

Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport



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Report 2022 / 2023

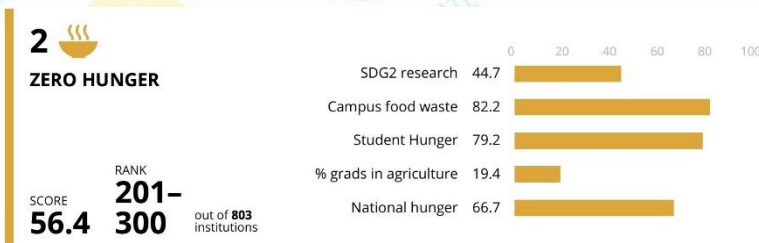


SDG 2

Our Aim in 2022 -2023

Enhance sustainability by expanding plant-based food options, sourcing local and seasonal produce, reducing food waste, and promoting nutrition education, while also supporting vulnerable students through scholarships and subsidized meal plans, in alignment with its commitment to food security and environmental responsibility.

THE Impact Ranking Scores 2021-2022



SDG 2

ZERO HUNGER

2 ZERO HUNGER





Key Milestones in 2022-2023

AASTMT made significant strides in advancing its food sustainability initiatives in the 2022-2023 academic year, with key achievements including:

- **Introduction of Plant-Based Food Stations:** In response to growing demand for plant-based diets, AASTMT introduced dedicated vegetarian and vegan food stations. This initiative provides students and staff with easy access to healthy and environmentally friendly plant-based options, aligning with the university's commitment to sustainability.
- **Expansion of Local and Seasonal Produce Initiatives:** AASTMT expanded its sourcing of locally grown, seasonal produce. By reducing its carbon footprint and supporting local farmers, the university reinforced its commitment to sustainable sourcing practices. This initiative helped to decrease food miles and foster stronger connections between the university and local agricultural communities.
- **Reduction in Food Waste:** The university implemented several strategies to minimize food waste, including portion control practices, composting initiatives, and launching food donation programs. These efforts not only reduced the environmental impact but also contributed to community welfare by donating surplus food to local charities and food banks.
- **Scholarships for Vulnerable Students:** AASTMT demonstrated its commitment to social justice and equity by offering scholarships to students with special financial or social needs, as well as those excelling academically or athletically but facing financial challenges. These scholarships empower students to reach their full potential and contribute to a sustainable future.
- **Strategic Collaboration with Local Farmers:** The university strengthened its relationships with local food producers, including a strategic cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI). This partnership, focused on integrating cutting-edge technologies like AI and robotics into the agri-food industry, aims to foster innovation, improve efficiency, and enhance sustainable agricultural practices.

Community Engagement

AASTMT is deeply committed to engaging with the community through its sustainable food initiatives and building strong relationships with local farmers and food producers:

- **Nutrition Education Programs:** The university's Nutrition Affairs Department has been actively promoting healthy eating habits, food safety, and the importance of a balanced diet. These educational initiatives empower students to make informed food choices, fostering a culture of wellness across the campus.
- **Collaboration with Local Farmers:** By sourcing fresh, local produce, AASTMT has supported local agriculture, reduced dependence on external supply chains, and fostered sustainable practices within the community. This collaboration strengthens ties with local farmers, ensuring that the food provided to students is fresh and environmentally sustainable.



- **Scholarships and Subsidized Meal Plans:** Through its scholarship programs, AASTMT has made education accessible to vulnerable students, including refugees and those facing financial hardship. These scholarships, combined with subsidized meal plans, help ensure that all students, regardless of their financial background, have access to nutritious and healthy food options.
- **Empowerment through AI and Agriculture:** AASTMT's Alamein Campus College of Artificial Intelligence has facilitated the collaboration between academia and local farmers. By providing access to university facilities, technology, and training, the university empowers local agricultural stakeholders to improve sustainable farming practices, contribute to food security, and address environmental sustainability.

Events

AASTMT has held a number of impactful events aimed at promoting sustainable food choices and engaging the campus community:

- **Sustainable Food Campaigns:** Various awareness campaigns have been organized to reduce food waste, encourage plant-based diets, and educate students on the environmental impact of their food choices. These initiatives further highlighted the university's commitment to sustainability and health, helping to foster a more environmentally conscious campus community.
- **Healthy Eating Workshops:** Workshops have been conducted to educate students and staff on the benefits of balanced diets, the importance of locally sourced produce, and practical tips for reducing food waste. These workshops have been successful in encouraging healthier food choices across the campus.
- **Food Donation Drives:** In collaboration with local charities, AASTMT launched food donation drives to distribute surplus food to those in need, contributing to the university's commitment to social equity, food security, and sustainability. These events also created a platform for students to actively participate in community service.

Upcoming Goals

Looking to the future, AASTMT is focused on further advancing its sustainable food initiatives to create a more inclusive, environmentally friendly, and supportive campus environment:

- **Increase Plant-Based Offerings:** The university plans to further expand its plant-based food options to provide students and staff with even more sustainable, health-conscious choices. The continued increase in plant-based offerings supports the university's goal of promoting healthy and sustainable eating habits across the campus.
- **Expansion of Meal Subsidy Programs:** AASTMT is exploring ways to expand its subsidized meal programs to make healthy, affordable food accessible to more students, especially those facing financial constraints. The aim is to ensure that all students, regardless of their socio-economic background, can access nutritious meals.
- **Enhanced Community Partnerships:** The university plans to deepen its partnerships with local farmers, food producers, and community organizations to further enhance



sustainable agriculture practices. By strengthening these relationships, AASTMT aims to support local economies and improve the sustainability of food production in the region.

- **Zero-Waste Initiatives:** AASTMT is committed to implementing more comprehensive zero-waste practices within its dining facilities. This includes expanding composting and food recycling efforts, reducing single-use plastics, and promoting sustainable consumption practices across the campus.
- **Technological Integration in Agriculture:** AASTMT's collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI) aims to incorporate AI and robotics into the agriculture sector. By leveraging these cutting-edge technologies, the university aims to improve operational efficiency, sustainability, and food security.

