



18/10/2017

Communication on Engagement (COE)

I am pleased to confirm that Beirut Arab University reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti- Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its content.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Amr Galal El- Adawi
President
Beirut Arab University



BAU has been committed, since its establishment in 1960, to offer outstanding educational programs and to provide an embracing environment for academic creativity and development of leadership skills, instilling the concept of social responsibility, while respecting diversity and multicultural understanding. The University promotes a stimulating academic atmosphere for its academic staff to ensure excellence in research and the dissemination of its outcomes to address community needs, both nationally and internationally. BAU relies on the contribution of the University's expertise in the sustainable development of the local community while maintaining engagement with its alumni. BAU believes in its highly efficient leadership, well-structured governance system and greatly motivated academic staff.

BAU's strategy for the years 2013-2020 develops the goals set forth in the strategy of 2007-2012. The next decade will witness various changes for the University with regards to the governance system, excellence in education, academic staff excellence, research excellence, academic and student services, university life, public engagement, alumni and friends network, international relations and financial resources.

BAU Core Values

Integrity: To adhere to honesty, moral principles, truthfulness and fairness in all we do.

Excellence: To strive, as a single purposeful organization, for optimal performance in everything we do.

Diversity: To promote tolerance of differences and respect for the other.

Accountability: To be committed to maintaining the loyalty and good-will of our community.

Respect: To treat each other with civility and dignity.

Social Responsibility: To contribute to the society's intellectual, cultural, spiritual and economic progress.

Creativity: To enhance critical thinking and innovativeness for personal skills development.



UNGC Principles-Actions and Outcomes

I. Environment:

1. Aiming at developing management and leadership capacities of municipality leaders in Bekaa, the Continuing Education Center in collaboration with RCED (Research Center for Environment and Development at Beirut Arab University) organized a workshop on “Municipality Management”, on the 25th of May 2017.
2. During the interactive sessions of the workshop, experts in governance and economics from the Faculty of Business Administration at BAU; Prof. Nehal Mostapha and Dr. Abdalla Nassereddine and experts in legal and financial affairs; Lawyer Antonie Karam and Dr. Rajaa Sharif exchanged with municipality leaders and managers from 40 municipalities across Bekaa information of leadership and management skills of municipal work. Aspects covering accountability, financial management systems, communication and information, organizational and human resources were also discussed. At the closing session participants expressed their sincere appreciation for the efforts and agreed on their need for further to ensure continuity in deepening their capacities towards better community service and livelihood development. Training certificates were distributed by the organizers who wished to continue this successful initiative with new workshop in the very soon future.
3. Orientation Session on “Women’s Studies Diploma”, Faculty of Human Sciences, BAU – May 20, 2017
4. Recognizing the important role of women in society and their contributions to socioeconomic development of Bekaa, RCED hosted an interactive orientation session on “Women’s Studies” postgraduate program offered by the Faculty of Human Sciences. Professor Mayasa Al Nayal, Dean of faculty, provided a prominent audience of 120 plus with information on the interdisciplinary aspects of the program. Employing a wide range of perspectives from disciplines such as history, literature, philosophy, sociology, psychology, business management, anthropology and biology, students of Women’s Studies Diploma can explore their potential and role contribute to the cultural and sociological and economic development. Information on the admission and graduation requirements and tuition were introduced. Being part of the course study of the diploma, the importance of research and field work that tackle women issues and challenges was heightened as a very important instrument to create connections between classroom and real life experience and to explore possible career interests.



5. On the occasion of “Fascination of Plants Day 2017” (www.plantday.org/lebanon-fr.htm), RCED organized a farmer field training day on 19th of May 2017 that aimed at improving potato crop productivity and economic return of small hold farmers in rural community while simultaneously conserving natural resources in Lebanon.
6. During the event a group of local farmers and potato producers enjoyed sharing the findings of a research project on “Growing Potatoes Using New Irrigation Technology in Bekaa Valley” jointly conducted by Beirut Arab University and the Remote Sensing Center (RSC), National Council for Scientific Research (CNRS), Lebanon. During the field visit, farmers explored the use of new timely fertigation technology, i.e. fertilization through trickle irrigation, and discussed the benefits of using such technology in terms of productivity, crop quality and impact on natural resources. The day presented an excellent opportunity for knowledge and experience exchange between farmers and scientists from RCED and RSC.
7. In cooperation with the USAID funded project “Lebanese Industry Value Chain Development (LIVCD)”, RCED hosted several capacity building training workshops on July 12, 2016, December 8, 2016 and April 26, 2017 for bee keepers in Bekaa aiming at fostering the beekeeping and honey production sector in Lebanon with focus on raising the productive capacity of beekeeper cooperatives in Bekaa area.
8. Scientific field visit by senior students of BAU Faculty of Sciences to Bekaa - February 28, 2017. RCED facilitated a sampling campaign for the senior students of the BAU Faculty of Sciences in Bekaa region under the supervision of Dr. Hoda Youssef and Dr. Salwa Abed Rahman on 28th of February 2017. An overview of the importance of natural resources and major environmental challenges of Bekaa region was introduced to students by Dr. Safaa Baydoun, director of RCED. Information on the interests and research activities of RCED were also shared. This was followed by a field visit guided and assisted by RCED team during which students observed the extent of environmental degradation of natural resources caused by urbanization in Bekaa and collected water, soil and agricultural crop samples from various sites.
9. National workshops on “Groundwater Governance in the Arab World: Taking Stock and Addressing the Challenges” – February 21 and 22, 2017; Beirut and Bekaa. As the National Facilitator of the USAID funded project “Groundwater Governance in the Arab World: Taking Stock and Addressing the Challenges” (<https://wle.cgiar.org/project/groundwater-governance-arab-world-taking-stock-and-addressing-challenges>), RCED organized two workshops during February 21-22, 2017 in Beirut and Bekaa to present and discuss with stockholders and decision makers the findings and the proposed policy white paper generated by the project for groundwater governance in Lebanon. Workshop I, Beirut, Feb. 21st 2017, targeted officials and decision makers from the Ministry of Energy and Water, Bekaa Water Establishment and the Litani River Authority. Whereas workshop II, Bekaa, Feb. 22nd 2017, was oriented



