SDG 17

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

THE IMPACT RANKINGS EVIDENCE REPORT

Indicator 17.4.3

EDUCATION FOR SDGS IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

University of Bahrain

2024-2025

Executive summary

The University of Bahrain (UoB) demonstrates a strong institutional commitment to Education for Sustainable Development beyond campus, fully addressing THE Impact Rankings Indicator 17.4.3. Through structured outreach programs, strategic partnerships, and innovative learning platforms, UoB extends SDG-focused education to alumni, local residents, schools, professionals, and vulnerable groups, fostering inclusive and lifelong learning opportunities.

Key Achievements

- **Wider Community Health & Public Awareness:** Delivering specialized public health training with the Bahrain Red Crescent Society, public breast cancer awareness campaigns with the WHO at Seef Mall, and school-level educational outreach across Bahrain.
- **Advanced Digital Skills & Open Training:** Providing free AI, data science, and high-performance computing education through the BENEFIT Advanced AI & Computing Lab, reaching government ministries, educators, researchers, and national startups.
- **Lifelong Learning & Professional Upskilling:** Expanding access to flexible education through comprehensive micro-credentialing frameworks, the UoB-Coursera global partnership (reaching over 1,000 unique learners), and specialized professional development programs with partners like Advance HE.

Impact Highlights

- **Extensive Digital & Professional Reach:** Over 2,434 course completions recorded through the Coursera partnership and hundreds of external professionals and civil servants trained via the BENEFIT AI Lab and technical workshops.
- **Inclusive Intergenerational & Disability Outreach:** Conducting elderly care educational visits, inclusive sports festivals for people of determination in partnership with the Paralympic Committee, and specialized health-aging seminars.
- **Sustainability Literacy in Schools:** Direct engagement with school students through interactive lectures on SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and environmental protection workshops delivered by the UoB Legal Clinic.

Together, these documented initiatives provide robust evidence that the University of Bahrain actively delivers dedicated outreach educational activities for the wider community, fully satisfying all criteria for Indicator 17.4.3.

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1. Building Community Health Capacity through Bahrain Red Crescent Volunteer Training

In July , 2025, the University of Bahrain collaborated with the Bahrain Red Crescent Society to deliver a specialized health-education workshop for Red Crescent volunteers at the Society's headquarters. Led by UOB academics, the training extended the University's health education beyond campus to members of the wider community who support public health and emergency-response activities.





The workshop provided hands-on community health education in essential primary-care skills. Volunteers learned how to accurately measure blood pressure and blood glucose and practiced communicating health information clearly, including how to advise individuals when readings are above or below healthy ranges. The activity combined practical screening competencies with health communication, enabling participants to apply what they learned directly in community settings.

Importantly, the educational activity was designed to have an impact beyond the immediate participants. The training prepared volunteers to support future diabetes and hypertension screening and awareness campaigns and equipped volunteers with knowledge and skills that could also be used with their families and the wider community. In this way, UOB strengthened the capacity of community volunteers to become multipliers of preventive health knowledge and practice.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) by providing a dedicated educational outreach activity for community volunteers outside the University, transferring evidence-based health knowledge and practical skills that can be applied in community screening, health awareness, and preventive care.

Supporting evidence

- Bahrain Red Crescent Society: Volunteer Health Capacity Building
- Supporting social media evidence

2. Breast Cancer Education for School Students across Bahrain

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the University of Bahrain's Nursing Department delivered the "Together for Support and Hope" breast cancer awareness campaign to public and private high schools across Bahrain, extending the University's health expertise beyond campus through dedicated community education and outreach.





UOB nursing faculty and students provided school students with accessible, evidence-informed education on breast cancer prevention, early detection, risk factors, symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment. The outreach combined educational presentations with hands-on demonstrations of breast self-examination using clinical models, enabling students to develop both knowledge and practical awareness related to early detection.

The program also provided educational materials on early detection and risk reduction and incorporated approaches to managing anxiety around breast health. Beyond clinical information, the campaign encouraged solidarity and social support for people affected by breast cancer, strengthening health literacy and community awareness among young people.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) by providing dedicated educational outreach for school students outside the University, combining preventive-health education, practical demonstrations, educational resources, and community awareness. It directly supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through breast cancer awareness, prevention, early detection, and improved health literacy.





Evidence sources

- University of Bahrain: Breast Cancer Awareness Outreach
- Supporting UOB evidence 1
- Supporting UOB evidence 2

3. Community Health Education Embedded in UOB Health-Professions Curricula

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the University of Bahrain's College of Health and Sport Sciences integrated community health education and SDG-related outreach into its academic programs, enabling students to deliver health education beyond the University through clinical placements in primary healthcare centers, hospitals, maternity services, and social care settings.





Through Family and Community Health Nursing, students participated in national and community awareness activities addressing breast cancer, mental health, patient safety, men's health, nutrition, antimicrobial resistance, disability inclusion, and diabetes. Students also delivered health education on breastfeeding, immunization, maternal and child nutrition, antenatal care, early screening, childhood health, and chronic disease prevention and management, including activities for women attending primary healthcare centers.





Community education extended across different population groups. Students delivered dedicated sessions for older adults in social welfare and day-care centers covering preventive care, healthy nutrition, first aid, age-related health changes, and healthy lifestyles. Midwifery students assessed the educational needs of expectant mothers and provided individual and group education on antenatal

care, nutrition, hygiene, exercise, pregnancy danger signs, birth preparedness, immunization, and emotional well-being using accessible educational tools such as posters, models, videos, and case scenarios.

