15.3.1 Sustainable Use, Conservation and Restoration of Land

2024-2025

AASTMT has a policy to ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the terrestrial ecosystems associated with the Academy. The AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy (Climate, Ocean and Land) applies to all AASTMT campuses in Egypt, which it gives as all AASTMT campuses in Egypt (Alexandria, Cairo, Giza, Matrouh, Port Said and Aswan), and to AASTMT training ships, field training sites and research facilities. Under its commitment to protect land and biodiversity, the Academy maintains and extends the green areas and habitats of its campuses, protects threatened species, reduces the impact of alien species, and fights land degradation and desertification. The policy was created in January 2019 and reviewed in 2019–2023, 2024 and October 2026, and is published on the AASTMT website.

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy

Climate, Ocean and Land

Item	Details
Policy title	AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy (Climate, Ocean and Land)
Date created	January 2019
Approving body	SDGs Workforce Committee
Versions	Versions 1–4: 2019–2023 (AASTMT Environmental Policy); Version 5: 2024 (Environmental Policy for SDGs 13, 14 and 15); Version 6: October 2026. Next review 2029, with a yearly review of targets
Policy owners	Dean of Scientific Research for Maritime Affairs; Head of Aquaculture Department, College of Fisheries and Aquaculture Technology; the Sea Training Institute; SDG 15 Officer
Approval signature	Dean of Scientific Research and Innovation
Campus green areas	Facilities, energy and landscape teams run campus energy, water, green areas and waste systems (Roles and Responsibilities)

The policy as published during 2025

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy, last review 2025

The version of the AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy published on the AASTMT ESG website, whose review table records its creation in January 2019, approval by the SDGs Workforce Committee, a last review in 2025 and approval signature by the Dean of Scientific Research and Innovation, already committed the Academy to “safeguard land ecosystems by promoting

sustainable land use, combating deforestation, and fostering conservation initiatives across all AASTMT campus sites". Its actions included promoting sustainable land use and biodiversity conservation through tree-planting initiatives and habitat restoration programmes, advocating the reduction of land degradation and desertification in AASTMT operations, developing green spaces on campus to support native flora and fauna, and partnering with local communities for afforestation projects.

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy (AASTMT ESG website)

How the policy covers conservation, restoration and sustainable use of land

Version 6, October 2026, all AASTMT campuses

In the current published version of the policy (Version 6, October 2026), the commitment to protect land and biodiversity and the Life on Land actions address each part of the indicator:

Part of the indicator	What the policy says
Terrestrial ecosystems associated with AASTMT	"maintain and extend the green areas and habitats of its campuses"; the policy applies to all AASTMT campuses in Egypt and to field training sites and research facilities
Conservation	"protect mature trees"; "protect threatened species"; "survey and monitor campus biodiversity, protect IUCN Red List and nationally protected species"
Restoration	"fight land degradation and desertification"; "work with communities and NGOs on afforestation, greening"; "contain and replace invasive alien species"
Sustainable use	"conserve soil through compost and drip irrigation"; "plan every new building with local biodiversity in mind"
Forests and tree cover	"protect mature trees"; afforestation with communities and NGOs; "maintain and extend planted areas from the AASTMT nurseries"
Drylands	"fight land degradation and desertification"; "favor native and drought-adapted species", with a target of at least 70% in new planting; "support research on desertification, land reclamation and remediation"

- **3. Protect land and biodiversity (SDG 15):** maintain and extend the green areas and habitats of its campuses, protect threatened species, reduce the impact of alien species, and fight land degradation and desertification.

Life on Land (SDG 15)

- **Green campuses:** maintain and extend planted areas from the AASTMT nurseries, protect mature trees, and favor native and drought-adapted species.
- **Species:** survey and monitor campus biodiversity, protect IUCN Red List and nationally protected species, and contain and replace invasive alien species using GIS and AI mapping.
- **Land:** conserve soil through compost and drip irrigation, plan every new building with local biodiversity in mind, and support research on desertification, land reclamation and remediation.
- **Community:** work with communities and NGOs on afforestation, greening and the fight against wildlife trafficking.

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy (Climate, Ocean and Land), Version 6

Planting and soil protection in building projects

Construction Administration standards, issued November 2025, all campuses

The standards that AASTMT's Engineering Administrations follow in constructing, operating and maintaining buildings on all campuses, issued by the Construction Administration in November 2025, require many planting basins in the site of every project, the use of all vacant land around buildings for trees, shrubs and local plants, perforated-pipe irrigation instead of flood irrigation, and drainage that carries rainwater into planted areas and into the soil to recharge groundwater.





AASTMT Engineering Administrations' Approach to Constructing, Operating and Maintaining Buildings to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (2025)