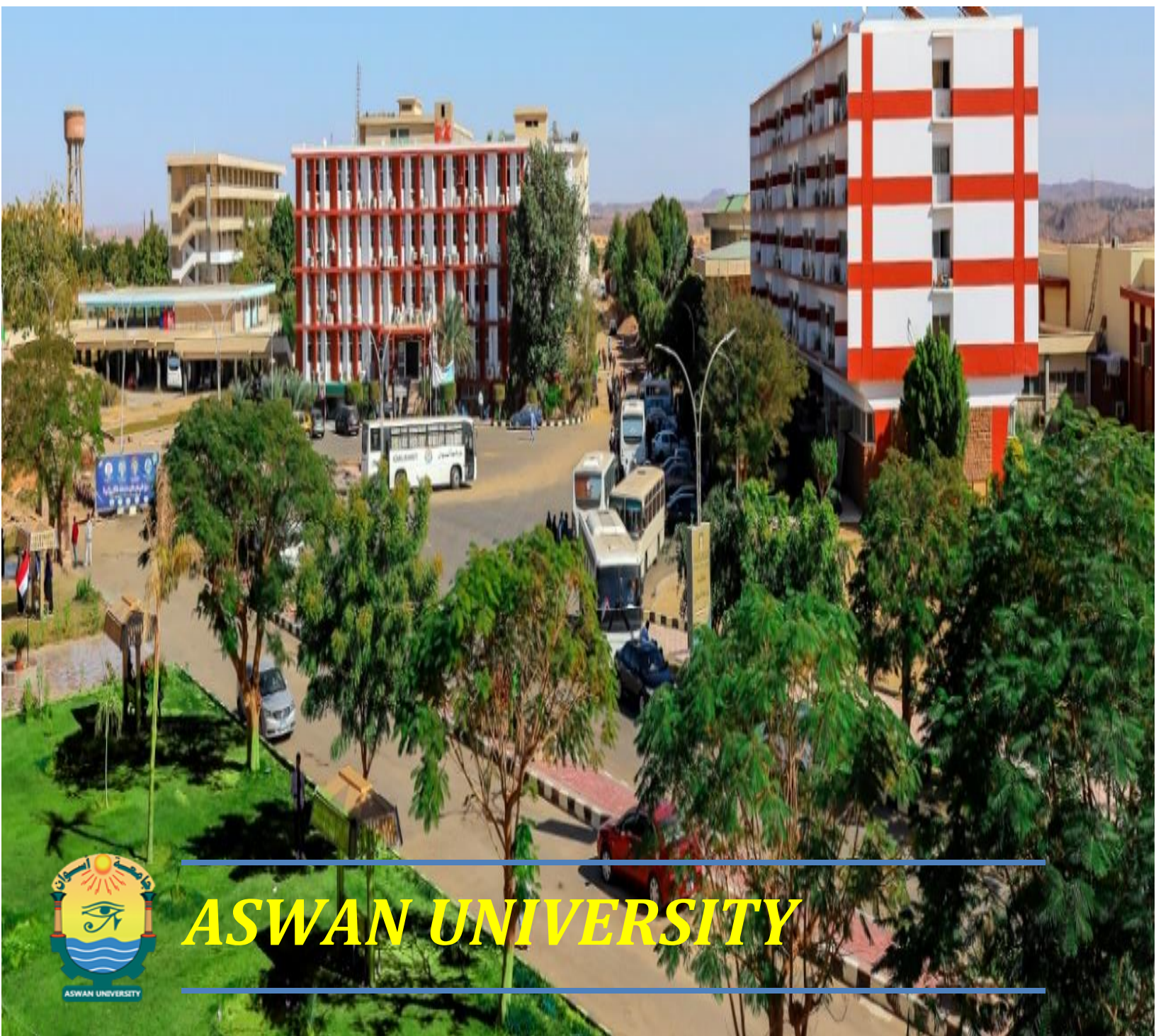


# Sustainability Report of Aswan University (2023-2024)

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***ASWAN UNIVERSITY***

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## 1. Executive Summary

This report provides a comprehensive overview of Aswan University's sustainability efforts, outlining key achievements, challenges, and future goals.

Aswan University is at the forefront of sustainability and environmental stewardship, implementing a range of initiatives aimed at promoting ecological balance and resource conservation. This commitment is reflected in various areas, including energy management, waste reduction, water conservation, sustainable transportation, and biodiversity preservation.

The university has embarked on a transformative shift towards solar energy, with key buildings such as the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Energy Engineering now relying on solar power. In addition, Aswan University is actively reducing freshwater consumption by maximizing the utilization of greywater for irrigation, particularly in the Faculty of Engineering, enhancing the campus's green spaces.

