



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS · UNIVERSITY COMMITMENT

SDG 3: Good Health & Well-being

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

3

Good Health & Well-being

3



GOOD HEALTH

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages — across our students, staff, and the people of Basra.

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*Sustainable Development Goal 3, Good Health and Well-being ·
Evidence Submission, Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2026.*

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3.1 University commitment to health and well-being

How does Shatt Al-Arab University promote good health and well-being for its students, staff, and the wider Basra community?

How Shatt Al-Arab University delivers SDG 3

A four-step approach



Figure 1. A four-step delivery approach.

SDG 3 framework at Shatt Al-Arab University

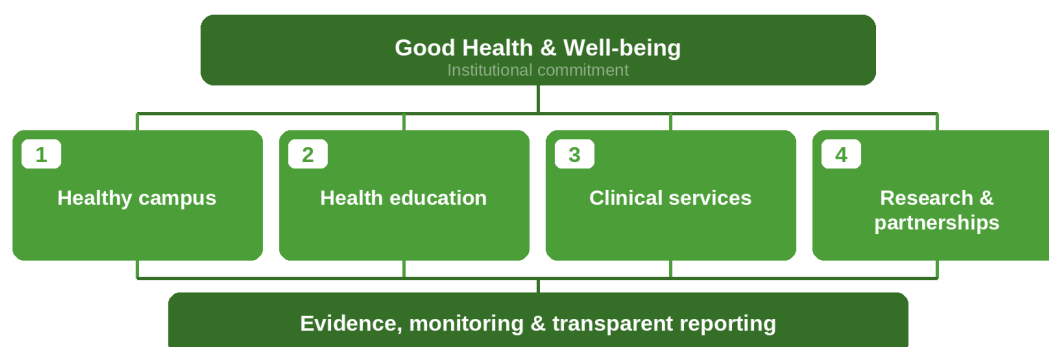


Figure 2. Institutional framework and reporting.

Universities occupy a distinctive position in promoting good health and well-being — not only for their students and staff, but for the wider community they serve. As centres of education, research, and innovation, they are well placed to shape healthy behaviour, generate knowledge on public-health questions, and put evidence-based measures into practice. Through their academic programmes, health services, awareness campaigns, and community partnerships, universities build environments that support physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

By weaving health and well-being into their policies, curricula, and campus life, universities also help cultivate healthier lifestyles and prepare future leaders to value well-being in both their personal and professional lives. In this spirit, Shatt Al-Arab University has carried out a wide range of activities to promote good health and well-being among its students, its staff, and the people of Basra. The sections that follow set out the university's main contributions.

3.2 Health awareness and education

Raising health awareness is the foundation of the university's work in this area. Through a sustained programme of workshops, seminars, and public campaigns, Shatt Al-Arab University keeps students, faculty, and staff informed about the issues that shape their health — from nutrition and physical activity to mental health, disease prevention, and the dangers of substance abuse.

3.2.1 Workshops and seminars

The university has organised numerous workshops and seminars on healthy nutrition, physical activity, mental health, disease prevention, and drug-abuse prevention, all aimed at raising health awareness across the campus community.

Among them was a seminar on Autism Spectrum Disorder, organised with the Al-Taqwa Association for Women and Children and delivered by the psychotherapist Dr. Nidal Badr Sultan. It covered the definition of the disorder, the reasoning behind its name, its historical background, its behavioural symptoms, and its possible complications, before turning to treatment approaches — behavioural, educational, family-based, pharmacological, and nutritional.

A further seminar, “Drug Abuse and Its Harmful Effects on the Family and Society”, was delivered by Ms. Zahraa Kadhim Farhoud. It examined the

effects of drug abuse on physical and mental health, on productivity, and on family and social relationships, as well as its role in driving criminal behaviour, and set out the social, psychological, economic, and legal harms that follow. The session also considered how peers can influence a person's path into addiction, and closed with recommendations for awareness, prevention, and treatment. Contributions from the University President and faculty, together with questions from students, made for a lively discussion.





3.2.2 Awareness campaigns on drugs and violence

The university has also carried its health message beyond the lecture hall through targeted public campaigns:

- The Women's Affairs Unit ran an educational campaign against drug abuse, "No to Drugs", supervised by Assistant Professor Dr. Nagham Jaafar Hussein in cooperation with the College of Arts, on Tuesday, 23 November 2025.
- In cooperation with the Basra Intelligence Directorate, the Women's Affairs Division held a seminar, "How We Protect Our Children from

Drugs”, presented by Colonel Ahmed Hashem Najm and Colonel Alaa Dhahi on Thursday, 20 November 2025.

