

15.2.2 Sustainably Farmed Food on Campus

2023–2024

This is a measure of the AASTMT's dedication to ensuring that everything eaten on its campus is grown and produced using sustainable methods. It acknowledges the university's contribution to shaping patterns of responsible consumption and play a part in the conservation of biodiversity, preservation of soil and restoration of ecosystems as well as minimizing the environmental impacts of its food supply.

AASTMT Prosperous Life Policy

The Prosperous Policy at AASTMT reflects the institution's strategic vision to integrate sustainability principles across all operations, education, and research activities. It emphasizes the responsible use of natural resources, sustainable food systems, waste reduction, biodiversity protection, and climate resilience within AASTMT campuses and communities.

Goal 2. Zero Hunger



PROSPEROUS LIFE POLICY

No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-Being

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are pivotal goals fulfilling world-changing objectives. Recognizing that the action in one area will unquestionably affect others, integration of the goals for the Prosperous Life overarching the No Poverty, Zero Hunger, and Good Health and well-being goals of the 2030 Agenda

Scope

Applicable to all AASTMT members across campuses

Policy Statement

This policy aims to present the strategies and actions taken by AASTMT to contribute to eradicating poverty, hunger and maintaining good health and well-being. The policy is to provide the framework, and performance indicators for all members to review and abide by all attached measures where the desired main goal is to successfully make healthy behavior and community service a habit or a second nature to all AASTMT members. Also, AASTMT is enhancing its food sourcing and provisioning methods to promote sustainability, ensuring wholesome, locally sourced, seasonal, and sustainably produced food served across campuses in collaboration with the Student Union and academic departments. The initiated performance indicators are tailored to satisfy the present needs of the cluster goals and act as building blocks for future development. The policy has been developed per 2030 the Agenda for Sustainable

[AASTMT Prosperous Life Policy](#) on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy

AASTMT's Environmental Sustainability Policy explicitly integrates sustainability principles in campus resource management, including food sourcing, waste reduction, and sustainable

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agricultural practices. AASTMT is committed to promoting environmental sustainability in all campus activities, including energy, water, waste, and food systems, ensuring practices that support sustainability goals and community wellbeing.



Goal 15. Life on Land

15.3.1 Sustainable use, conservation and restoration of land (policy)..

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy

Description

The **AASTMT Environmental Policy for Cluster 13, 14, and 15 SDGs** focuses on fostering sustainability and environmental stewardship in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It emphasizes the institution's commitment to **Climate Action (SDG 13)**, **Life Below Water (SDG 14)**, and **Life on Land (SDG 15)**. The policy serves as a framework for integrating environmental sustainability into education, research, campus operations, and community engagement.

This policy outlines a comprehensive approach to addressing global challenges, including mitigating climate change, conserving marine ecosystems, and preserving terrestrial biodiversity. By prioritizing sustainability in operations, enhancing education, driving innovation, and fostering collaborative partnerships, AASTMT aims to lead by example in promoting environmental resilience and sustainable practices within the academic and broader community.

[AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy](#) on AASTMT webpage

Educational Trip to Dina Farms for Supply Chain Students – 3 & 5 November 2024

In November 2024, the Department of Cultural and Social Activities organized a scientific and educational trip for students of the Supply Chain Department (College of International Transport and Logistics) to Dina Farms, a local farm producing dairy, fruits, medicinal herbs, and livestock. During the visit, students received hands-on exposure to sustainable farming practices, including crop production, livestock management, and value-added processing. Providing students with practical understanding of sustainable agricultural systems, aligning with institutional efforts to promote responsible food sourcing. Supporting knowledge transfer that can inform future procurement or campus food programs.





[Scientific Educational Trip for students to Dina Farms](#) on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT – MAFI for Agricultural Produce Industries Meeting (Nov 28, 2024)

In that meeting, they discussed “using AI in agriculture” and “developing new technologies to advance the agricultural sector.” This contribute to sustainable farming practices.



[AASTMT – MAFI for Agricultural Produce Industries Meeting \(Nov 28, 2024\)](#) on AASTMT webpage

Ethical Sourcing Food

AASTMT is committed to embedding social and environmental responsibility into its core operations by prioritising ethical and sustainable sourcing of food and other supplies across all campuses. The policy outlines the university’s aim to engage trusted suppliers whose practices align with AASTMT’s sustainability objectives, to trace the origin of food via modern

tools, ensure transparency in the supply chain, and support the reduction of food waste through monitoring, preservation practices and composting/vermicomposting systems. The policy emphasises healthy, safe, and sustainable food provision for students, staff and residents — along with operational measures such as food-waste tracking, donations, and use of organic compost across green spaces.



