMPLIANCE AND SANCTIONS

3. Disciplinary consequences for smoking against policy

AAU's no-smoking rule is supported by explicit disciplinary consequences. The Student Handbook states that a student who does not comply with the smoking policy is subject to one of three specified penalties. These sanctions connect the health-protection rule directly to the University's student-conduct system.

3.1 Documented student penalties

1. A Level One disciplinary warning, together with withdrawal of grants or financial assistance provided in the semester in which the offence occurs, whether an academic-excellence grant or humanitarian aid grant; the student's guardian is informed in person.
2. Withdrawal of one or more courses in the semester in which the offence occurs, based on the courses' registration dates; the student's guardian is informed in person.
3. Cancellation of the final examination for one or more courses in the semester, according to the order of courses in the examination timetable, together with a Fail grade in the affected course or courses; the student's guardian is informed in person.

Public evidence: E03 AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024 • E05 AAU Student Handbook 2025–2026 • E07 AAU Students Policies — compiled public document

> • Receiving a level one disciplinary warning along with withdrawing any grants or financial assistance offered in the semester in which the offense is committed; whether this grant is an academic excellence grant or a humanitarian aid grant. The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.
>
> • Withdrawing of one or more courses of the semester in which the offense is committed based on the courses' date of registration. The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.
>
> • Cancelling the final exam of one or more courses of the semester in which the offense is committed; according to the courses' order in the exam timetable, as well as receiving a 'Fail' grade in the course(s). The student's guardian is informed with this decision in person.

Exhibit 1. Published AAU Student Handbook extract listing the three disciplinary outcomes for non-compliance with the smoking policy.

CLEAR, PUBLISHED AND CONSEQUENTIAL

The policy is enforceable through outcomes that may affect student financial support, semester enrolment and final assessment. The sanctions and guardian-notification requirements make the consequences of smoking against policy explicit and publicly accessible.

COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

4. Policy communication, awareness displays and education

AAU communicates its smoking rules and tobacco-control commitment through permanent governance publications and recurring public-health education. The institutional handbooks provide the standing rule and sanctions. The public SDG evidence pack, University webpages, College of Pharmacy community-engagement page, news releases, event pages and photo galleries provide a continuing public record of implementation.

Public evidence: E02 AAU public SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack • E03 AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024 • E04 AAU Faculty Handbook 2023–2024 • E07 AAU Students Policies — compiled public document • E09 AAU No-Tobacco World Day — official 2024 record • E14 AAU Quitting Smoking Clinic — public photo record • E15 AAU College of Pharmacy community engagement

World No Tobacco Day Events at AAU

Al Ain University, in cooperation with the Sheikh Khalifa Medical City in Abu Dhabi, marked the World No Tobacco Day in order to spread awareness on the dangers and harmful effects of smoking which is in line with AAU's policy to take up an active role geared towards serving the community. The events included a lecture about smoking and its side effects presented by Dr. Abdul Razzak Al Kaddour, preventive Cardiologist and Head of the "Quit Smoking Clinic" at the Sheikh Khalifa Hospital. In addition, there were a number of awareness events, including a documentary about the dangers of smoking, followed by some students sharing their own experiences in quitting smoking. Also, AAU faculty members presented seminars during which Dr. Maher Haswa discussed the Islamic point of view on smoking while Ms. Siham Qoorah talked about the relationship between smoking and environmental pollution.

Dr. Zuhrieh Shana, AAU Deputy Dean of Student Affairs, reiterated that the educational role is inseparable from the awareness plan that we are keen to implement properly and effectively. Our participation in World No Tobacco Day is part of the health awareness we strive to promote among students and community members in order to warn of the dangers of tobacco. This has been made possible through a series of lectures in which specialists focused on clarifying the exact impact of smoking on the human body, the consequences of tobacco addiction, and the fact that it is incompatible with the teachings of Islam, in addition to the environmental and social risks it carries.

Shana added the events included free medical tests for students and the audience to guide smokers about the importance of taking immediate steps to quit. There was also an open, direct dialog between

students and the doctors, to answer all inquiries and to clarify the latest procedures available to support those who want to quit smoking and help them, and the institutions available for that.

At the end, AAU extended its gratitude to Sheikh Khalifa Medical City for its invaluable cooperation.

