SDG 5

GENDER EQUALITY

Institutional Impact Report 2026

Al-Iraqia University

Equal Opportunity • Women's Participation • Engineering Education • Innovation • Leadership • Inclusive Academic Environment

This report presents Al-Iraqia University's documented contribution to SDG 5 through evidence from the College of Engineering and supporting institutional evidence. It focuses on women's participation in engineering education, research, innovation and scientific activities; the development of technical and leadership skills; and an educational environment grounded in equal opportunity.

Reporting year: 2025-2026

ADVANCING WOMEN IN ENGINEERING
Education • Research • Innovation • Leadership



1. Executive Summary

Al-Iraqia University's SDG 5 contribution is evidenced through an institutional commitment to equal opportunity and through College of Engineering activities that support women's participation in education, scientific research, training, innovation and engineering projects. The available evidence shows a pathway from access and participation to skills, leadership development and continued engagement in engineering and research careers.

Institutional Capacity & Impact at a Glance

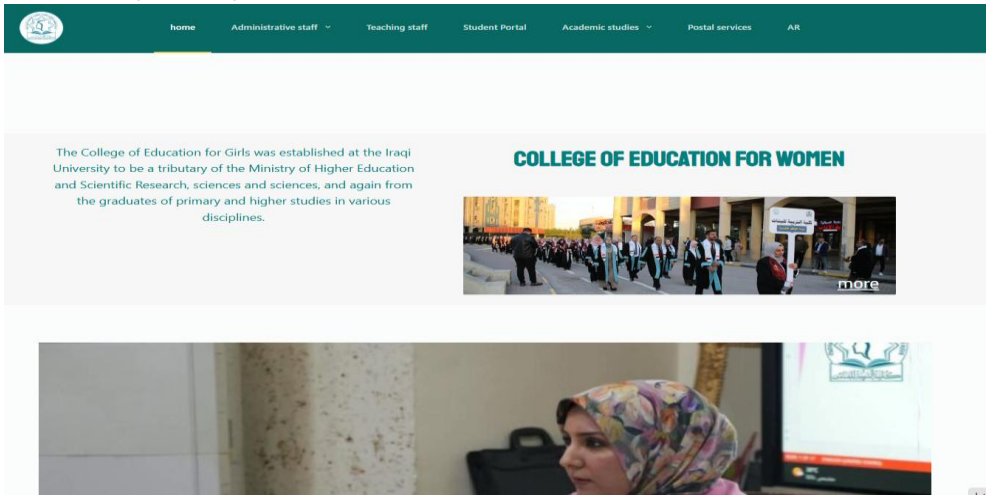
PARTICIPATION	OPPORTUNITY	INNOVATION
Women	**Equal**	**Projects**
Students, researchers and staff supported in academic, scientific and training activities	Educational and professional environment based on equal opportunities	Female participation in graduation projects, research, competitions and scientific events

- Women's participation in engineering education is explicitly supported across academic, scientific and training activities.
- Female students are encouraged to participate in graduation projects, research, competitions and engineering events.
- The evidence links participation to technical skills, leadership skills and continued careers in engineering and research.
- University-wide evidence also documents inclusive access measures and an institutional mission centered on equal opportunity.

Al-Iraqia University supports SDG 5 – Gender Equality through women's education, equal opportunities, research, innovation, and professional development. The College of Education for Women provides undergraduate and postgraduate education and supports women's empowerment, skills development, and preparation for the labor market. College of Education for Women

This institutional commitment is reinforced by the College of Engineering, which supports female students, researchers, and staff in academic, scientific, and training activities and encourages women's participation in research, graduation projects, competitions, and engineering innovation.

Impact Pathway:
Women' s Education → Equal Opportunity → Participation → Innovation & Leadership → Skills & Employability
Link: https://edu-women.aliraqia.edu.iq



2. Women's Participation in Engineering Education

The College of Engineering states that it supports the participation of female students, researchers and staff in academic, scientific and training activities. The evidence frames gender equality as part of the educational and professional environment, emphasizing equal opportunities and the value of women's participation in engineering, research and innovation.

This contribution is particularly relevant to SDG 5 because it addresses participation within a traditionally technical academic environment and recognizes women not only as learners, but also as researchers and staff members contributing to scientific capability and academic diversity.





Figure 1. College of Engineering evidence supporting women's participation in engineering education and awareness activities.

Verified evidence link: College of Engineering activity

3. Female Students in Innovation and Engineering Projects

The College of Engineering encourages female students to participate in graduation projects, research activities, competitions, and scientific and engineering events. The documented objective is to strengthen female students' participation in engineering innovation and projects.