Through Pediatric Nursing, students provided educational classes for mothers in pediatric wards covering breastfeeding, complementary feeding, childhood accident prevention, and management of common childhood conditions including diarrhea, respiratory infections, and asthma. These activities strengthened health literacy and enabled families to make more informed decisions about maternal and child health.



Figure 1 Family and Community Health Nursing students during their primary health care placements: Pink October breast cancer awareness stations for women visitors, including at Sitra Health Centre, and health education on anaemia and breastfeeding



Figure 2 Supporting child health services: giving an oral vaccine to an infant, preparing a young child for immunisation, and measuring an infant's head circumference during a growth check

The curriculum also addressed inclusive and culturally responsive healthcare through the Transcultural Nursing course. Students examined the health beliefs and practices of Bahrain's diverse immigrant communities and shared culturally appropriate healthcare approaches with health professionals through the annual Transcultural Care Exhibition. The activity addressed cultural and communication barriers that can affect access to healthcare among migrant, refugee, and other disadvantaged communities.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) by embedding dedicated community outreach education within health-professions curricula and delivering practical health education to local residents, mothers, older adults, patients, health professionals, migrant communities, and refugees. It directly supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through disease prevention, health literacy, maternal and child health, early screening, and chronic-disease prevention, while also contributing to SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through culturally responsive education that addresses barriers experienced by diverse and disadvantaged communities.

Evidence Resources:

- Nursing Students Promote Culturally Congruent Care for Immigrant Communities at Transcultural Care Exhibition https://www.uob.edu.bh/nursing-students-promote-culturally-congruent-care-for-immigrant-and-refugee-communities-at-transcultural-care-exhibition/
- Nursing Students Held Health Education Classes for Mothers on Paediatric Wards https://www.uob.edu.bh/nursing-students-held-health-education-classes-for-mothers-on-paediatric-wards/
- Midwifery Students Empowered Expectant Mothers Through Antenatal Care Sessions https://www.uob.edu.bh/midwifery-students-empowered-expectant-mothers-through-antenatal-care-sessions/
- Nursing Students Promoted Healthy Ageing Through Health Education Sessions at Elderly Care Centers https://www.uob.edu.bh/nursing-students-promoted-healthy-ageing-through-health-education-sessions-at-elderly-care-centers/

4. Nutrition Education and Healthy Eating Awareness with the Ministry of Health

On November, 2025, the University of Bahrain's Health and Sport Sciences College Society collaborated with the Nutrition Department of the Ministry of Health to deliver a World Food Day educational initiative under the theme "Eat Consciously, Live Balanced." The activity promoted nutrition education, mindful eating, healthy lifestyles, and prevention of diet-related noncommunicable diseases.



Through interactive educational booths, participants received practical guidance on food groups, balanced portions, healthy food choices, food-label reading, calorie awareness, and unhealthy eating habits. Ministry of Health specialists and nutrition students provided scientific advice and practical demonstrations, helping participants understand how everyday dietary choices affect physical and mental well-being.



The educational activity also addressed the relationship between nutrition and the prevention of diabetes, obesity, and high blood pressure, emphasizing balanced diets, healthy cooking practices, and the importance of combining nutritious eating with regular physical activity. By involving Ministry of Health specialists alongside university students, the initiative connected academic learning with practical, evidence-based public-health education.



This initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) through a dedicated health-education activity that disseminated practical knowledge on sustainable nutrition, healthy lifestyles, food choices, and chronic-disease prevention. It directly contributes to SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) by promoting healthier dietary behaviors and noncommunicable-disease prevention and also connects to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) through World Food Day's focus on nutrition and food security.

Evidence Sources

- University of Bahrain: "Eat Consciously, Live Balanced" for World Food Day
- Supporting UOB social media evidence
- Supporting UOB video evidence

5. Healthy Eating Education for Future Teachers in Collaboration with the Ministry of Health



During the 2024–2025 academic year, the University of Bahrain's Community Service and Continuing Education Center and Bahrain Teachers College collaborated with Bahrain's Ministry of Health to deliver the educational lecture *"Healthy Eating Habits."* The activity provided fourth-year student teachers with practical health and nutrition knowledge that can be applied in their future work with children and school communities.



Delivered by a Ministry of Health health-promotion specialist, the session addressed children's eating behaviors, balanced nutrition, healthy food choices, and the importance of establishing healthy eating habits during early childhood. The activity strengthened participants' understanding of how nutrition influences child health and how educators can contribute to developing healthier behaviors from an early age.

The initiative is particularly relevant to wider-community education because it uses a train-the-future-educator approach. By educating student teachers who will subsequently work with children and families in school settings, the University strengthens the capacity of future education professionals to communicate evidence-based health and nutrition knowledge within the wider community.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) through dedicated health and nutrition education designed to strengthen future teachers' capacity to promote healthier behaviors among children and school communities. It directly supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through nutrition education and prevention of diet-related health problems and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by strengthening the health-education competencies of future teachers.

Evidence Sources

- University of Bahrain: Healthy Eating Habits Lecture

- Supporting UOB social media evidence

6. Drug Prevention and Health Awareness in Collaboration with the Ministry of Interior

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the University of Bahrain collaborated with the Criminal Media Division of the General Directorate of Criminal Detection and Forensic Science, Ministry of Interior, to deliver the "Together Towards a Drug-Free Society" awareness initiative as part of national efforts to protect young people from narcotic and psychoactive substances.