An awareness lecture on the occasion of No-Tobacco World Day

The Deanship of Student Affairs at Al Ain University, in collaboration with Al Jahili Health Center, organized a health event for World No Tobacco Day under the slogan "Smoking Threatens Our Lives." The event featured a lecture on the harms of smoking, the diseases it causes, its impact on smokers and those around them, and methods to combat it. The lecture was delivered by Dr. Hazem Al Khalidi, a family medicine specialist at Al Jahili Health Center. Additionally, the center offered free blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol tests, as well as comprehensive periodic examinations for some male and female employees.

4.1 Awareness boards, booths and educational materials

AAU complements written policy with visible, participatory health communication. The ‘Ambitious Pharmacist’ exhibition included a student-designed smoking booth within a multi-topic health exhibition delivered with medical organisations; participating bodies provided brochures, guidance and health information. During Lung Cancer Awareness Month, the ‘Together to Reduce Smoking’ programme distributed awareness brochures and connected tobacco harms with practical quitting methods and health screening. The ‘Science and Life’ fair similarly involved students in distributing leaflets and digital materials addressing smoking and addiction hazards.

The College of Pharmacy’s public community-engagement record also documents anti-smoking education beyond the campus, including lectures for secondary-school students on the dangers of smoking and awareness lectures on smoking hazards at a community centre serving people with disabilities. Together, these displays, booths, brochures and outreach sessions extend the policy message from prohibition to prevention and informed behaviour change.

Public evidence: E13 AAU Lung Cancer Awareness Month: Together to Reduce Smoking — 2016 • E15 AAU College of Pharmacy community engagement • E16 AAU Ambitious Pharmacist educational and health exhibition — 2017 • E17 AAU Science and Life science fair — 2013

Exhibit 2. AAU health-exhibition activity. The official event record identifies smoking among the student-designed booth topics and records participation by external medical organisations.

- **Awareness Lectures and Workshops:**

AAU colleges periodically host talks and workshops on smoking prevention. For example, the College of Pharmacy has conducted **awareness lectures on the hazards of smoking** as part of its community engagement outreachpharmacy.aau.ac.ae. In one such lecture (in 2016), a session titled "Dialogues of Awareness about the Harm Caused by Smoking" was organized, highlighting the health consequences of tobacco and the benefits of quittingaau.ac.ae. During this lecture, health experts discussed how smoking affects society and individual well-being, and even outlined the *"10 health benefits"* a person gains after quitting smoking – inspiring attendees with the message "you can do it" to encourage smokers to stoppharmacy.aau.ac.ae. These educational forums are often led by medical professionals or faculty and allow students to engage in Q&A about tobacco use and cessation strategies.

Community Engagement

The College of Pharmacy at Al Ain University has been involved in community engagement activities through faculty and students including:

- Participating in the Thalassemia awareness program in cooperation with the UAE Thalassemia Society and the Blood Bank.
- Giving lectures about the dangers of narcotics to the university students;
- Giving lectures to the secondary school students relating to the danger of smoking and the role of breakfast in the enhancement of the student's body;
- Giving awareness lectures regarding the relationship between obesity and diabetes;
- Giving awareness lectures regarding the use of alcohol and its addiction;
- Giving a lecture about chemical pollutants and food contaminants.
- Participating in Al Ain Municipality event and campaign against narcotics;
- Giving awareness lectures against smoking and the hazards linked to it at the Handicap Center;
- Participating in Al Ain Municipality event and campaign against obesity and diabetes;
- Participating in Tawam Hospital Breast Cancer awareness campaign;
- Participating in Al Ain Hospital safety week which involves an awareness campaign about drug abuse and drug safety;
- Visit of the Al Ain Private Center for Care and Rehabilitation of Special Needs;
- Organizing and celebrating the international day for older person in collaboration with Al Ain municipality town center;
- Free screening and measurement of body mass and examination of blood sugar level during the Government celebration of the International Day of Diabetes;
- Giving awareness lectures about the effect of Lack of vitamin D on bone and teeth.

Awareness Workshop Entitled "Drugs, a Deadly Disease"

https://www.aau.ac.ae/en/news/2023/awareness-workshop-entitled-%e2%80%9cdrugs-a-deadly-disease%e2%80%9d

An awareness workshop titled "Drugs, a Deadly Disease" was organized by the Deanship of Student Affairs at Al Ain University (Al Ain Campus) in collaboration with the Drug Enforcement Department. The workshop, presented by Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Salem Al Ameri, took place on the International Day against Drugs.