The evidence further identifies a developmental effect: participation contributes to technical and leadership skills and encourages female students to continue their careers in engineering and research. This creates a practical progression from academic participation to professional and research continuity.



Figure 2. Evidence of female student participation in engineering, scientific and competitive activities.

Verified evidence link: Female students in innovation and engineering projects

4. Equal Opportunity and Inclusive Academic Environment

The SDG 5 evidence is reinforced by the College of Engineering's SDG 10 documentation, which states that students are provided equal opportunities in education, training and participation in scientific, cultural and community activities, and that available programs and services are intended to be accessible without discrimination. This broader institutional principle provides an enabling environment for gender equality.

At university level, the SDG 1 institutional report also documents accessibility measures across colleges, including ramps and elevators, accessible restrooms and dedicated parking for people with disabilities. These measures are not gender-specific; however, they demonstrate a wider institutional approach to inclusion and participation that complements the equal-opportunity framework relevant to SDG 5.

Equality pathway

Equal Opportunity	Participation	Skills & Leadership	Continuity
Access to education and training	Academic and scientific engagement	Technical and leadership development	Engineering and research careers



Figure 3. Supporting women's participation and equal opportunities in engineering education at Al-Iraqia University.

Supporting evidence link: Equal Opportunities in Engineering Education

5. Institutional Enablers for Gender Equality

The university-wide SDG 1 report provides supporting institutional context for participation and opportunity. It documents free morning study for more than 70% of students, scholarships and fee exemptions, inclusive access measures, student wellbeing and safety systems, employability services and entrepreneurship support. These measures are university-wide and are not presented as women-only interventions; in this report they are treated as enabling conditions that can reduce barriers to participation for the student community, including women.

EDUCATIONAL ACCESS	ACADEMIC CAPACITY	KNOWLEDGE
70%+	**2,493**	**280**
Students covered by free morning study (university-wide)	Lecturers and researchers (institutional capacity)	Sustainability publications in 2025

The Rehabilitation, Employment and Follow-up Division and the Technology Incubator further provide institutional pathways from education to employment and entrepreneurship. These mechanisms strengthen the broader environment in which female students and graduates can build professional skills and pursue employment or enterprise opportunities, although the available evidence does not provide sex-disaggregated outcome figures.

6. Promoting Women's Empowerment and Leadership Development at Al-Iraqia University

As part of its commitment to empowering women and strengthening their leadership capacities, Al-Iraqia University, through its Women's Affairs Division, organized a training workshop on women's leadership skills. The workshop targeted female Master's students and addressed key aspects of leadership, including leadership styles, levels, and approaches, through interactive learning methods such as brainstorming and mental exercises.

This initiative reflects the University's commitment to creating an inclusive academic environment that supports women's personal and professional development and enhances their confidence, leadership competencies, and capacity for active participation in academic and professional settings.

The workshop contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal of Gender Equality by promoting women's empowerment, leadership development, and opportunities for meaningful participation. It also supports Quality Education by providing female postgraduate students with opportunities to develop essential leadership, communication, and critical-thinking skills beyond formal academic instruction.

Through such initiatives, Al-Iraqia University reinforces its institutional role in advancing women's empowerment, fostering equal opportunities, and integrating the principles of sustainable development into its educational and community activities.
Link: https://aliraqia.edu.iq/987523222



Figure 4. Women's Leadership Skills Training Workshop at Al-Iraqia University.

7. SDG 5 Evidence and Impact Matrix

Impact area	Verified university evidence	Contribution to SDG 5
Women in engineering education	Female students, researchers and staff supported in academic, scientific and training activities.	Strengthens women's participation and equal opportunity in engineering education.
Research & innovation	Female students encouraged to participate in graduation projects, research, competitions and engineering events.	Expands women's participation in innovation and scientific activity.
Skills & leadership	Participation is documented as developing technical and leadership skills.	Supports capability development and future leadership pathways.
Career continuity	Activities encourage female students to continue careers in engineering and research.	Supports longer-term participation in technical and research professions.
Equal opportunity	Educational environment and broader College evidence emphasize access to programs and services without discrimination.	Provides an enabling framework for gender equality and inclusion.
Institutional access	Free morning study, scholarships, accessibility and student-support measures are documented university-wide.	Reduces general participation barriers; evidence is not sex-disaggregated.
Employability & enterprise	Employment support and technology-incubator services are available institutionally.	Creates pathways to professional participation and economic empowerment; sex-disaggregated outcomes are not provided.