The educational program combined health, social, legal, and preventive perspectives on drug misuse. Specialists from the General Directorate explained different types of narcotic and psychoactive substances and national efforts to combat drug-related harms. UOB academic expertise addressed the social and ethical dimensions of prevention, while a consultant psychiatrist and Head of the Addiction Treatment Unit at the Psychiatric Hospital explained available healthcare and addiction-recovery services.

The educational activity was complemented by an awareness exhibition and student competitions, providing multiple formats for participants to engage with information on drug prevention, addiction risks, treatment, recovery, and responsible health behaviors.

This evidence contributes directly to SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) where participation included members of the wider community beyond enrolled UOB students.

Evidence Sources

- University of Bahrain: Together Towards a Drug-Free Society
- https://www.policemc.gov.bh/66940/

7. Public Breast Cancer Education with WHO at Seef Mall

During the academic year 2024-2025, the University of Bahrain collaborated with the WHO Country Office in Bahrain to deliver a public breast cancer awareness event at Seef Mall, extending university health education directly to the wider community during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.





Physical Education team

The public event featured nine interactive educational stations addressing breast cancer prevention and awareness. UOB students provided visitors with accessible health education on breast cancer risk factors, symptoms, treatment, and the importance of early detection. At the WHO station, community members engaged with the WHO Global Breast Cancer Initiative through a QR code and participated in an awareness activity promoting solidarity with people affected by breast cancer.

The University's Physical Education team further connected breast health with physical and mental well-being through light exercise activities, a digital awareness quiz, educational presentations, and supporting awareness materials. By combining expert health information with interactive and student-led learning activities, the event provided community members with practical and accessible preventive-health education.

The initiative demonstrates dedicated community outreach education outside the University campus, delivered in a publicly accessible setting and in collaboration with an international health organization. It directly supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through breast cancer awareness, prevention, early detection, health literacy, and promotion of physical and mental well-being.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) by providing publicly accessible SDG-related health education, interactive community learning, preventive-health information, and educational resources to the wider community.

Evidence Sources

- University of Bahrain: Public Breast Cancer Awareness Event
- Supporting UOB evidence 1

- Supporting UOB evidence 2

8. Free AI and High-Performance Computing Education for Government, Educators, Researchers, and the Wider Community



The BENEFIT Advanced AI & Computing Lab operates as a national educational and technical resource through which the University of Bahrain provides free AI, high-performance computing, data science, and technical education beyond its enrolled student population. Throughout 2024–2025, all Lab services were provided 100% free of charge to eligible beneficiaries, including government ministries, public-school teachers, external researchers, national startups, and the wider research and innovation community.

The Lab's wider-community training portfolio includes technical education in Linux, Python, data science, high-performance computing, neural networks and deep learning, GPU/CUDA programming, machine learning, and cybersecurity. The portfolio records 500+ individuals directly trained and certified across training programs, postgraduate research-enablement workshops, and government-focused capacity-building activities.



Figure 1: Official BENEFIT Advanced AI & Computing Lab web portal (https://ailab.uob.edu.bh) featuring account registration, events, and publications.

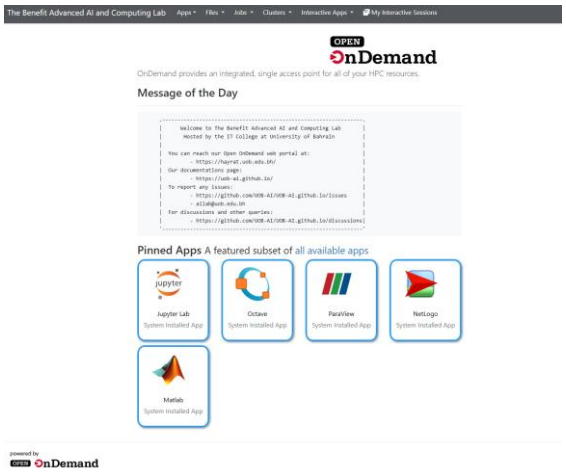


Figure 2: Open OnDemand interactive supercomputing web portal (https://hayrat.uob.edu.bh) showing active multi-node JupyterLab sessions.

External beneficiaries included staff and educators from Bahrain's Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labor, and National Cyber Security Centre. Ministry of Education teachers and specialists received practical AI and data-science training, while National Cyber Security Centre personnel received training in AI, high-performance computing, and applied analytics. Ministry of Labor engagement included hands-on knowledge transfer enabling ministry staff to host, manage, and operate an AI-based legal assistant.

The Lab also provides open-access educational resources to the wider community. Its public technical documentation platform contains step-by-step guidance on SSH access, Slurm job scripting, Python and Conda environments, MPI, RAPIDS, OpenFOAM, Gaussian 16, and Quantum ESPRESSO. Public AI-awareness lectures, technical consultations, Open Days, and free documentation extend learning opportunities to high-school students, entrepreneurs, external academics, and members of the wider research community.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) through dedicated external educational activities, free technical training, capacity building, open-access learning resources, professional upskilling, and public knowledge dissemination. It contributes directly to SDG 4 (Quality Education) by expanding access to advanced digital skills and lifelong learning and to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) by developing AI and high-performance computing capabilities across government, education, research, and innovation communities.