[Ethical Sourcing Policy](#) on AASTMT webpage

Local Agro-Clusters for Typical and Innovative Mediterranean Dairy Products

The project LACTIMED (“Local Agro-Clusters for Typical and Innovative Mediterranean Dairy Products”) lists “College of International Transport & Logistics – AAST (CITL-AAST)” in Egypt as one of the partners. Another source mentions: “Egyptian partners include . Arab Academy for Science and Technology (AAST) ...” in the launch of the dairy cluster in Beheira under LACTIMED. The project aims to strengthen local value chains, support small and medium dairy producers, and promote both traditional and innovative dairy products through sustainable production and distribution practices. Ultimately, it seeks to establish a Mediterranean Network of Dairy Clusters, enhancing regional cooperation, market resilience, and sustainable agricultural development across Euro-Mediterranean countries.

Local agro-clusters for typical and innovative Mediterranean dairy products

In a context of extreme pressure on Mediterranean food markets –direct consequence of the rapid population growth and recent changes in consumption patterns, the agri-food sector is emerging as a central element for the harmonious development of the Euro-Mediterranean region. Agricultural policies implemented by Mediterranean countries in recent decades have led to their increasing dependence on imports and to their total exposure to volatile international markets.

The "Arab Spring" has highlighted the urgency of improving food security as well as the necessity to achieve a more integrated development of territories. The project proposes a new approach to address these challenges and focuses on the dairy sector, in which the needs are particularly pronounced and comparable to those of European countries.

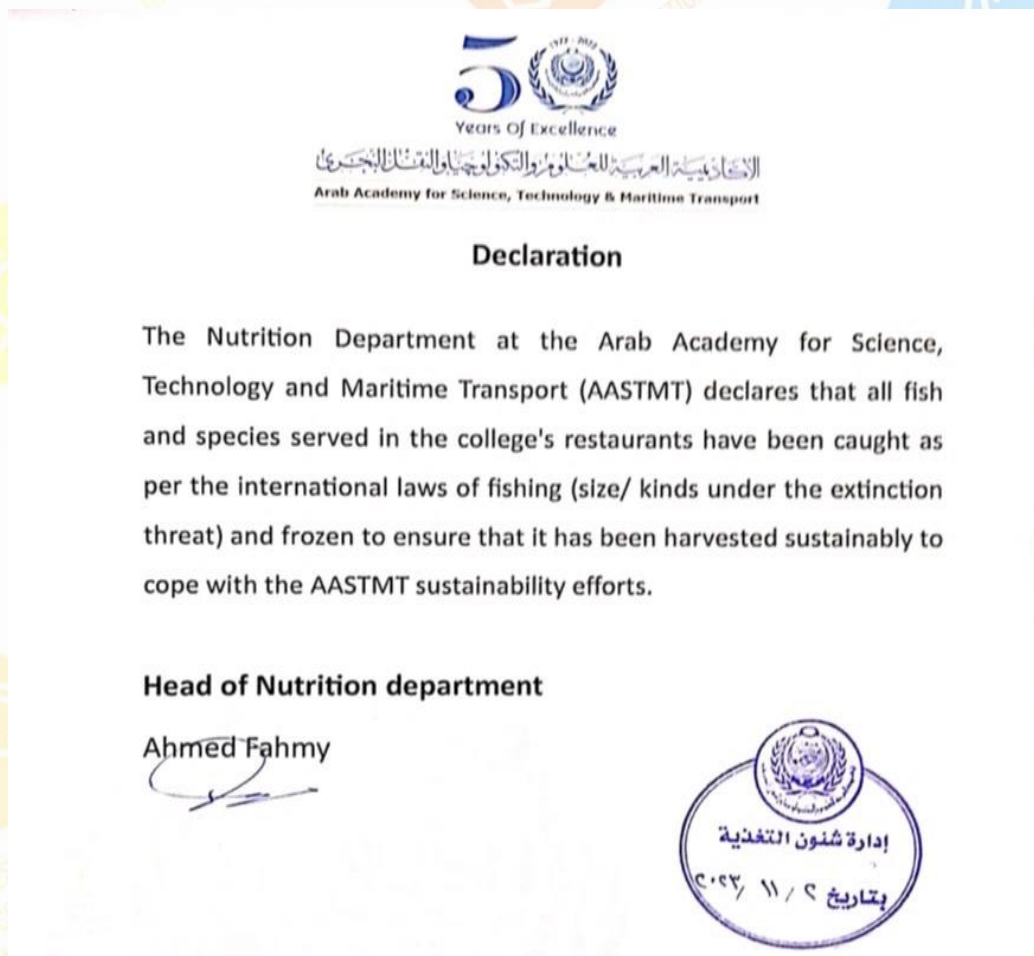
Thus, the project aims to foster the production and distribution of typical and innovative dairy products in the Mediterranean by organising local value chains, supporting producers in their development projects and creating new markets for their products.