The workshop covered various aspects, including defining drugs and their detrimental effects on national security, society, and individuals. It also highlighted the main factors leading to addiction and stressed the significance of educating young people to prevent drug abuse. Additionally, the workshop emphasized the responsibility of every member of society, particularly the youth, to promote a culture of addiction prevention among their peers. The ultimate goal is to achieve a nation free from substance abuse and addiction.

Furthermore, Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed emphasized that preventing drug abuse is a collective duty, and he underscored the role of families in monitoring and guiding children from an early age.

Raising awareness of Addiction in cooperation with the "Drug Control"

https://www.aau.ac.ae/en/news/2022/raising-awareness-of-addiction-in-cooperation-with-the-%e2%80%9cdrug-control%e2%80%9d

Coinciding with the International Day against Drugs, the Deanship of Student Affairs at Al Ain University organized an awareness lecture in cooperation with Abu Dhabi Police - Directorate of Drug Control, presented by Colonel Mohammed Al Ameri,

The lecture gave a detailed explanation about drugs and the risks of addiction to individual health, family, and society.

Lecture entitled (Dialogues of awareness about the harm caused by smoking)

https://aau.ac.ae/en/news/2016/lecture-entitled-dialogues-of-awareness-about-the-harm-caused-by-smoking

Anxious to students' health and to spread awareness, the Deanship of Student Affairs organized a lecture entitled (Dialogues of awareness about the harm caused by smoking), which was organized in cooperation with College of Pharmacy in Al Ain University –Al Ain Campus. It was presented by Dr. Nadia Hussain, Assistant Professor in the College of Pharmacy. The lecture was attended by faculty and students from the College.

Dr. Nadia Hussain started with a brief about smoking, defined the meaning of Nicotine, what and how does it works, and its effects, she also, explained the reasons of why smokers are resort to such a bad habit.

She also defined the smoking triggers as: "The things that person do them daily and trigger them to smoke", and mentioned how to notice and stop the smoking triggers.

After that, the lecture was about the ugly facts on smoking, risks from smoking: the risks, percentage of smokers between male's vs females and the harmful, diseases that can be exposed to smoker, unlike the non-smokers.

The last part of the lecture was overshadowed by the tips of how to quit smoking successfully, such as, make a plan, adopt healthier lifestyle, and get support from family and friends.

Dr. Nadia Hussain summed up the lecture with the 10 health benefits if the smokers stop smoking, she added: “You can do it, because nothing in life is impossible”.

At last, Dr. Amal Youssef from the College of Pharmacy, honored Dr. Nadia Hussain for her efforts in presenting the lecture.

AAU organized an event on the occasion of Lungs Cancer Awareness Month

https://aau.ac.ae/en/news/2016/aau-organized-an-event-on-the-occasion-of-lungs-cancer-awareness-month/

Under the slogan “Together to reduce smoking”, the Deanship of student Affairs at Al Ain University in its Al Ain Campus, organized an awareness event on the occasion of Lungs Cancer Awareness Month, where Dr. Hazem Al Khaledi from quit smoking unit – Al Jahili Healthcare Center, hosted in collaboration with the deanship organizing the awareness campaign which included a free examination of Carbon dioxide ratio, clarify the right methods and ways that must be followed to quit smoking, smoking dangers and caused disease, in addition to the awareness brochures.

- **Campus Campaigns and Exhibits:**

The university, through its Health and Safety unit or Student Affairs, sets up **awareness booths and poster exhibitions** on campus during health campaigns. For instance, student clubs and the clinic have organized informational boards during anti-smoking campaigns, displaying facts about the dangers of smoking and available resources for help. AAU has also participated in broader community health campaigns (for example, events by Al Ain Municipality on anti-smoking or anti-drug themes), where students volunteer and spread

awarenesspharmacy.aau.ac.ae. Such campaigns not only educate the AAU community but also involve them in promoting public health messages beyond the campus.

An Educational and Health exhibition for Pharmacy Students at AAU

https://aau.ac.ae/en/news/2017/an-educational-and-health-exhibition-for-pharmacy-students-at-aau

The Deanship of Student Affairs at Al Ain University (Abu Dhabi Campus) organized “An Ambitious Pharmacist” exhibition, in cooperation with the College of Pharmacy and various medical organizes. The exhibition opened by Dr. Amer Qasem, AAU Vice President and in the presence of Deputy Deans and academic staff.

The exhibition included various booths designed by pharmacy students showing different medical topics, such as stroke, cancer, antibiotic resistance, depression, asthma, smoking, multiple sclerosis, and alternative medicine.