Supporting evidence:

- **https://ailab.uob.edu.bh/**
- **https://www.uob.edu.bh/university-of-bahrain-and-benefit-advance-ai-research-government-collaboration-and-national-capacity-building/**

9. Environmental and Climate Education for School Students across Bahrain



In December 2024, the University of Bahrain, through the Legal and Human Rights Clinic at the College of Law, delivered a series of environmental-awareness workshops for students in public and private schools across Bahrain, in coordination with the Ministry of Education. The workshops reached approximately 250 school students, extending sustainability education beyond the University campus to the wider community.

UOB law students provided education on environmental legislation, climate change, environmental protection, and the sustainable use and preservation of natural resources. Participants were introduced to Bahrain's national environmental legislation and to coordinated national efforts involving public institutions, private entities, and civil society to safeguard a clean and safe environment for current and future generations.

The workshops integrated academic legal knowledge with community education, enabling UOB students to communicate environmental law and sustainability concepts directly to younger learners. The initiative also strengthened students' understanding of environmental responsibility, resource conservation, and the importance of protecting the environment for future generations.

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) through dedicated sustainability education for school students outside the University, delivered in coordination with a national government education authority. It contributes directly to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through climate-change awareness, SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through sustainable resource use, SDG 15 (Life on Land) through environmental protection, and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) through education on environmental legislation and institutional responsibility.

Evidence Source: UOB Law Students Raise Environmental Awareness Through School Workshops

10. Health Education and Healthy Aging Outreach for Older Adults

In October 2024, the University of Bahrain, through the College of Health and Sport Sciences, collaborated with the Capital Governorate during *"Age-Friendly Capital" Day* at Sitra Mall, extending health education and preventive-health services directly to older adults and members of the wider community.

UOB students provided blood-pressure and blood-glucose screening alongside practical health education on healthy lifestyle behaviors. Participants also engaged in physical and therapeutic exercises addressing mobility challenges, joint pain, and other health concerns associated with aging.

The initiative addressed both physical and psychosocial well-being. Specialized consultations covered mental health, adaptation to age-related changes, and self-confidence, while awareness activities highlighted healthcare access, social inclusion, age-based discrimination, and the rights and contributions of older people within society.

By combining health screening with practical education and consultations in a public community setting, the initiative increased access to reliable information on healthy aging, preventive care, physical activity, mental well-being, and social inclusion for older residents and their families.





Students with older visitors

This initiative advances SDG 17.4.3 (Education for the SDGs in the Wider Community) through dedicated educational outreach to older adults and local residents, providing practical health knowledge, wellness guidance, preventive screening, and awareness of healthy aging and inclusion. It directly supports SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) through preventive healthcare and healthy aging and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) through awareness of age discrimination, inclusion, and the rights and participation of older people.

Evidence Source: University of Bahrain Participates in "Age-Friendly Capital" Day

11. University of Bahrain and Government Hospitals Deliver Community Stroke Education through the "Be Fast" Campaign

In May 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), through the College of Health and Sports Sciences, collaborated with Government Hospitals to deliver the "Be Fast" Stroke Awareness Campaign at the University's Sakhir campus. The initiative provided accessible health education on stroke causes, types, risk factors, warning signs, prevention, and treatment options available through government hospitals. Nurses from Government Hospitals and UOB nursing students also addressed common misconceptions about stroke.



The campaign combined lectures with practical and educational activities, including rehabilitation exercise demonstrations, displays illustrating stroke-related brain damage and disabilities, distribution of health awareness materials, and free blood sugar and blood pressure screenings. These activities provided participants with practical knowledge supporting stroke prevention, early recognition, treatment awareness, and rehabilitation.

Through collaboration between the University of Bahrain and Government Hospitals, the initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 by extending health and sustainability-related education to the wider community and promoting knowledge sharing on the prevention and management of a major public-health issue. The activity also demonstrates how higher education and public healthcare institutions can work together to strengthen community health awareness and well-being.

University of Bahrain Hosts Stroke Awareness Campaign

Evidence Source: University of Bahrain Hosts Stroke Awareness Campaign

12. University of Bahrain and Government Hospitals Promote Multiple Sclerosis Awareness and Education



On 27 April 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), in collaboration with the Department of Neurosciences at the Centers of Excellence and the Training and Development Department of Government Hospitals, organized an awareness and educational event on multiple sclerosis at the Sakhir campus.

The initiative brought together healthcare specialists, University representatives, students, individuals living with multiple sclerosis, and community participants to raise awareness of the condition, its causes, symptoms, and available treatments. The program combined scientific lectures, a documentary presentation, interactive competitions, an awareness exhibition, and educational activities, making specialist health knowledge accessible to a broader audience.

A particularly important educational component involved UOB students living with multiple sclerosis sharing their personal experiences. Their perspectives complemented the scientific and clinical information by providing first-hand insight into the personal and social challenges associated with the condition. This combination of professional healthcare knowledge and lived experience encouraged dialogue and learning among healthcare professionals, students, individuals affected by multiple sclerosis, and community participants.

Through collaboration between the University of Bahrain and Government Hospitals, the initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 by extending health education beyond formal academic settings and providing accessible outreach education on neurological health, treatment, and available support. By combining scientific knowledge, healthcare expertise, lived experience, and community engagement, the activity demonstrates the University's contribution to community learning and health awareness through knowledge sharing with public healthcare partners.

Source: University of Bahrain: Nursing Department Educates Students on Multiple Sclerosis

13. University of Bahrain and Arabian Gulf University Promote Obesity Prevention and Healthy Living



In May 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), through the College of Health and Sports Sciences, collaborated with Arabian Gulf University to deliver an awareness campaign addressing obesity and healthy living among schools and universities in Bahrain.

