SDG 15

LIFE ON LAND

Institutional Impact Report 2026

Al-Iraqia University

Green Spaces • Biodiversity • Tree Planting • Soil Protection • Organic Resource Recovery

Al-Iraqia University supports SDG 15 through campus green spaces, tree-planting activities, water-sensitive land management, organic-waste recovery and environmental education that promotes biodiversity and ecosystem protection.

Reporting: year 2025–2026



1. Executive Summary

Al-Iraqia University demonstrates a strong institutional commitment to the protection of terrestrial ecosystems and the sustainable management of campus environments. This commitment is reflected in the development and maintenance of green spaces, tree-planting and campus-greening initiatives, water-sensitive land-management practices, organic-waste recovery, and environmental education aimed at strengthening awareness of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.

Through the integration of sustainable landscaping, responsible water and waste management, and environmental awareness activities, the University contributes to improving campus ecological quality, conserving natural resources, and reducing pressures on terrestrial environments. These coordinated efforts provide a practical institutional framework for promoting biodiversity, enhancing ecosystem resilience, and supporting the long-term sustainability of the University's land and green spaces.

Institutional Capacity & Impact at a Glance

27,142 m²	11.5%	400 t/year	Mar 12
water-absorption area reported in WR 4.1 table	reported absorption area / total campus area	organic waste managed annually	annual National Tree Planting Day activity documented

Institutional contribution at a glance

- **Green Space and Water-Sensitive Land Management:** The WR 4.
- **Tree Planting and Environmental Participation:** Student and university activities include National Tree Planting Day and other sustainability events.
- **Organic Waste, Composting and Soil Benefits:** Approximately 400 tons of organic waste are generated annually.
- **Biodiversity Awareness and Green Campus Design:** Green-building evidence includes indoor gardens, open green areas and measures intended to improve campus microclimates.

2. Green Space and Water-Sensitive Land Management

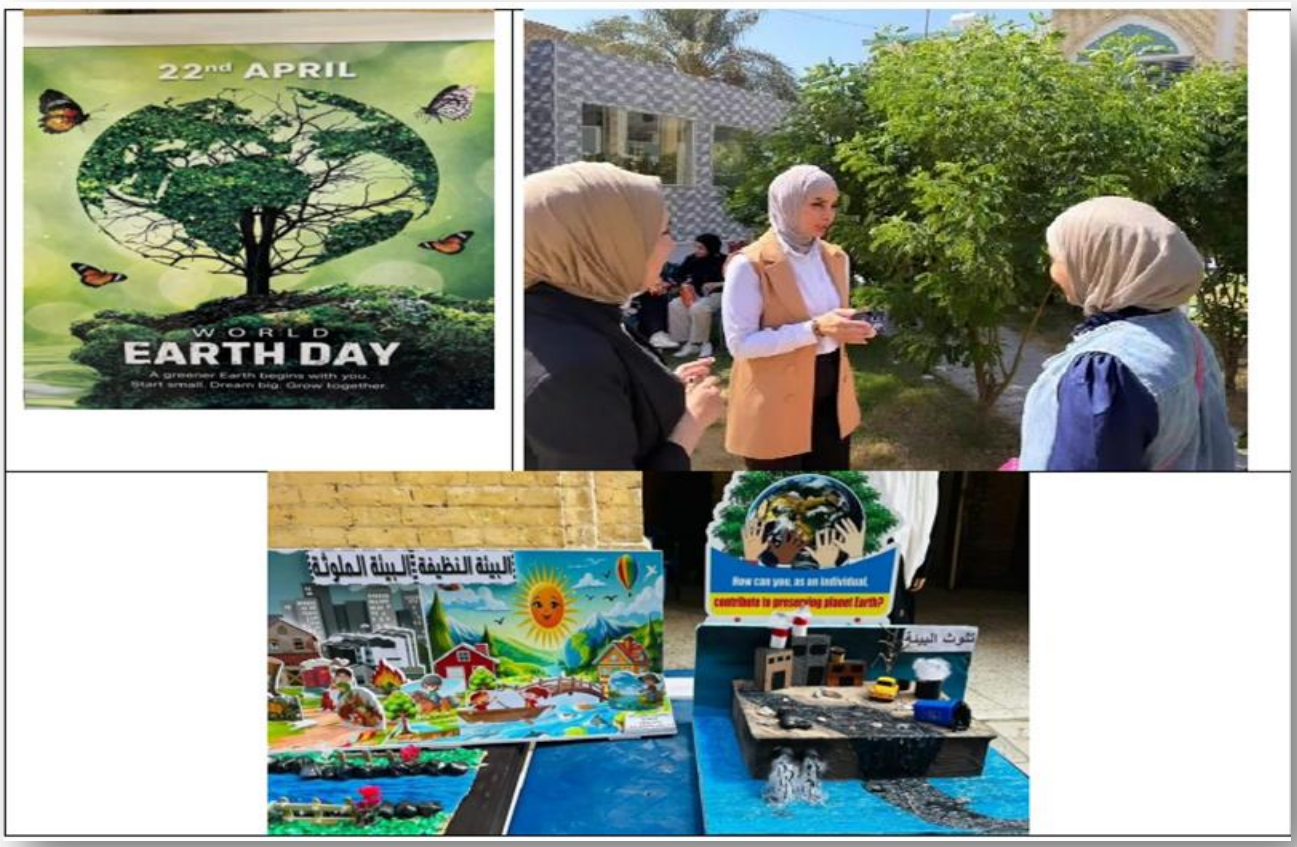
The WR 4.1 data indicate that the university campus contains approximately **27,142 m² of water-absorption area**, representing **11.5% of the total campus land area of 235,229 m²**. The provision of permeable and vegetated surfaces contributes to sustainable land and water management by enhancing natural infiltration, reducing surface runoff, and supporting healthier soil conditions. These areas also help maintain campus vegetation and strengthen the ecological functions of the university's green spaces.