Different medical authorities have participated in the exhibition such as; Abbott Nutrition, Dr. Nutrition, Pharma plus Group, Quality Dent Medical Centre, Mezyad Medical Center, Mediclinic Airport Road Hospital and Medeor Hospital, where each one explained about their services, providing brochures, gifts, samples and free vouchers, as well as giving them the most important tips and instructions. The exhibition also included booths for entertainment competitions and photography.

At the end, the University honored the participating parties in recognition of their cooperation and efforts with the University.

"Science and Life" Science Fair at AAU

https://www.aau.ac.ae/en/news/2013/science-and-life-science-fair-at-aau

The AAU Deanship of Student Affairs, in collaboration with Ms. Seham Kora, Science and Life instructor, organized a science fair at Abu Dhabi campus. Prof. Abdelhafid Belarbi, AAU Vice President, along with a number of faculty, staff, and students attended the fair.

Ms. Kora explained that the fair aimed at making the "Science and Life" course more appealing and interesting by linking it with the societal issues and life through field trips and science fairs in which students participate.

Ms. Kora added that the "Science and Life" course includes chapters on the environment, contagious diseases, hereditary diseases, addiction, recycling, and energy. Students, under supervision from the instructor, conducted experiments directly related to the course content.

On his part, Prof. Abdelhafid Belarbi, AAU Vice President, expressed his admiration of the fair and encouraged this kind of student activities highlighting the significance of adopting a healthy lifestyle to prevent several diseases and underlining the importance of the conservation of the environment.

The participating students demonstrated the experiments and distributed leaflets and CDs illustrating healthy diets, the prevention of certain diseases such as autism, cancer, diabetes, thalassemia, and AIDS, and combating smoking and addiction with the hazards they pose to individuals and the community.

- **Workshops and Counseling for Quitting:**

In line with national efforts, AAU encourages smokers to quit by providing resources. The campus medical center and counseling services may offer **smoking cessation workshops or clinics**. During awareness events, students can get carbon monoxide tests, brochures on how to quit, and referrals to quit-smoking programs (like those run by the Ministry of Health). While specific programs at AAU aren't detailed publicly, the university's emphasis on well-being (as evidenced by its SDG3 health initiatives) suggests that any smoker seeking help could be directed to counseling or government cessation services.

Overall, AAU demonstrates a commitment to **smoking prevention through education**. By holding regular no-smoking campaigns, inviting healthcare experts for talks, and involving students in advocacy, the university creates a more health-conscious campus culture. These efforts complement the no-smoking policy by not just policing smoking, but also *persuading* and helping individuals to avoid tobacco use.

Quitting Smoking Clinic (Al Ain Campus)

https://www.aau.ac.ae/en/photos/view/193

REPORTING-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION

5. No-Tobacco World Day programme — 2024

‘SMOKING THREATENS OUR LIVES’

In the 2024 evidence year, AAU’s Deanship of Student Affairs collaborated with Al Jahili Health Center to deliver a dedicated No-Tobacco World Day programme combining specialist education, smoking-harm awareness, quitting guidance and free preventive health checks.

The awareness lecture was presented by Dr Hazem Al Khalidi, a family-medicine specialist at Al Jahili Health Center. It addressed the harms caused by smoking, the diseases associated with tobacco use, the effect of smoking on smokers and people around them, and methods for combating tobacco use and quitting successfully. The programme therefore reinforced the University’s formal smoking restriction with clinically informed prevention and cessation education.

Al Jahili Health Center also provided free blood-pressure, blood-sugar and cholesterol tests and comprehensive periodic examinations for a number of male and female employees. The combined lecture-and-screening format connected tobacco-risk education with wider cardiovascular and metabolic health awareness and involved both students and employees in the University’s wellbeing programme.

Public evidence: E09 AAU No-Tobacco World Day — official 2024 record • E10 AAU awareness lecture for No-Tobacco World Day — 2024 • E18 AAU Health Care Office — Deanship of Student Affairs

5.1 Institutional contribution of the 2024 programme

Programme dimension	**Documented delivery**
Policy reinforcement	A dedicated tobacco-awareness programme reiterates the University’s smoke-free expectations
Specialist expertise	A family-medicine specialist from Al Jahili Health Center delivered the core health education
Prevention education	Smoking harms, related diseases, second-hand effects and quitting methods were addressed
Free health services	Blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol checks, plus selected periodic examinations
Whole-community reach	The event combined student health education with services for male and female employees

ESTABLISHED TOBACCO-CONTROL PROGRAMME

6. Lectures, cessation activities and community outreach

AAU's 2024 programme forms part of an established pattern of tobacco-harm education. Public records show repeated activity delivered through the Deanship of Student Affairs, the College of Pharmacy, the Health Care Office and external health partners. These initiatives combine risk communication with practical quitting information, direct interaction with health professionals, health checks, brochures, exhibitions and student-led outreach.