Hazardous waste management is another critical focus, with systematic procedures in place for the separation and responsible disposal of organic, plastic, and paper waste. The establishment of a workshop at the Faculty of Specific Education exemplifies the university's innovative approach to repurposing plastic and metal waste into artistic creations, fostering creativity while promoting sustainability.

To further encourage eco-friendly transportation, Aswan University has introduced bicycle pathways and provides bicycles for student use, significantly reducing reliance on fossil fuels. The university is also exploring new sustainable energy sources for campus vehicles.

Moreover, the preservation of biodiversity is a top priority. The university has set up farms dedicated to conserving unique plant species, notably the Doum Palm, which is being cultivated to prevent its extinction.

Through these multifaceted initiatives, Aswan University exemplifies a strong commitment to sustainable practices, fostering an environmentally responsible community while preserving the natural heritage of the region.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### History of Aswan University

Aswan University was established in 1973 as a branch of Assiut University. It began offering classes at the Faculty of Education in October of that year, with the first Bachelor's degree awarded in 1978. Later, the university became a branch of South Valley University in 1995, following the issuance of Presidential Decree No. 23, which led to the creation of South Valley University. Over time, new faculties were established, including the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Social Work, and the Faculty of Engineering.

**In June 2012, Presidential Decree No. 311 was issued, officially establishing Aswan University as an independent governmental university.**

Today, Aswan University comprises numerous educational facilities, both at its main campus and across satellite locations. The university boasts faculties in diverse disciplines, such as Humanities, Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Life Sciences, Physical Education, Social Sciences, Business and Economics, Law, Education, and many others.

Aswan University's main campus is strategically located near the High Dam and includes the Faculty of Energy Engineering, which focuses on innovative and sustainable energy solutions, a significant area of interest in the region. The university also extends its reach across the city of Aswan, with specialized faculties such as the Faculty of Nursing and the Faculty of Medicine.



### Sustainability Commitments at Aswan University

In recent years, Aswan University has made strides toward incorporating sustainability into its core operations. From water conservation efforts to energy management strategies, the university seeks to minimize its environmental footprint. Notably, the Faculty of Energy Engineering plays a central role in advancing the use of renewable energy technologies, especially in the realm of solar power, which aligns with Egypt's national sustainability goals.

The university also encourages student-led sustainability projects and community initiatives aimed at improving environmental awareness. These projects include tree-planting campaigns and waste reduction efforts, both on-campus and throughout the surrounding communities.

#### Future Plans:

- Aswan University plans to become a model of green infrastructure by expanding solar energy utilization and ensuring that all new buildings follow environmentally friendly construction standards.
- The university also aims to deepen its research in sustainable agriculture, waste management, and climate resilience, particularly given its location in a region vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

## 2. Sustainability Vision and Mission

Aswan University's sustainability vision and mission aim to:



1. Innovate in education and research.



2. Collaborate with other institutions to achieve sustainability goals.



3. Promote environmental awareness among students and the local community.

## **Sustainable Development and Climate Change Unit at Aswan University**

The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Unit at Aswan University was established as part of the university's commitment to addressing environmental and climate-related challenges both locally and globally. The unit aims to promote sustainability across all university domains, from academic research and teaching to daily operational policies and practices. It implements innovative strategies to enhance resource efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and raise environmental awareness among students and staff.

The unit collaborates with various faculties and research centers within the university and participates in international initiatives and projects that focus on urgent issues such as climate change, renewable energy, and water resource management. It also supports student projects and community initiatives that contribute to the broader promotion of sustainability.

## **4. Governance and Leadership**

Effective governance forms the foundation of the university's sustainability efforts.



*Professor Dr. Loay Saad El-Din Nasrat  
President of Aswan University*

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*Professor Dr. Mohamed Abd Elazez Mohalel  
The Vice President of the University for Graduate Studies and Research  
Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Unit*

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*Professor Dr. Mohamed Nageb Rashid  
Director of the unit*

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## Activities and Events Participated in by the Unit

1. The decision by the esteemed University President and the esteemed Vice President for Studies and Research to form research teams for the unit, which includes three main axes:

- A. Axis of studying appropriate methods for the sustainable development of Lake Nasser.

- B. Axis of studying types of mineral resources and how to use them sustainably.

- C. Axis of studying the impact of groundwater and protecting archaeological sites.

2. Work has begun on the axes of the research teams in collaboration with the relevant university faculties, the Environment Affairs Agency in Aswan, the Lake Nasser Development Authority, the High Dam Authority, and the Seismological Center in Aswan, Aswan Irrigation, and the Nuclear Materials Authority in Aswan, the Shalateen Mineral Resources Company, and the Aswan Antiquities Directorate.