- The Women’s Division ran an awareness campaign, “Combating Violence against Women”, supervised by Assistant Professor Dr. Nagham Jaafar Hussein in cooperation with the College of Arts, on Sunday, 7 December 2025.









3.3 Scientific research in public health

The university encourages scientific research into public health and well-being, supporting the development of effective health policy. Recent published work by faculty members includes:

1. The Impact of Demographic Factors and Lifestyle on Irritable Bowel Syndrome in Basra — Zahraa Saad Mansour, Dawood Mahdi, and Ihsan Eidan Al-Sumairi.

2. The Legislative Position on Crimes Against Persons with Special Needs: A Comparative Study — Lecturer Sarah Muayyad Saleem Abdul Qader Al-Shuraida.
3. A Secure Patient Authentication System in Healthcare Using Symmetric Encryption.
4. A Privacy-Preserving System for Secure Data Management in Healthcare.
5. A Secure Authentication System for Protecting the Privacy of Electronic Health Records — Lecturer Nabaa Majid Hamed Aboud Al-Saqr.

3.4 University health services

3.4.1 University health centres

The university provides direct healthcare to students and staff, including routine checks such as blood-glucose and blood-pressure testing, wound dressing, and treatment for common conditions such as influenza and tonsillitis. The centres also offer medical consultations and referrals to specialised facilities when needed.

3.4.2 Psychological counselling

A specialised professional team provides psychological counselling for students who need support and guidance, recognising that mental health is inseparable from overall well-being.

3.5 Community partnerships for health

The university works closely with governmental health institutions to deliver community health programmes and widen access to care. Several recent activities show this partnership in action.

To mark World Antimicrobial Resistance Awareness Week, the university held a workshop titled “Together”, which highlighted the risks of antimicrobial resistance and promoted the rational use of antibiotics,

discouraging their use without medical advice. It was delivered by pharmacist Lamia Karoun Shaaban of the Basra Health Directorate, with awareness brochures distributed to attendees; the University President, faculty, and students from across the departments took part.

A seminar on “Medical Waste and Its Impact on Public Health” was delivered by Professor Dr. Dawood Salman Mahdi, Head of the Department of Pathological Analyses, before the University President, the Dean of the College of Science, faculty, and students. The same department also organised “Science and Chance”, presented by Dr. Mohammed Amer Fayyadh, which traced major medical discoveries — among them penicillin and the smallpox vaccine — made through the alertness and observation of their discoverers, encouraging researchers to value unexpected results.

Reaching beyond the campus, faculty and students from the Department of Pathological Analyses visited an orphanage and an elderly-care home in Basra, distributing gifts to the children and residents as part of the university’s commitment to community engagement and social responsibility.











3.6 Physical and sports activities

3.6.1 Sport and student well-being

Sport and physical activity strengthen both physical and mental health. In this spirit, the university organised a multi-day chess competition with broad student participation, and has provided financial support to the Student Sports Club.

3.6.2 Supporting the Student Sports Club

The Student Football Club is among Iraq's leading first-division clubs and an important sporting platform for the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. The university has encouraged its students to take part: enrolment reached 1,853 members, with membership fees of IQD 7,412,000 paid for 2023 (document No. 6/1369, 11/12/2023) and IQD 10,936,000 for 2025 (document No. 476, 11/1/2025).

The university has also covered the accommodation costs of club members staying in Basra hotels during sporting events. The amounts provided in support of the Student Club are set out below.

Document No. & Date	Type of Support	Amount (IQD)
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No. 311 — 3/6/2024	Accommodation of the Student Club at Horizon Hotel	7,000,000
No. 336 — 9/7/2024	Accommodation of the Student Club at Al-Shams Hotel	5,000,000
No. 476 — 11/1/2025	University students' subscription fees to the Student Club	10,936,000
No. 32 — 25/2/2025	Equipment, transport, and accommodation for the Iraqi University Tennis Championship	10,936,000

3.6.3 Sports facilities and events

Providing sports facilities on campus encourages physical activity and supports both physical and mental health. In recognition of these efforts, the university received a letter of appreciation from the Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Naeem Al-Aboudi, and went on to organise a chess championship.