The initiative combined health education with practical preventive-health services to raise awareness of weight management, healthy lifestyles, and obesity-related health risks. As part of the campaign, students conducted free blood sugar and blood pressure screenings and provided participants with personalized counseling on weight management and healthy living. This approach connected health screening with individualized educational guidance, enabling participants to better understand their health indicators and the healthy practices they could adopt.

By combining student-led health screening, personalized counseling, preventive-health education, and inter-university collaboration, the campaign provided practical learning opportunities beyond formal academic settings. Through collaboration between the University of Bahrain and Arabian Gulf University, the initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 by extending health education to the wider educational community and providing accessible outreach on obesity prevention, weight management, and healthy living.

Source: University of Bahrain: Weight Loss Awareness Campaign at UOB

14. University of Bahrain and Economy of Inspiration Association Promote Education on Healthy and Inclusive Aging



In October, 2024, the University of Bahrain (UOB) participated in the public online dialogue seminar "Adapting to the Autumn of Life," organized in collaboration with the Economy of Inspiration Association in celebration of World Elderly Day. The seminar brought together academics, healthcare professionals, community representatives, and specialists to discuss aging from social, psychological, and health perspectives.

The seminar was moderated by Dr. Dunya Ahmed of UOB's Department of Social Sciences, President of the Economy of Inspiration Association, and included contributions from Dr. Adel Al-Awfi, consultant in geriatric psychiatry, and Dr. Ahlam Al-Qasimi, Head of UOB's Department of Social Sciences. Dr. Al-Qasimi's participation also reflects UOB academics' wider engagement in community service, including the sharing of academic expertise through free public lectures and educational activities delivered in cooperation with NGOs, community associations, and government entities.

Through multidisciplinary dialogue, participants explored the social, psychological, and health dimensions of aging and approaches to supporting older people's well-being and social inclusion. By bringing together university expertise, healthcare professionals, and community organizations, the initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 through accessible outreach education and knowledge sharing beyond formal university teaching.

Evidence Source: University of Bahrain: University of Bahrain Participates in Dialogue Seminar on World Elderly Day

15. University of Bahrain Promotes Learning and Community Engagement through Elderly Care Outreach



In December 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), through the Community Service and Continuing Education Center and in cooperation with Bahrain Teachers College, organized a student visit to Al Manar Home for Elderly Care as part of its community engagement and social responsibility activities.

During the visit, students gained first-hand knowledge of the social, healthcare, and welfare services provided to senior citizens, including the Home's daily care programs and working mechanisms. This direct engagement provided students with an opportunity to understand how elderly care and support services operate in practice and the social and health needs of older people.

Students also organized cultural and recreational activities for elderly residents, creating opportunities for intergenerational interaction and strengthening values of volunteering, respect, social responsibility, and appreciation for older people.

The initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 by extending learning beyond the formal classroom through experiential and community-based education. By connecting students directly with elderly-care services and older members of the community, UOB promoted practical understanding of healthy aging, social welfare, inclusion, and community responsibility while strengthening engagement between the University and the wider community.

Evidence: University of Bahrain: UOB Organizes Student Visit to Dar Al Manar for Parents Care

16. University of Bahrain Builds Training Capacity among Customs Officials



In September 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), through the Continuing Education and Community Development Department and the Unit for Teaching Excellence and Leadership, collaborated with the Ministry of Interior to deliver a specialized professional development workshop for customs officials.

The program was designed to prepare participants to become effective trainers within their organizations, extending University expertise to the public sector. Training covered adult-learning principles, professional training methodologies, instructional design, public speaking, group management, and techniques for evaluating training effectiveness. The workshop was delivered by academic specialists from UOB's Unit for Teaching Excellence and Leadership, College of Engineering, and College of Business Administration.

The program provided customs officials with practical skills to design, deliver, and evaluate professional learning activities using contemporary and engaging teaching approaches. Its train-the-trainer model is particularly significant because participants can apply and disseminate the knowledge gained within their own professional environment, extending the reach of UOB-led learning beyond the original group of participants.

Through this collaboration with the Ministry of Interior, the initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 by providing lifelong learning, professional education, and capacity-building opportunities beyond the University's enrolled student population. It demonstrates UOB's use of academic expertise to strengthen professional skills within the public sector and enable wider knowledge sharing through a sustainable train-the-trainer approach.

Source: University of Bahrain: University of Bahrain Trains Customs Officials in Training Skills

17. UTEL Symposium 2025 Advances Sustainable and Innovative Higher-Education Practices



In September 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), through its Unit for Teaching Excellence and Leadership (UTEL), hosted the Symposium on Pedagogical Innovations for Sustaining Excellence in Higher Education, creating a professional learning platform for educators, researchers, and professionals to exchange research-informed teaching practices, innovative pedagogies, and approaches to sustainable higher education. The symposium was designed to strengthen teaching and leadership skills, encourage continuous professional development, and promote collaboration and knowledge sharing across the higher-education sector.



The program addressed student engagement, inclusive teaching, innovative assessment, artificial intelligence and educational technology, experiential learning, and sustainable education. It also showcased sustainable teaching initiatives integrating environmental, social, and economic sustainability into higher education, providing educators with practical approaches that could inform their own teaching practice.