6.1 Anti-smoking lecture and practical quitting guidance

The Deanship of Student Affairs and College of Pharmacy organised 'Dialogues of Awareness about the Harm Caused by Smoking' at the Al Ain campus. Dr Nadia Hussain, Assistant Professor in the College of Pharmacy, explained nicotine and its effects, smoking triggers, the health risks and diseases associated with tobacco use, and differences in prevalence. The session concluded with practical steps for quitting: preparing a plan, adopting a healthier lifestyle and obtaining support from family and friends, together with ten health benefits of stopping smoking.

Public evidence: E11 AAU lecture: Dialogues of Awareness about the Harm Caused by Smoking — 2016 • E12 AAU anti-smoking lecture — official PDF • E15 AAU College of Pharmacy community engagement

Exhibit 3. AAU anti-smoking education: 'How to Stop Smoking' and the health benefits of quitting.

6.2 Lung-health awareness and cessation support

Under the slogan 'Together to Reduce Smoking', AAU marked Lung Cancer Awareness Month with Dr Hazem Al Khaledi of the Quit Smoking Unit at Al Jahili Health Center. The campaign included free carbon-monoxide testing, explanation of appropriate methods for quitting, education on smoking-related diseases and distribution of awareness brochures. AAU's public 'Quitting Smoking Clinic' gallery provides a further institutional photographic record of cessation-oriented engagement and health checks at the Al Ain campus.

Public evidence: E13 AAU Lung Cancer Awareness Month: Together to Reduce Smoking — 2016 • E14 AAU Quitting Smoking Clinic — public photo record • E18 AAU Health Care Office — Deanship of Student Affairs

Exhibit 4. AAU's public photographic record of tobacco-cessation engagement and participant health checks.

6.3 Student-led and community-facing prevention

The 'Ambitious Pharmacist' exhibition placed smoking within a broader health-literacy programme designed by pharmacy students and supported by hospitals, medical centres, nutrition providers and pharmacy organisations. The 'Science and Life' fair connected academic learning with social issues and involved students in communicating the hazards of smoking and addiction. The College of Pharmacy has also extended smoking-harm education to secondary schools and community organisations, strengthening AAU's role in tobacco prevention beyond the campus boundary.

Public evidence: E15 AAU College of Pharmacy community engagement • E16 AAU Ambitious Pharmacist educational and health exhibition — 2017 • E17 AAU Science and Life science fair — 2013

PUBLIC-HEALTH ALIGNMENT

7. Alignment with UAE and international tobacco-control priorities

AAU's smoke-free buildings, health education and quitting-oriented activities operate within the United Arab Emirates' national tobacco-control framework. Federal Law No. 15 of 2009 and the UAE Government's public tobacco provisions establish restrictions intended to protect health in public and educational environments. The Ministry of Health and Prevention supports institutional implementation through its Guidelines for Tobacco-Free Workplaces and its Practical Guideline for Management of Tobacco Dependence.

AAU's institutional approach reflects these national priorities through three connected elements: environmental protection through smoke-free buildings and facilities; behavioural accountability through student disciplinary sanctions; and health promotion through specialist lectures, exhibitions, brochures, free checks and cessation information. The World Health Organization's UAE tobacco profile and national media coverage of current awareness and cessation campaigns provide broader public-health context for the University's continuing work.

Public evidence: E20 UAE Government portal — tobacco provisions • E21 UAE legislation — Federal Law No. 15 of 2009 on Tobacco Control • E22 UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention — Guidelines for Tobacco-Free Workplaces • E23 UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention — Practical Guideline for Management of Tobacco Dependence • E24 World Health Organization — Tobacco 2025: United Arab Emirates country profile • E25 Gulf News — UAE expands tobacco-awareness and cessation campaigns, 2025

7.1 Institutional conclusion

> **AAU HAS A CURRENT, PUBLISHED AND ENFORCEABLE SMOKE-FREE POLICY**
>
> AAU meets the partial smoke-free campus category: smoking is prohibited in all university buildings and in the expressly named academic, administrative, service, safety, sports and recreation spaces, while smoking is permitted outdoors. The policy is publicly documented, supported by substantial student sanctions and reinforced through a documented 2024 programme and an established record of tobacco-harm education, awareness displays, screening and quitting support.