The university also takes part in wider sporting events. Within the Ministry's programme, its students joined the University of Baghdad Road Race, held under the slogan "Love and Peace" on 15 October 2023, promoting sportsmanship and fitness.







Republic of Iraq
Ministry of Higher Education
& Scientific Research

المملكة العراقية
وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي

No.: ٢٥٨٧
Date: ٢٠٢٤ / ١٠ / ١٠

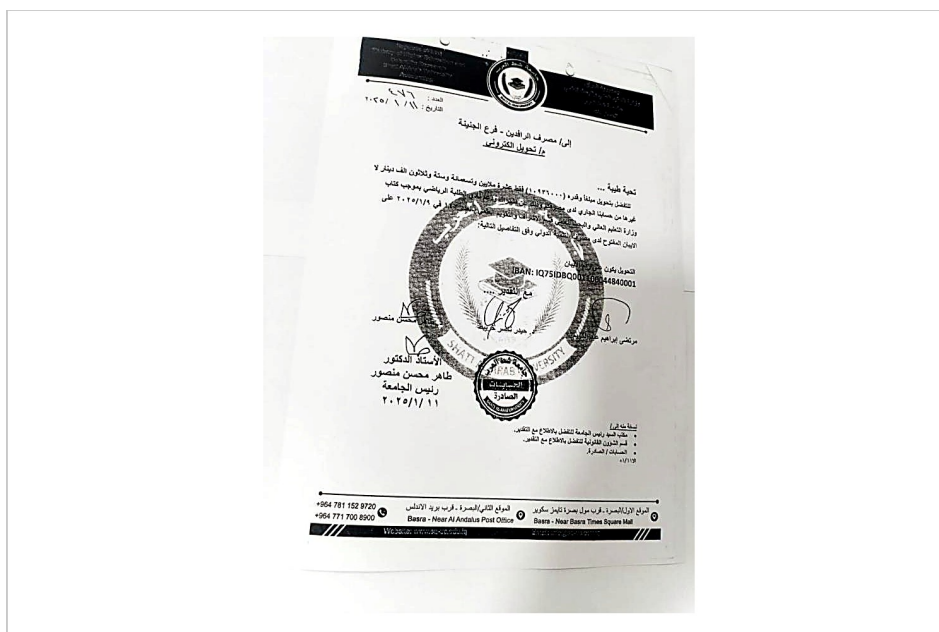
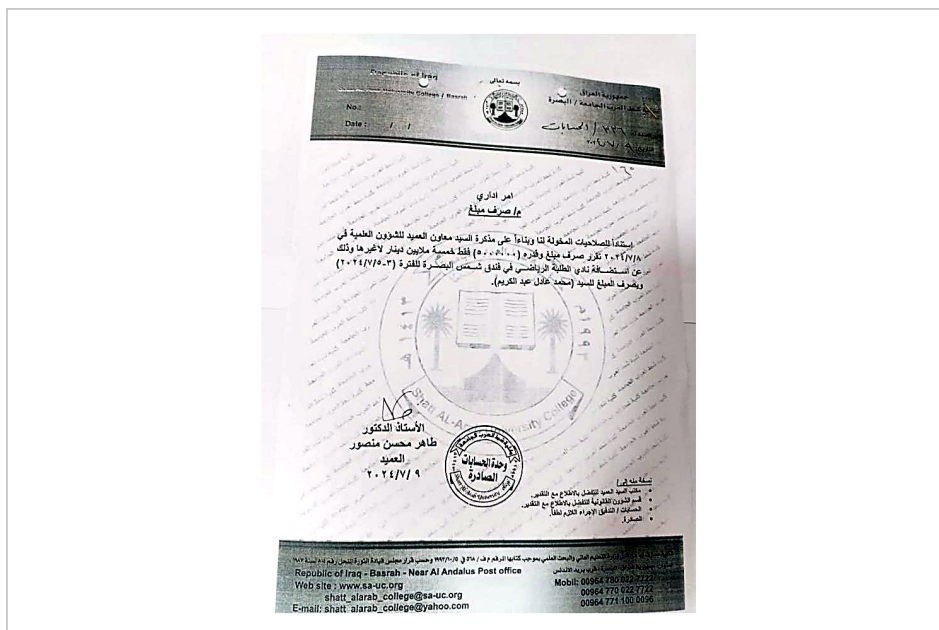
السيد عميد كلية شط العرب / أ.د. طاهر محسن منصور المحترم