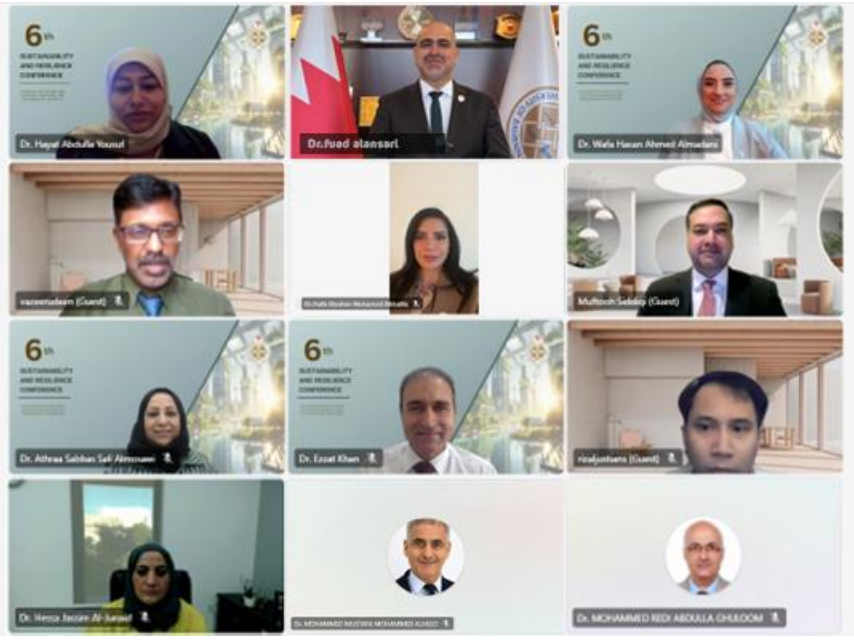
The symposium extended knowledge exchange beyond UOB through contributions from higher-education and professional specialists. James Dunphy, Director of Educational Excellence at Advance HE in the UK, delivered a keynote drawing on Advance HE's global work and offering future-focused approaches to enhancing teaching and learning. The program also included contributors associated with the University of Birmingham Dubai, Dhofar University, General Assembly Bahrain, and Skills Bahrain, alongside UOB faculty and students.

The initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 by providing continuing professional learning and knowledge exchange for educators and practitioners, extending educational opportunities beyond conventional degree-based teaching. Through the dissemination of innovative, inclusive, technology-enabled, and sustainability-focused pedagogical practices, UOB provided a platform through which educators could access practical strategies and share approaches for improving teaching and learning across the wider higher-education community.

Evidence:

- UTEL Symposium 2025 website
- Symposium_Booklet_2025_V2
- https://www.uob.edu.bh/uob-organizes-symposium-on-pedagogical-innovations-for-sustaining-excellence-in-higher-education/

18. Sustainability Education and Knowledge Exchange through the 6th Sustainability and Resilience Conference



During the academic year 2024-2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB) hosted the 6th Sustainability and Resilience Conference (SRC'24) under the theme *"Integration of Nature-Based Solutions in Industrial and Developmental Transitions."* The conference provided an educational and knowledge-sharing platform through which international experts, academics, practitioners, University faculty, postgraduate students, and researchers could engage with contemporary sustainability challenges and solutions.

The program extended sustainability learning across seven areas, including green energy, circular economy, water-resource management and conservation, climate-change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable policy and financing, and technological innovation. Through expert engagement and research-based discussion, participants were exposed to practical and interdisciplinary approaches to sustainable development and resilience.

The educational value of the conference was reinforced through its published research proceedings, which disseminated applied sustainability research beyond the event itself. Topics included green roofs and climate-responsive urban development, sustainable smart cities, renewable energy, environmental monitoring, circular use of waste, clean technologies, carbon-footprint reduction, and sustainable consumer behavior. The proceedings therefore provided an

additional publicly accessible resource for continued learning and knowledge sharing on sustainability challenges and potential solutions.

Through this combination of expert-led learning, interdisciplinary research dissemination, practitioner engagement, and publicly available sustainability knowledge, SRC'24 supports SDG 17.4.3 by extending education on the SDGs beyond formal classroom teaching. The initiative provided opportunities for learners and the wider academic and professional community to engage with practical approaches relevant to SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 15, strengthening continuing education and broader sustainability literacy.

Evidence Sources:

- **6th Sustainability and Resilience Conference Discusses Innovative Strategies & Solutions**
- **SRC'24 Conference Proceedings [srcdi.uob.edu.bh]**
- **Conference website: srcdi.uob.edu.bh**

19. University of Bahrain–Coursera Partnership: Ongoing Professional and Lifelong Learning

During the 2024–2025 academic year, the University of Bahrain (UOB) continued its partnership with Coursera as part of its commitment to lifelong learning, professional development, digital skills development, and flexible education beyond conventional degree programs. Led through UOB's E-Learning Center, the initiative provides learning opportunities for students, graduates, faculty, administrative staff, and academics in leadership roles.

The partnership provides access to more than 8,000 online courses from leading international universities and institutions, including Imperial College London, Yale University, Johns Hopkins University, and INSEAD, alongside global technology and industry organizations such as IBM, Microsoft, Google, AWS, and Meta. Courses are available remotely in multiple languages, including Arabic and English, enabling flexible access to professional and skills-based learning across a wide range of disciplines.