The evidence demonstrates that AAU treats tobacco control as a whole-institution health and wellbeing responsibility. Formal policy establishes the rule; disciplinary procedures establish accountability; public handbooks and web records establish transparency; and recurring educational and clinical partnerships build the knowledge and practical support needed to prevent tobacco use and encourage cessation.

Public evidence: E02 AAU public SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack • E03 AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024 • E04 AAU Faculty Handbook 2023–2024 • E05 AAU Student Handbook 2025–2026 • E06 AAU Faculty Handbook 2025–2026 • E09 AAU No-Tobacco World Day — official 2024 record • E13 AAU Lung Cancer Awareness Month: Together to Reduce Smoking — 2016 • E15 AAU College of Pharmacy community engagement

PUBLIC EVIDENCE

8. Evidence register

The following public sources support the policy, campus scope, disciplinary consequences, reporting-year activity, continuing tobacco-control programme and national public-health alignment presented in this submission.

ID	Type/year	Evidence contribution	Public source
E01	THE 2026	Indicator definition, scoring categories and 2024 evidence year	THE Sustainability Impact Ratings Methodology 2026
E02	AAU current	Public institutional SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack	AAU public SDG 3.3.6 evidence pack
E03	AAU 2023–24	Student smoking policy, indoor/outdoor scope and penalties	AAU Student Handbook 2023–2024
E04	AAU 2023–24	Faculty-facing no-smoking policy and full location list	AAU Faculty Handbook 2023–2024
E05	AAU 2025–26	Current public Student Handbook	AAU Student Handbook 2025–2026
E06	AAU 2025–26	Current public Faculty Handbook	AAU Faculty Handbook 2025–2026
E07	AAU policies	Compiled public student-policy framework	AAU Students Policies — compiled public document
E08	AAU policies	Compiled public university-policy framework	AAU University Policies — compiled public document
E09	AAU 2024	No-Tobacco World Day programme and free health checks	AAU No-Tobacco World Day — official 2024 record
E10	AAU 2024	Public event page for the No-Tobacco World Day lecture	AAU awareness lecture for No-Tobacco World Day — 2024
E11	AAU 2016	Anti-smoking lecture, risks, triggers and quitting guidance	AAU lecture: Dialogues of Awareness about the Harm Caused by Smoking — 2016
E12	AAU record	Downloadable official record of the anti-smoking lecture	AAU anti-smoking lecture — official PDF
E13	AAU 2016	Lung-health campaign, carbon-monoxide test, brochures and quitting methods	AAU Lung Cancer Awareness Month: Together to Reduce Smoking — 2016

PUBLIC EVIDENCE CONTINUED

8.1 Programme, service and national evidence

ID	Type/year	Evidence contribution	Public source
E14	AAU gallery	Quitting Smoking Clinic public photo record	AAU Quitting Smoking Clinic — public photo record
E15	AAU standing	College of Pharmacy anti-smoking community engagement	AAU College of Pharmacy community engagement
E16	AAU 2017	Smoking booth within student health exhibition	AAU Ambitious Pharmacist educational and health exhibition — 2017
E17	AAU 2013	Student materials on smoking and addiction hazards	AAU Science and Life science fair — 2013
E18	AAU service	Health Care Office and preventive-health route	AAU Health Care Office — Deanship of Student Affairs
E19	AAU service	Institutional Health and Safety Unit	AAU Health and Safety Unit
E20	UAE official	Government tobacco provisions	UAE Government portal — tobacco provisions
E21	UAE law	Federal tobacco-control legislation	UAE legislation — Federal Law No. 15 of 2009 on Tobacco Control
E22	MOHAP guide	Guidelines for tobacco-free workplaces	UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention — Guidelines for Tobacco-Free Workplaces
E23	MOHAP guide	Guidance on management of tobacco dependence	UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention — Practical Guideline for Management of Tobacco Dependence
E24	WHO 2025	United Arab Emirates tobacco country profile	World Health Organization — Tobacco 2025: United Arab Emirates country profile
E25	Media 2025	Independent national context on awareness and cessation campaigns	Gulf News — UAE expands tobacco-awareness and cessation campaigns, 2025