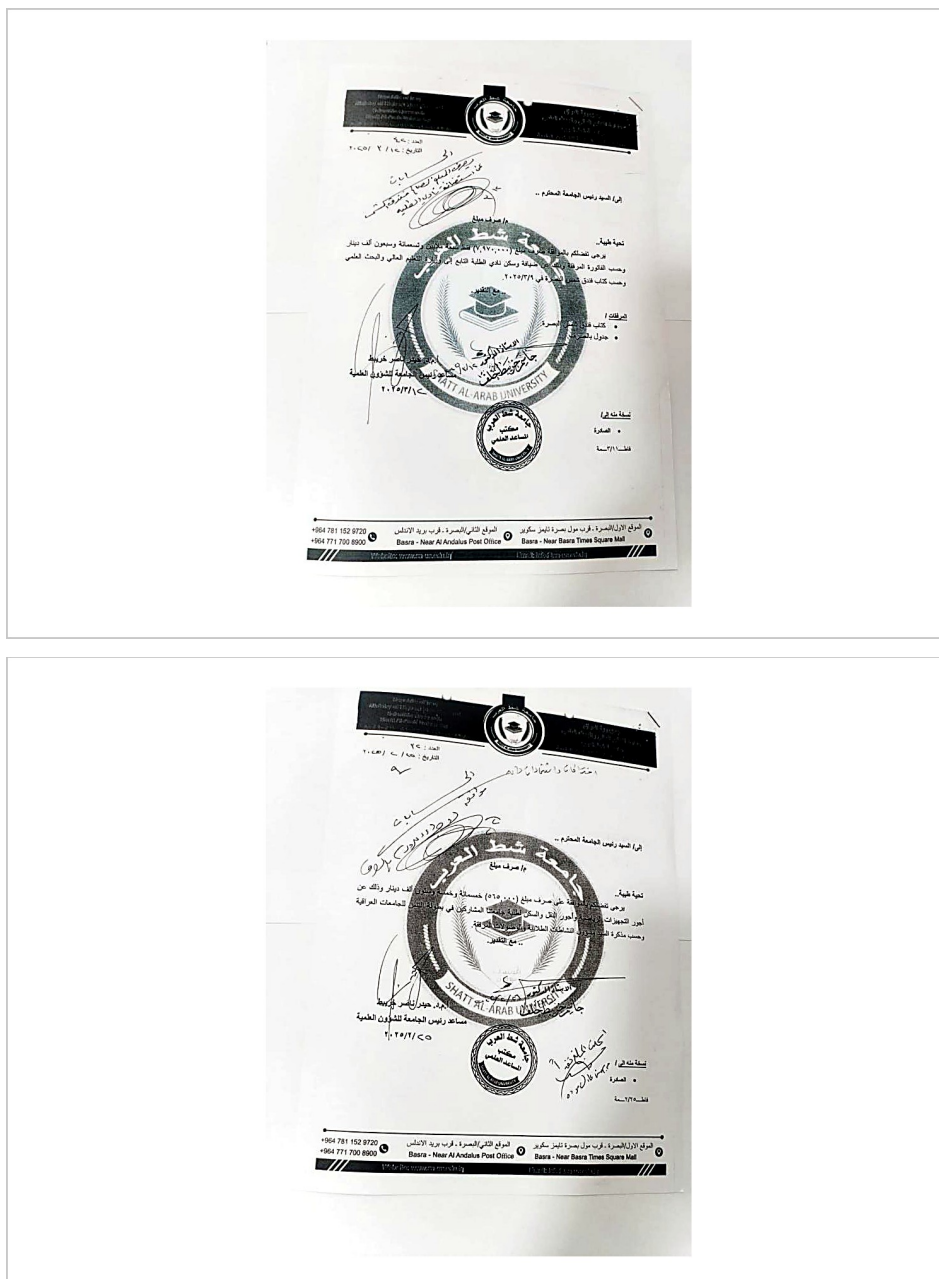
م / شكر وتقدير

يسرنا ان نتقدم لكم بأسمى كلمات الشكر والتقدير لجهودكم الفاعلة والمتميزة في دعم واستضافة نادي الطلبة الرياضي خلال مباريات دوري نجوم العراق، لهذا لا يمكننا في هذا المقام إلا أن نسال المولى (عز وجل) ان يوفقكم ويزيد من عطائكم خدمة لبلدنا الحبيب ومن الله التوفيق