3. Tree Planting and Environmental Participation

The university promotes active environmental participation through student- and staff-led initiatives, including **National Tree Planting Day** and other sustainability-related activities. Available evidence demonstrates the involvement of students and university personnel in tree-planting activities across the campus. Such initiatives translate environmental awareness into practical action by contributing directly to the expansion and improvement of green areas, while also fostering a stronger culture of environmental responsibility within the university community.

4. Organic Waste Management, Composting, and Soil Benefits

Approximately **400 tons of organic waste are generated annually** across the university. To address this waste stream, the university documents a range of management practices, including waste reduction at source, separate collection, and the transfer of organic materials to appropriate composting and recycling facilities. Composting and other forms of beneficial reuse contribute to a circular approach to resource management by returning organic materials to productive use, potentially improving soil quality and reducing the volume of waste directed to final disposal sites.



5. Biodiversity Awareness and Green Campus Design

The university's green-campus and sustainable-building practices incorporate features such as **indoor gardens, open green spaces, and measures designed to enhance campus microclimates**. These physical interventions are complemented by educational and research activities that address biodiversity conservation and ecosystem protection. In particular, university reporting related to **Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life on Land)** demonstrates an institutional emphasis on biodiversity awareness, ecosystem conservation, and the protection and responsible management of green spaces. Collectively, these initiatives integrate sustainable campus design, environmental education, and ecological stewardship within the university's broader sustainability framework.



Figure 1. The College of Medicine at Al-Iraqia University organized an environmental awareness and greening initiative combining environmental art with practical planting activities. The initiative promoted green spaces, environmental responsibility, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem protection within the university community.

Campus Tree-Planting and Greening Initiative

The College of Engineering at Al-Iraqia University continued its campus tree-planting campaign with active participation from students and academic staff. The initiative focuses on expanding green spaces by planting trees and vegetation across campus courtyards and pathways, while promoting environmental responsibility, volunteerism, and a healthier university environment. The campaign forms part of the College's annual efforts to enhance campus environmental quality and strengthen community engagement in sustainable greening practices.

Link:

https://www.facebook.com/100057399282133/posts/1363038298952800/?mibextid=wwXIfr&rdid=P39Luzugk6t

2IawH#



Figure 2. Tree-planting and campus greening campaign at the College of Engineering, Al-Iraqia University, with the participation of students and academic staff.

Campus Tree-Planting and Greening Initiative

Al-Iraqia University promotes campus greening through systematic tree-planting initiatives designed to expand green spaces and enhance environmental quality. With the active participation of students and academic staff, these activities foster environmental responsibility, strengthen community engagement, and contribute to the conservation and sustainable development of the university's terrestrial environment.

Link:
https://www.facebook.com/100057399282133/posts/1382953356961294/?mibextid=wwXIfr&rdid=TjOBJT5R2qE4Zsmw#



Figure 3. Academic Visit to the Research and Technology Center for Environment, Water and Renewable Energy.

6. SDG 15 Evidence and Impact Matrix

Link:

https://aliraqia.edu.iq/en/estidamah

https://eng.aliraqia.edu.iq/987523693

https://medic.aliraqia.edu.iq/27329

https://aliraqia.edu.iq/

Impact area	Verified university evidence	Contribution to SDG 15
Green/permeable land	27,142 m²; 11.5% reported absorption area	Supports infiltration, vegetation and campus ecological function.
Tree planting	Annual planting activities with student participation	Expands environmental stewardship and green cover.
Organic recovery	400 t/year with composting/recycling pathways	Supports circular organic-resource management and soil protection.
Green design	Gardens, green spaces and open areas	Improves habitat value and campus microclimate.
Education	Biodiversity and ecosystem themes in SDG reporting	Builds awareness of terrestrial ecosystem protection.