

# 2.5.1 Access to Food Security Knowledge

## 2023-2024

AASTMT provides comprehensive access to both complementary and fee-based food security knowledge and sustainable agriculture practices to local farmers, agricultural producers, and students. The academy plays a pivotal role in advancing Egypt's sustainable development goals, focusing on its participation in the Food Bank Egypt Initiative supporting startups from the "Uni Green" competition. This includes promoting practices such as agroforestry, which integrates trees with crops and livestock to enhance productivity, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability. The collaboration demonstrates how academic institutions leverage research, expertise, and resources to promote food security and entrepreneurship within Egypt's emerging startup ecosystem. This engagement directly supports Egypt's Vision 2030. The academy's work in food security, renewable energy, waste management, and climate adaptation contributes significantly to the nation's progress toward these strategic objectives.

# AASTMT's Strategic Role in Sustainable Development and Startup Support Initiative

#### The Uni Green Initiative

The *Uni Green* competition is an AASTMT initiative promoting student entrepreneurship in sustainability. It creates experiential learning opportunities where students develop practical solutions to environmental challenges in Egypt and the Arab region. The program encourages teams to design and present innovative sustainability-focused business concepts, building practical skills, confidence, and business acumen. AASTMT supports the competition by providing facilities, faculty expertise across disciplines, and institutional resources that attract participants nationwide, ensuring rigorous evaluation and broad engagement in sustainability ventures. Winners receive support to launch ventures that generate employment, improve food system efficiency and nutrition, and integrate environmentally sustainable practices.





### **Food Bank Egypt Partnership and Startup Support**

AASTMT partners with the Egyptian Food Bank to address food insecurity through research, student talent, and faculty expertise. The collaboration combines the Food Bank's practical experience in food waste reduction, supply chain optimization, and community engagement with AASTMT's academic and technological resources to support innovative, sustainability-focused student startups. The initiative tackles youth unemployment, food security, and environmental sustainability simultaneously.





<u>Food Bank Egypt Partnership and Startup Support</u> on AASTMT webpage