الدكتور نعيم الجبوري
وزير التعليم العالي و البحث العلمي
٢٠٢٤ / ١٠ / ١٥

نسخة منه الى /
- مكتب مدير الوزير / للتفضل بالاطلاع مع التقدير
- مكتب السيد رئيس الجامعة مع الاذونات
- دائرة التعليم الجامعي الاكاديمي / السيد المدير المحترم/ للتفضل بالاطلاع ... مع التقدير
- كلية شط العرب / مكتب السيد العميد / للتفضل بالاطلاع والاشارة ماعلام مع التقدير
- شعبة الارشفة الالكترونية





3.7 Healthy nutrition

The university's cafeteria offers students and staff a range of healthy options, including vegetable salads and natural juices. The university also hosted a seminar by Dr. Mohammed Yahya Al-Salman — a clinical-nutrition specialist and member of the American Association of Non-Drug Therapists — on the economic, social, and cultural right of every individual to an adequate standard of public health, of which proper nutrition is a central part. The President, heads of department, faculty, and

students attended, and the President presented the speaker with a letter of appreciation in recognition of his contribution.

3.8 Environmental sustainability and well-being

Recognising that a healthy environment underpins a healthy community, and to help mitigate the effects of climate change, the university has worked to expand green spaces across its campus. Students have also joined volunteer campaigns to plant trees of various kinds in the streets and public squares of Basra.

Taken together, these efforts reflect a university that treats health and well-being as a shared, cross-cutting commitment. By integrating education, research, and service, and by working closely with health and community institutions across the region, Shatt Al-Arab University continues to play an active part in building a healthier, more sustainable community for individuals and society alike.

Research contributions (Scopus-indexed publications)

Shatt Al-Arab University's research is indexed in Scopus and mapped to the UN Sustainable Development Goals by Elsevier - the same data source the THE Impact Rankings use for their research metric. The university currently records 179 documents from 59 authors (Scopus ID 60109790; last updated May 2026). The chart below shows how this output is distributed across the goals.



Figure. Scopus-indexed publications by SDG (data source: Scopus).

The following publications are mapped to SDG 3 in the Elsevier/Scopus SDG dataset (showing 8 of 10 documents):

#	Publication title	Source & year
1	Detection of pneumonia from chest X-ray images using ensemble deep learning with a voting mechanism <i>Bager, D.Z., Elbai, S., Alghrawy, M.A., et al.</i>	African Journal of Applied Research, 2026
2	Non-invasive diagnosis of lung diseases via multimodal feature extraction from breathing audio and chest dynamics <i>Sfayyih, A.H., Sulaiman, N.B., Sabry, A.H.</i>	Computers in Biology and Medicine, 2025
3	Machine learning-based methods for detecting respiratory abnormalities using audio and visual analysis: a review <i>Zaben, S.O., Wan Zainon, W.M.N., Sabry, A.H.</i>	Results in Engineering, 2025
4	Tamper-resilient and sensor-spoofing-resistant authentication for 5G-connected vehicular edge systems <i>Al-Hilfi, S., Yousif, M., Alsayednoor, H.M., et al.</i>	Engineering Technology and Applied Science Research, 2025
5	Improving the accuracy of cancer driver gene identification based on dimensionality reduction using deep autoencoders <i>Alaidany, A.A., Lakizadeh, A.H.</i>	Int. Journal of Intelligent Engineering and Systems, 2025
6	Bluetooth low energy for internet of things: review, challenges, and open issues <i>Al-Shareeda, M.A., Saare, M.A., Manickam, S., Karuppayah, S.</i>	Indonesian J. of Electrical Eng. and Computer Science, 2023
7	Design AI platform using fuzzy logic technique to diagnose kidney diseases <i>Al-Mashhadi, H.M., Khudhair, A.L.</i>	Telkomnika, 2023
8	Deep residual learning image recognition model for skin cancer disease detection and classification <i>Al-Tuwaijari, J.M.A., Yousif, N.T., Majeed Alhammadi, N.A., Mostafa, S.A.</i>	Acta Informatica Pragensia, 2023