In the end, it will lead to the creation of the Mediterranean network of dairy clusters

[AASTMT- Local agro-clusters for typical and innovative Mediterranean dairy products](#) on AASTMT webpage

Declaration on Sustainably Harvested Seafood

This declaration describes Campus seafood sourced in line with international sustainability rules, ensures 100% of seafood served meets sustainability standards.



[AASTMT Declaration on Sustainably Harvested Seafood](#) on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT Commitment to Local and Sustainable Sourcing [Support for Local Farmers and Suppliers]

AASTMT implements biannual sustainable procurement tenders through its purchasing department, where suppliers are evaluated based on environmental conservation, cost-effectiveness, and quality. The university prioritizes local and sustainable suppliers, supporting regional biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and soil conservation by sourcing fresh, seasonal, and locally grown produce. AASTMT strengthens the ecological restoration of surrounding areas and contributes to habitat protection. Overall, this initiative emphasizes responsible food sourcing and ecosystem-friendly supply chain management.



[AASTMT Commitment to Local and Sustainable Sourcing \[Support for Local Farmers and Suppliers\]](#) on AASTMT webpage

Sustainable Food Choices / Menu Options

AASTMT states that it provides **vegetarian and vegan options**, **locally grown produce**, and aims to reduce food waste all of which contribute to biodiversity conservation, soil health, and reduced environmental impact. Also, the “Sustainable Food Purchases” section mentions that cafeterias offer meals using seasonal, fresh ingredients and plant-based options. These initiatives collectively ensure that food served on campus aligns with ecological conservation, resource efficiency, and sustainable land management principles. within the 2021–2025 period.

Provision of Sustainable Food Choices

Vegetarian and Vegan Options: AASTMT offers dedicated vegetarian and vegan menus at selected campus dining outlets to accommodate diverse dietary preferences and promote plant-based eating for its environmental and health benefits.

Local and Seasonal Produce: The university prioritizes sourcing fresh, locally-grown produce to support local farmers and reduce the carbon footprint associated with food transportation.

Efforts to Reduce Food Waste: AASTMT employs measures such as portion control, composting, and food donation programs to minimize food waste and promote sustainability.

:Healthy and Affordable Options

Balanced Meal Offerings: AASTMT provides nutritionally balanced meals, including breakfast, lunch, and dinner, at affordable prices to meet the dietary needs of its community.

Subsidized Meals: To ensure accessibility, AASTMT offers subsidized meal plans for students, particularly those facing financial challenges.

[Sustainable food choices on AASTMT campus](#) on AASTMT webpage

AASTMT Campus Food Waste Tracking



Goal 2. Zero Hunger

2.2.1 Campus food waste tracking

2022-2023

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology, and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) implements a comprehensive food waste tracking and management system across its campuses to measure and reduce the amount of food waste generated. This initiative aligns with the university's commitment to achieving **SDG 2: Zero Hunger** and promoting environmental sustainability.

Whole University Approach:

Data Collection and Analysis:

AASTMT tracks food waste daily across all campus dining facilities, cafeterias, and food service outlets. This data is systematically collected and analyzed to identify waste generation patterns and trends.

Reduction Strategies:

AASTMT tracks campus food waste and converts organic waste into **compost used for landscaping and gardening**. This closed-loop system supports campus greening efforts. While this is part of sustainable food/organic waste management, it indirectly deals more with waste downstream than with how food is farmed. Such actions reflect AASTMT's commitment to sustainability, afforestation, and reforestation concepts by enhancing the natural regeneration of green spaces, preventing the spread of invasive plants.

[AASTMT Campus food waste tracking](#) on AASTMT webpage

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