towards local stakeholders including municipality members, Water User Associations and farming communities.

10. RCED hosted in 19 October 2016, a meeting of the USAID funded project “Water Project in Lebanon (LWP)” with the municipalities in Central Bekaa including the Union of the Municipalities, and the municipalities of Bwarej, Majdl Anjar, Anjar, Marj, Kab Elias, and Meksse. LWP is a five-year program funded by USAID with the objective to increase access to clean, reliable and sustainable sources of drinking water for Lebanese citizens (info@lebanonwater.net).

11. Under the patronage and in the presence of the former Minister of the Environment His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Mashnouk, Beirut Arab University organized a workshop entitled “Litany River from its Source to its Estuary: Vision and Solutions” on 24 September 2016.

12. In collaboration with the Bekaa Youth Association, RCED held two training workshops on January 12 and 13, 2016 on “Advanced Teaching Methodologies” targeting school teachers in Bekaa region as a preparatory means for Civil Service Council (المدينة الخدمة مجلس) contest 2016. Experts in education enlightened 70 plus participating teachers with updates of teaching methodologies and shared expertise, knowledge, skills and techniques of using interactive teaching and learning approach.

II. Labour:

1. The Center for Entrepreneurship (CFE) at Beirut Arab University (BAU) in collaboration with the Faculty of Business Administration, the Research Center for Environment and Development (RCED), the Center for Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE) and the Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB), organized a workshop in "Women Empowerment for SME Management" at Beirut Arab University, Bekaa campus to motivate and encourage rural women to launch their own successful businesses.

2. The Faculty of business placed around 130 students in several institutions across several sectors. These include: Banque du Liban (30), Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Beirut and Mount Lebanon (20), Bank Med (15), Bank of Beirut (25), First National Bank (15), MTC Touch (2), Union of Arab Banks (10), and Smallville Hotel (10).



BAU's Contribution to the SDGs

I. In Terms of Health and Well Being :

1. A Healthcare Center (BAUHC) was established with a mission to improve health of the population by providing quality yet accessible healthcare services as well as to contribute in the clinical education of BAU medical students. The construction and the establishment of the Centre is now completed, it will start providing community service by the beginning of the academic year 2017/2018.
2. Launching of the Nutrition Clinic at BAU Tripoli Campus on the 7th of March. The clinic aims at provision of community health services through evidence-based medical nutrition therapy and nutritional counselling. In addition, the clinic aims at offering health awareness sessions for disease prevention, clinical training of BAU nutrition students as well as conducting high-quality scientific research.
3. The Faculty of health sciences organized a scientific day entitled “Health & Wellbeing day” on the occasion of the World Health day, held on April 7th. This day was hosted under the Patronage of her Excellency Minister of Administrative Development, Dr. Inaya Ezzedine and the President of Beirut Arab University Prof. Amr Galal El Adawi. Distinguished speakers highlighted the recent advances in the health related fields: Depression, food safety Status in Lebanon, the incidence of food poisoning cases, the role of the ministry of public health and the ministry of industry in controlling the food safety, food security and sustainable diets, and infectious diseases.

II. In Terms of Quality Education:

1. A workshop was held to BAU students on 3 campuses Beirut, Tripoli and Debbieh on How to build their strategy and set their goals and on how to think and build their knowledge towards success.
2. Faculty of Human Sciences: in 2016-2017, a number of professional and specialised diplomas were introduced, such as an MA in Clinical Psychology by the Psychology Department, with 30 credit hours covered during 2 academic years. This MA is a qualification to pass the requirements and conditions to obtain the license for psychotherapy. The Psychology Department also launched the Special Needs Diploma with 24 credit hours covered in two consecutive semesters. This diploma enables its holders to work in the field of special needs or become specialists in special education.
3. Starting Spring 2016-2017, Faculty of Law and Political Science has introduced three new programs to its postgraduate studies:
4. Diploma in Medical Law; Diploma in Procedural Law; Diploma in Construction Law; Master in International Trade



