

Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport



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Report 2023 / 2024

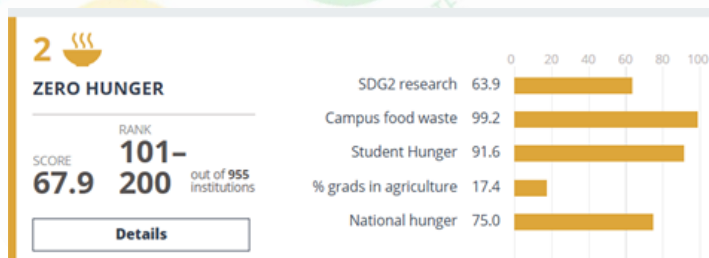


SDG 2

Our Aim in 2023 -2024

Enhance a holistic sustainability agenda by significantly increasing plant-based meal offerings, prioritizing locally sourced and seasonal ingredients, strengthening food-waste reduction systems, and expanding nutrition awareness initiatives. At the same time, deepen the institution's social responsibility by widening access for vulnerable students through enhanced scholarships and subsidized meal programs, reinforcing long-term commitments to food security, equity, and environmental stewardship.

THE Impact Ranking Scores 2022-2023



SDG 2

ZERO HUNGER

2 ZERO HUNGER





Key Milestones in 2023-2024

AASTMT made substantial advances in food sustainability initiatives during the 2023-2024 academic year, with key achievements including:

- **Introduction and Expansion of Plant-Based Food Stations:** Dedicated vegetarian and vegan food stations were launched, enhancing the university's sustainable food offerings and providing accessible, healthy options.
- **Enlarged Local/Seasonal Produce Sourcing:** AASTMT prioritized partnerships with local farmers and introduced more locally sourced, seasonal ingredients, reducing dependency on external supply chains.
- **Food Waste Minimization:** Strategies included more precise portion control, increased composting, and a robust surplus food donation program. Surplus food is distributed through partnerships with local charities and food banks. Food Waste Reduction and Transformation
- **Turning waste into new resources:** AASTMT implements pioneering measures transforming 550 kilograms daily of organic food waste into composite fertilizers and biogas resources, significantly reducing environmental impact while promoting circular economy principles.
- **Comprehensive Scholarship and Meal Subsidy Framework:** AASTMT demonstrated commitment to social justice and equity by offering targeted support to students with special financial or social needs, academic/athletic excellence coupled with financial challenges, and refugees facing displacement and financial hardship.
- **Strategic Partnership with Local Farmers:** The partnership extended the university's engagement with local food producers and included a strategic partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI). This partnership intends to stimulate the incorporation of new technologies such as artificial intelligence and robotics into the agri-food sector to promote innovative and efficient practices that contribute to sustainable agriculture.

Community Engagement

AASTMT continues to engage with its society and community through its sustainable food initiatives and focuses on building strong relationships with partners:

- **Nutrition Education and Awareness Initiatives:** The Nutrition Affairs Department actively promoted healthy eating habits, food safety protocols, and balanced diet importance through campus-wide awareness campaigns, healthy eating workshops educating students and staff, practical training on food waste reduction techniques, and integration of nutrition education into academic curriculum
- **Community Food Drives and Redistribution:** AASTMT organized regular community food collection drives and donation programs in collaboration with local charities and food banks,



- **Strategic Field Visits and Experiential Learning:** Various colleges and departments conducted comprehensive scientific field visits to many local businesses, such as Dina Farms and El-Saad Fruit Company
- **Artificial Intelligence and Agriculture Integration:** AASTMT formalized strategic cooperation with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI) for Agricultural Produce Industries integrating cutting-edge technologies including artificial intelligence and robotics into agri-food sector.
- **College of Artificial Intelligence Initiative:** AASTMT's Alamein Campus College of Artificial Intelligence facilitated collaboration between academia and local.

Events

- **Training Camps and Agribusiness Incubation:** AASTMT hosted comprehensive training camps providing opportunities for networking and learning. The institution's TWT agribusiness incubator, in partnership with Academy of Scientific Research and Technology with Danish-Arab Partnership Program funding through African Development Bank, graduated 70 agricultural startups from nine Upper Egypt governorates and New Valley.
- **Arab Food Security and Sustainability Workshop:** AASTMT participated in Arab Food Security and Sustainability Workshop held at Arab League Pavilion in Expo City Dubai, engaging participants in dynamic discussions
- **Alexandria Language School Workshop:** AASTMT conducted educational workshop at Alexandria Language School introducing younger students to Artificial Intelligence and sustainability intersection
- **IEEE YESIST12 Youth Event Support:** AASTMT supported IEEE Young Engineers and Scientists International Symposium (YESIST12) event facilitating knowledge sharing and collaboration among young innovators

Upcoming Goals

In the coming years, is aims to focus on advancing its sustainable food initiatives to create a campus environment that is more inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and holistically supportive

- **Expand Plant-Based Offerings:** Further increase plant-based food options providing even more sustainable, health-conscious choices, as well as continued promotion of healthy and sustainable eating habits across campus community.
- **Enhance Meal Subsidy Program Expansion:** Explore mechanisms for expanding subsidized meal programs making healthy, affordable food accessible to more students, with a particular focus on students facing financial
- **Deepen Community Partnerships:** Strengthen relationships with local farmers, food producers, and community organizations, and enhancing sustainable agriculture practice support and advancement, support local economies while improving regional

food production sustainability, and develop integrated supply chain connecting campus dining with regional agricultural producers

- **Zero-Waste Campus Initiative:** Implement comprehensive zero-waste practices within all dining facilities and expand composting and food recycling efforts to achieve 95%+ waste diversion from landfills. Also, reduce single-use plastics across campus by 80-90% and achieve interim target of 15% total waste reduction by 2030. This helps working towards a zero-waste campus status by 2049 (institutional commitment)
- **Technological Integration in Agriculture:** Advance AI and robotics incorporation into agricultural sector operations and leverage cutting-edge technologies improving operational efficiency and sustainability
- **Research Expansion in Food Security:** Expand interdisciplinary research teams integrating agriculture, engineering, business, and social sciences, as well as publish findings in top-tier international journals advancing global food security knowledge
- **Institutional Positioning:** Position AASTMT as regional and international leader in food security innovation and sustainable agriculture advancement and contribute meaningfully to global food security improvement and hunger elimination agenda.