Importantly, the initiative demonstrated substantial engagement during the 2024–2025 academic year, reaching:

- 1,037 unique learners
- 2,434 course completions

These results demonstrate active and sustained use of the learning platform, with learners completing an average of approximately 2.35 courses per participant during the reporting period.

The initiative provides access to professional certificates, guided projects, and virtual laboratory-based learning, enabling participants to develop practical and job-relevant competencies alongside theoretical knowledge. Learning opportunities address rapidly developing specializations and labor-market needs, supporting upskilling, reskilling, professional development, employability, and workforce readiness.

The partnership also supports professional capacity-building within the University through specialized learning in areas such as risk management, business continuity, financial planning, resource allocation, compliance, and auditing, while its broader digital-learning model connects learners with internationally developed educational content and professional practices.

Through 1,037 learners and 2,434 completed courses in 2024–2025, the continuing UOB–Coursera partnership provides clear evidence of education extending beyond conventional classroom delivery. The initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 through accessible professional and lifelong-learning opportunities, international knowledge access, job-relevant skills development, and digital capacity-building. It contributes particularly to SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) by supporting continuous learning, professional capability, and workforce development.

Evidence Source: **UOB Launches an Electronic Professional Development Project in Cooperation with a Global Training Platform**

20. Applied Digital Learning and Innovation through the UOB–AWS Ecosystem



During the 2024–2025 academic year, the University of Bahrain continued to provide applied digital-learning opportunities through the AWS Lab and University of Bahrain Cloud Innovation Center, powered by AWS and sponsored by Tamkeen. The initiative connects university learning with contemporary cloud technologies, innovation methodologies, professional expertise, and real-world problem-solving.

Students gained opportunities to apply knowledge across artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, cloud technologies, blockchain, Internet of Things, data-driven solutions, and other emerging

technologies, connecting theoretical education with practical technological applications and contemporary professional practice.

The scale of this applied-learning approach was demonstrated at the College of Information Technology's graduation projects exhibition on 15 June 2025, where approximately 109 projects were presented by fourth-year students in Information Systems, Computer Engineering, and Computer Science. Students developed solutions addressing areas including cybersecurity, digital forensics, encryption, intrusion detection, biometrics, AI, blockchain, IoT, mobile applications, gaming, and entrepreneurship, including ICT solutions developed through the AWS Lab at UOB. Projects were evaluated by academic and industry experts, exposing students to professional perspectives and feedback.

Through the broader CIC model, academic knowledge is further connected with real-world challenges and technological expertise, enabling learners to understand how digital technologies and innovation approaches can be applied beyond the classroom.

The initiative supports SDG 17.4.3 through applied digital education, experiential learning, industry-connected skills development, and technology-enabled capacity-building, contributing particularly to SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

Evidence source:

- https://cic.uob.edu.bh/
- https://www.uob.edu.bh/at-the-second-semester-graduation-projects-exhibition/

21. University of Bahrain Promotes Disability-Inclusive Education Through Sport and Community Engagement



In December 2025, the University of Bahrain (UOB), through the Deanship of Student Affairs, partnered with the Bahrain Paralympic Committee and the Bahrain Sports Federation for Disabilities to organize an inclusive sports festival marking the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The initiative used sport and direct community participation as an educational platform to promote understanding of disability inclusion, equal participation, accessibility, and the capabilities and achievements of people of determination.

The festival combined live demonstrations, Paralympic and adapted sports, boccia competitions, artistic and sporting performances, and presentations highlighting the achievements of athletes with disabilities. These activities enabled participants to encounter disability-inclusive sport in practice, learn about adapted sporting opportunities, and engage directly with approaches that support the participation of people with disabilities in sport and community life.

The festival complements UOB's broader disability-inclusive education and community engagement activities. During 2025, UOB also worked with Special Olympics Bahrain through inclusive activities that connected university students with athletes with intellectual disabilities and community participants. These activities combined lived-experience sharing, disability awareness, adapted physical activity, student volunteering, and experiential learning, giving students opportunities to translate academic learning about disability and inclusive physical education into practical community engagement.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate an approach to education that extends beyond formal classroom instruction. Through partnerships with disability and inclusive-sport organizations, UOB created opportunities for students and community participants to learn through demonstration, lived experience, volunteering, adapted sport, and direct interaction with people with disabilities.

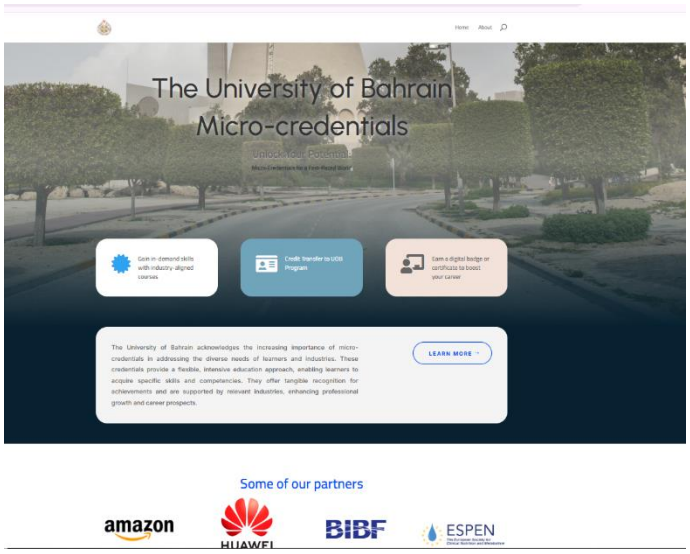
The initiative therefore supports SDG 17.4.3 by providing community-facing and experiential education that promotes understanding of disability inclusion, inclusive sport, equal participation, health, and social inclusion. It directly reinforces SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), while also contributing to SDG 3

(Good Health and Well-being) through inclusive physical activity and SDG 4 (Quality Education) through experiential and disability-inclusive learning.