5. Faculty of Architecture, design and built environment: during the 2016-2017 academic year, the Masters in Creative Sustainability and the Fashion Design program have been initiated at the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Built Environment. In addition, a new Masters in Digital Design and Fabrication will be initiated in the 2017-2018 academic year.
6. A new Master of Engineering program is launched in the framework of a project with the European Union in partnership with some European universities. The new program is in the field of traffic safety.
7. Several new Master of Engineering (ME) programs were implemented in the following areas: Project Management PM, Maintenance and Planning MP, Engineering Management EM, Production and Service Systems and Oil and Gas Industry field.
8. A new graduate program leading to a Masters degree in Medical Physics has been launched. It will start in Fall 2017/2018 at BAU - Beirut campus, in collaboration with the Faculty of Medicine at BAU and several external medical centers.
9. A new graduate program leading to a Masters degree in Food Analysis & Safety has been launched. It will start in Fall 2017/2018 at BAU - Beirut campus, in collaboration with the Faculty of Health Sciences at BAU.
10. The undergraduate programs in Biology, Biochemistry, Computer Science and Mathematics have been launched in Beirut Campus starting Fall 2017/2018.
11. The Masters programs in Biology and Biochemistry have been launched in Tripoli campus starting Fall 2017/2018. Students following these two programs will be granted a Masters degree in Science.
12. A new master degree program in “Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice” has been recently approved by the Ministry of Higher Education.
13. Faculty of Dentistry: New graduate curriculum in Endodontics, Operative and Esthetic Dentistry, Oral Surgery, Periodontology, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics, Beirut, September 2016.
14. A new graduate program in Food Analysis and Safety was introduced in collaboration with the Faculty of Science to provide graduates with knowledge and skills that will enable them to find solutions related to enhancement of food safety by using recent developments in food analytical approaches.

III. In Terms of Gender Equality:

1. The third edition of ‘Girls Got IT’ was held in Tripoli, Lebanon. It was a joint Initiative between five Lebanese NGOs, led by Lebanese League for Women in Business (LLWB) in collaboration with the Lebanese Ministry



of Education and Higher Education and sponsored by UNICEF and CFE and was attended by 460 female students in a record-breaking turnout.

2. The main goal of 'Girls Got IT' is to promote digital literacy amongst young girls by introducing them to careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and developing their digital skills, thus bridging the gender gap.

IV. In Terms of Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:

CFE partnered with "Agrytech" - a project that is funded by the embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Lebanon, and aims to solve sector related problems in the Agri-Food value chain through supporting innovative entrepreneurs and start-ups. The project focuses on the introduction of innovative technological tools for the acceleration of the sector and its promotion on the international scheme adding competitive edge to it. The emphasis was on resolving these challenges through technology and engineering solutions, namely ICT, robotics, automation, artificial intelligence, IOT etc. This approach is expected to create jobs, improve performance, and give a competitive edge to the sector, generating a direct dual benefit for the innovating Startup and concerned agri-food segment

V. In Terms of Reduced Inequalities :

The Human Rights Center organized a series of awareness sessions on violations against domestic workers in collaboration with KAFA enough violence& exploitation, 15th , 16th of Feb 2017, Beirut- Debbie and Tripoli campus.

VI. In Terms of Peace and Justice Strong Institutions:

1. The Human Rights center implemented a project on Human Trafficking at the legal clinics at Faculty of Law and Political Science in collaboration with UNODC- United Nation Office on Drugs and crimes, Nov 2016- May 2017.
2. The HRC volunteers from faculty of law and political science participated in the Model of International Criminal Court MICC in Poland organized by Kreisau Initiative, 28th of Jan- 3rd of Feb 2017.
3. The Human Rights Center participated in P2P- Challenging extremism competition funded by EVP- Edventure Partners
4. The Human Rights Center organized the 6th NGO fair on UN Sustainable Development Goals UNSDGs in collaboration with UNESCO, Beirut Campus, 4th of May 2017.



Appendices



December 8-9, 2016 “Women Empowerment For SME Management”



May 13, 2017 “Girls Got IT”



May 25, 2017 “Municipality Program”



May 19, 2017 Farmer Filed Training on “Growing Potatoes Using New Irrigation Technology in Bekaa Valley, Lebanon”



Beekeeping participants – Workshops “Lebanese Industry Value Chain Development (LIVCD) for beekeeping and honey production in Bekaa area”



BAU students, Faculty of Sciences, water sampling from Litani River at site of Rawda guided by RCED team



May 4, 2017 The sixth NGO fair on UN Sustainable Development Goals
UNSDGs in collaboration with UNESCO, Beirut Campus,



Nov 2016- May 2017, A project on Human Trafficking at the legal clinics at
Faculty of Law and Political Science in collaboration with UNODC- United
Nation Office on Drugs and crimes.



جامعة بيروت العربية
BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY



September 3-11, 2017 “Social Justice and Human Rights” summer school in collaboration with university of Cologne and Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Germany 3rd-11th of Sept 2016.

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