3. Participation in the forum of activities and events of Egyptian public universities to address climate change at Al-Jalala University, November 2022.

4. Participating with a delegation in the UNI-Green project at the Arab Academy for Science, Technology, and Maritime Transport and various workshops within it.

5. Participating with a delegation in the forum "Our Egyptian Universities and Our Green Future Post-COP27" at Assiut University, March 8, 2022.

6. Collaborating with the Aswan Media Complex in delivering lectures at various seminars organized by the complex.

## Contribution of the Unit to the University's teaching Curricula

1. The unit participated in developing the university's research plan.

2. The unit contributes to providing services for the development of teaching curricula at the university regarding sustainable development and climate change.

## 5. Current State of Sustainability at Aswan University

This section details the current sustainability practices and initiatives implemented at the university.



## 5.1 Energy Management

Current energy consumption and sources, renewable energy initiatives, and energy-saving projects implemented at Aswan University.





### **Overview of Aswan University's Transition to Solar and Green Energy**

Aswan University has initiated a transformative shift towards solar and green energy, aiming to achieve alternative energy sources. This commitment is evident in the university's efforts to enhance sustainability across its campuses. Notably, several buildings, such as the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Energy Engineering, have been converted to rely on solar power. This transition not only reduces the university's carbon footprint but also serves as a model for other institutions in the region. By embracing renewable energy, Aswan University is taking significant steps towards a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

## 5.2 Water Management

Overview of water usage, conservation strategies, and water recycling initiatives.



## GREYWATER TREATMENT UNIT FOR REUSE IN ASWAN UNI. – MAIN CAMPUS – 14 AUGUST 2023



### Overview of Aswan University's Efforts to Reduce Freshwater Consumption

Aswan University has embarked on a crucial initiative to reduce freshwater consumption and maximize the utilization of greywater. This project aims to promote sustainable water management practices within the university. The Faculty of Engineering has taken the lead in implementing this initiative, where greywater is being repurposed for irrigating trees and green spaces on campus. This innovative approach not only conserves precious freshwater resources but also enhances the university's landscape. By focusing on sustainable water use, Aswan University is making significant strides toward environmental responsibility and resource efficiency.

### 5.3 Waste Management

Data on waste generation, recycling efforts, and waste reduction campaigns.





## **Overview of Aswan University's Hazardous Waste Management Practices**

Aswan University has long been committed to effective hazardous waste management, ensuring a clean and safe campus environment. Over the years, the university has implemented systematic procedures for waste disposal, focusing on the separation of organic, plastic, and paper waste. This meticulous approach not only helps in responsibly disposing of hazardous materials but also protects the campus ecosystem.

In line with its sustainability goals, the university has initiated innovative solutions to repurpose waste. One notable effort is the establishment of a workshop at the Faculty of Specific Education, where plastic and metal waste is transformed into artistic pieces. This initiative not only reduces waste but also promotes creativity and environmental awareness among students. Through these efforts, Aswan University demonstrates its dedication to sustainable practices and responsible waste management.

## 5.4 Sustainable Travel

Transportation emissions and sustainable travel initiatives such as biking, public transport, and electric vehicles.



# Green Cab



### **Overview of Aswan University's Initiative for Sustainable Transportation**

Aswan University has recently initiated efforts to promote sustainable transportation by providing bicycle pathways for students and offering a limited number of bicycles for on-campus mobility. This initiative encourages students to adopt eco-friendly modes of transportation, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and minimizing the university's carbon footprint.

Additionally, the university is actively exploring innovative solutions for sustainable energy sources to power vehicles within the campus. By prioritizing sustainable transportation options, Aswan University is not only enhancing the accessibility of its facilities but also fostering a culture of environmental responsibility among its students and staff. Through these initiatives, the university aims to create a greener and more sustainable campus environment.

## 5.5 Biodiversity and Conservation

Efforts to promote biodiversity on campus and collaborations with environmental organizations.





## **Overview of Biodiversity Conservation at Aswan University**

Aswan University is dedicated to preserving biodiversity through various initiatives, including the establishment of farms aimed at conserving different species. A key focus of the university's conservation efforts is the unique two-cotyledon plant, the Doum Palm (*Hyphaene thebaica*). The university has developed a large farm specifically for cultivating and propagating this remarkable species to protect it from extinction.

By creating these conservation farms, Aswan University not only contributes to the preservation of biodiversity in the region but also raises awareness about the importance of protecting unique plant species. Through these efforts, the university demonstrates its commitment to environmental stewardship and plays a vital role in safeguarding the natural heritage of the area.



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***For more information, please contact:***  
***<https://aswu.edu.eg/>***

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