Supporting evidence

- UOB Hosts Sports Festival for People of Determination
- Special Olympics Bahrain

22. UoB Micro-Credentials Initiative



The University of Bahrain (UoB) has launched a comprehensive Micro-Credentials Policy (2024) to advance SDG 17.4.3 – Education for SDGs in the Wider Community. The initiative reinforces partnerships and community engagement by extending access to quality, flexible learning beyond the university campus, promoting lifelong learning and capacity building that align with national and global sustainable development goals.

Developed by the eLearning Center in collaboration with academic departments and industry partners, the policy provides a structured framework for designing, delivering, and accrediting both credit-bearing and non-credit-bearing micro-credentials. It empowers diverse learners—including students, professionals, and unemployed graduates—to gain practical, job-relevant skills through modular programs tailored to labor-market and community needs.

In support of inclusive education, the initiative offers open-access, free online courses to the wider public, graduates, and unemployed graduates through a dedicated digital platform. A designated number of free training courses are provided annually, ensuring equitable opportunities for community members to upskill, reskill, and engage in continuous learning.

The micro-credentials emphasize knowledge exchange, cross-sector collaboration, and applied learning in partnership with national institutions and industry experts. They integrate sustainability and innovation themes across disciplines, enabling learners to contribute to the nation's social and economic development.

By embedding SDG-focused education within its outreach and training activities, the University of Bahrain strengthens community awareness of sustainable development and reinforces its role as a national hub for partnerships, inclusive education, and lifelong

learning. This initiative reflects UoB's enduring commitment to advancing the UN 2030 Agenda through education, collaboration, and shared progress.

Evidence Link:

- Micro-Credentials Policy
- Micro-credentials Website:

23. University of Bahrain Extends SDG 11 Education to School Students



The University of Bahrain (UOB) extended its sustainability education to the wider community through an awareness session for students of Bahrain Indian School focused specifically on SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities. The session was delivered by Dr. Shaikha Fay bint Abdulla Al Khalifa, Director of UOB's Quality Assurance and Academic Accreditation Center, as part of the University's community engagement and educational outreach.



Drawing on UOB's academic and professional expertise, Dr. Shaikha Fay bint Abdulla Al Khalifa introduced students to key concepts related to sustainability and urbanism through an interactive learning format. Students engaged directly with the subject through questions and discussion, creating an opportunity for sustainability learning beyond formal university education.

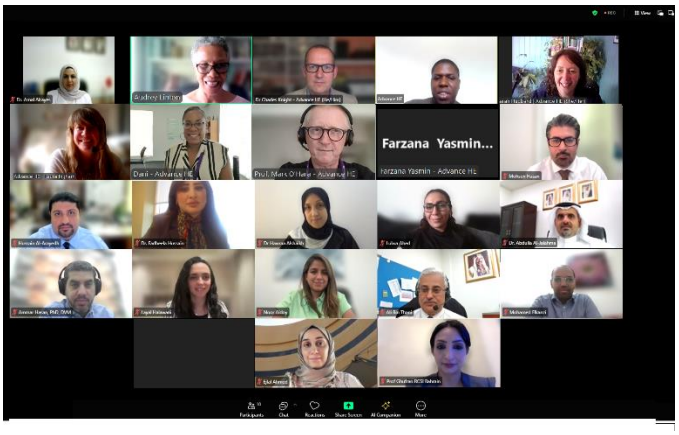
The initiative demonstrates how UOB places its institutional expertise at the service of the wider community by connecting higher education with school-level learning and strengthening educational engagement between the University, schools, and local community institutions. It also recognizes young learners as future participants in the development of more sustainable cities and communities.

This initiative strongly supports SDG 17.4.3 by extending SDG-focused education beyond UOB's enrolled student population and providing school students with direct access to

university expertise on sustainable development. By delivering dedicated education on SDG 11, UOB contributes to sustainability literacy, community learning, and knowledge sharing while strengthening educational partnerships with the wider community.

Evidence: University of Bahrain Strengthens Educational Partnerships through Awareness Session on Sustainable Cities and Communities

24. Building Academic Leadership Capacity through Professional Lifelong Learning



From 16 to 19 June 2025, the University of Bahrain's Unit for Teaching Excellence and Leadership (UTEL), in cooperation with Advance HE, delivered a four-day Academic Leadership Program as a structured professional learning and capacity-building initiative for academic and administrative professionals from UOB and outside the University.

The program provided four online workshops covering leadership perspectives, collaboration and engagement, organizational change, high-performing teams, adaptive leadership, innovation, and transformative practice. Participants were encouraged not only to reflect on their leadership roles but also to identify practical steps for applying the knowledge and competencies gained within their professional environments.

By extending structured professional development to academic and administrative participants, including participants from outside UOB, the program demonstrates the University's contribution to lifelong learning, professional education, and leadership capacity building beyond formal degree education. The initiative supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) by strengthening the capabilities of professionals responsible for educational leadership and institutional improvement.

Evidence source: https://www.uob.edu.bh/university-of-bahrain-organizes-academic-leadership-program-in-collaboration-with-advance-he/