

10.6.6 Support for Underrepresented Groups

2023–2024

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport is committed to supporting underrepresented groups as a vital part of fostering a fair and equitable society. These communities often face systemic barriers that lead to marginalization, requiring targeted assistance to help them overcome challenges and realize their full potential. Through its dedicated efforts, the Academy empowers individuals to thrive and make meaningful contributions to society. This support takes various forms, tailored to address the unique needs and circumstances of different groups. Affirmative action and inclusive policies must be implemented to ensure that all individuals, regardless of immigration status or background, have access to resources that promote upward mobility and mitigate the negative impacts of discrimination and inequities.

United Nations International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2024

“AASMT promotes outreach and recruitment of underrepresented groups through targeted initiatives. In collaboration with UNESCO, the Academy celebrated the International Day of Women and Girls in Science at its Abu Kir Campus, aiming to encourage female students to pursue STEM disciplines. The event highlighted pathways for women’s leadership in science and enhanced opportunities for inclusion and representation in higher education.



[United Nations International Day of Women and Girls in Science 2024](#) on AASTMT webpage

International Conference Gendercom2023

In line with its commitment to advancing inclusion and equity, the College of Language and Communication at Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport actively

participated in GENDERCOM 2023, hosted by University of Cádiz in Spain. The College presented research papers addressing gender issues as a key dimension of social inclusion and chaired a special conference session, reflecting its leadership role in international academic dialogue on reducing inequalities



[International Conference Gendercom2023](#) on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT celebrating the International Day of Disabilities

As part of its ongoing commitment to equity, inclusion, and reducing inequalities, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport organized a special event titled “The Role of the Academy in Supporting and Empowering People of Determination.”

The event showcased the Academy’s comprehensive approach to supporting students with disabilities through accessible campus facilities, tailored academic support, and inclusive learning environments. Several students and graduates with disabilities shared inspiring success stories, reflecting the impact of the Academy’s inclusive practices.

The Academy’s leadership reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring equal opportunities for all, emphasizing the strategic importance of equity and inclusion in its sustainable development agenda. The Sustainable Development Department also highlighted the Academy’s achievements in global sustainability rankings, particularly those linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



<https://gate.ahram.org.eg/News/5059509.aspx>

AASTMT Recognized for Inclusive Participation of People of Determination

In line with its commitment to fostering inclusion, equity, and reducing inequalities, Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) was awarded the Shield for Best Participation of People of Determination during the Fifth Sector Private Universities Championship in the 2023–2024 academic year. This recognition reflects the Academy's proactive and structured approach to empowering students from underrepresented groups, particularly students of determination, by ensuring their full engagement in athletic and extracurricular programs.

AASTMT provides accessible facilities, adaptive resources, and specialized support to remove barriers to participation, enabling these students to take an active role in campus life and wider society. Through this initiative, the Academy demonstrates its leadership in advancing SDG 10.6.6, which focuses on enhancing opportunities and participation for underrepresented groups as part of its inclusive development strategy.



[AASTMT Recognized for Inclusive Participation of People of Determination](#) on AASTMT webpage
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International Day of Persons with Disabilities – Awareness & Inclusion Activities

At the Heliopolis branch, the Student Affairs Office organized a dedicated program on 14 December 2023 to commemorate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The initiative actively engaged students and persons of determination in collaboration with civil society partners to foster awareness, promote inclusion, and reduce stigma. By integrating underrepresented groups into campus social activities, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) demonstrates its commitment to equity, participation, and empowerment. The program addressed systemic barriers, health disparities, and social inequality through inclusive engagement and affirmative action, ensuring that all students have equal opportunities to participate fully in university life.



Orphan Day: Promoting Social Justice and Inclusion during Ramadan

During Ramadan, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) organized a special “Orphan Day” event, inviting children from local orphanages to join students for Iftar, entertainment activities, and gift-giving. This initiative fosters social justice, inclusion, and social integration by actively engaging vulnerable groups and bridging socio-economic divides. By creating shared spaces and experiences, the Academy addresses social inequality and disparities, promoting equity, affirmative action, and upward social mobility. This outreach reflects AASTMT’s commitment to building a more inclusive academic community and strengthening its role in supporting marginalized populations.



[Orphan Day: Promoting Social Justice and Inclusion during Ramadan](#) on AASTMT webpage

Skill-Building Workshops & Creative Outreach Programs

Under its social engagement and inclusion agenda, the Heliopolis branch of the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) organized a series of capacity-building workshops and outreach activities—such as candle-making, concrete art, and the “From Human to Human” campaign—designed to foster equity, inclusion, and empowerment. These initiatives provide equitable access to non-academic skill development opportunities, promoting social integration and economic empowerment for students from diverse backgrounds. By reducing barriers linked to socio-economic disparities and strengthening participation of underrepresented groups, the Academy supports social mobility, inclusive development, and active community engagement.



[Skill-Building Workshops & Creative Outreach Programs](#) on AASTMT webpage