

Collaborating with NGOs on Climate Adaptation

Working with national and international non-governmental organisations to help communities adapt to a changing climate

13.3.5

Collaborating with NGOs on Climate Adaptation

Does the university collaborate with NGOs on climate adaptation?

Our approach

Adapting to climate change in Iraq depends on many actors working together. Non-governmental organisations reach farmers, young people and vulnerable groups in ways that government and universities alone cannot, while universities bring research, technical expertise and trained people.

Al-Mustaqbal University works with international and Iraqi NGOs, youth networks and civil-society bodies on climate adaptation: contributing to local climate plans sponsored by international NGOs, supporting youth climate initiatives, and sharing its experience of adaptation on its own campus, from water-saving agriculture to expanding green cover.

The evidence that follows presents the University's principal collaborations with NGOs on climate adaptation.

Evidence at a glance

#	INITIATIVE	PARTNERS
01	**Local climate plans with CRS and Al-Aghsan Foundation**	International and local NGOs
02	**Youth Conference on Climate Change**	Green Space Organization, youth teams
03	**Localising NDCs workshop**	CRS, climate organisations
04	**United Nations Academic Impact**	Global academic network

Local Climate Plans with CRS and the Al-Aghsan Foundation

The University took part in the conference launching the Local Nationally Determined Contributions document on climate action for Babil and Dhi Qar Governorates. The conference was sponsored by the international NGO Catholic Relief Services (CRS), with the participation of the Al-Aghsan Foundation for Agricultural and Environmental Development, the Ministry of Environment, local governments and donor agencies.

The University set out how higher education can support local adaptation, and proposed applied work on water conservation, smart agriculture, clean energy and waste management, together with closer co-operation between universities, NGOs, local government and donors. The partnership links the University's research directly to NGO-led adaptation programmes for farming communities in the two governorates.



Youth and Climate: Working with the Green Space Organization

At the invitation of the Green Space Organization for Creativity and Sustainable Development and the Life Leaders Warriors Team, and in co-operation with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, the University took part in the preparatory workshop for the Local Youth Conference on Climate Change in Baghdad, held under the patronage of UNICEF and the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The University's representative spoke on the importance of green spaces, the particular impacts of climate change on persons with disabilities, and the University's experience of adapting its campus through sustainable agriculture and green cover. The collaboration strengthens youth engagement in climate adaptation and continues the University's partnership with the Green Space Organization.





Localising Iraq's Climate Commitments in Babil and Dhi Qar

The University joined climate and sustainable-development organisations at a workshop on localising Iraq's Nationally Determined Contributions in Babil and Dhi Qar Governorates, held at the College of Science for Women, University of Babylon, with the support of Catholic Relief Services (CRS). The workshop examined local adaptation and mitigation policies, climate governance, and the points at which they reinforce each other.

The University presented higher education as a partner to civil society and government in national adaptation, through research, sustainable technologies, green campus practice and student skills, and reaffirmed its commitment to partnerships with civil-society organisations and the private sector.

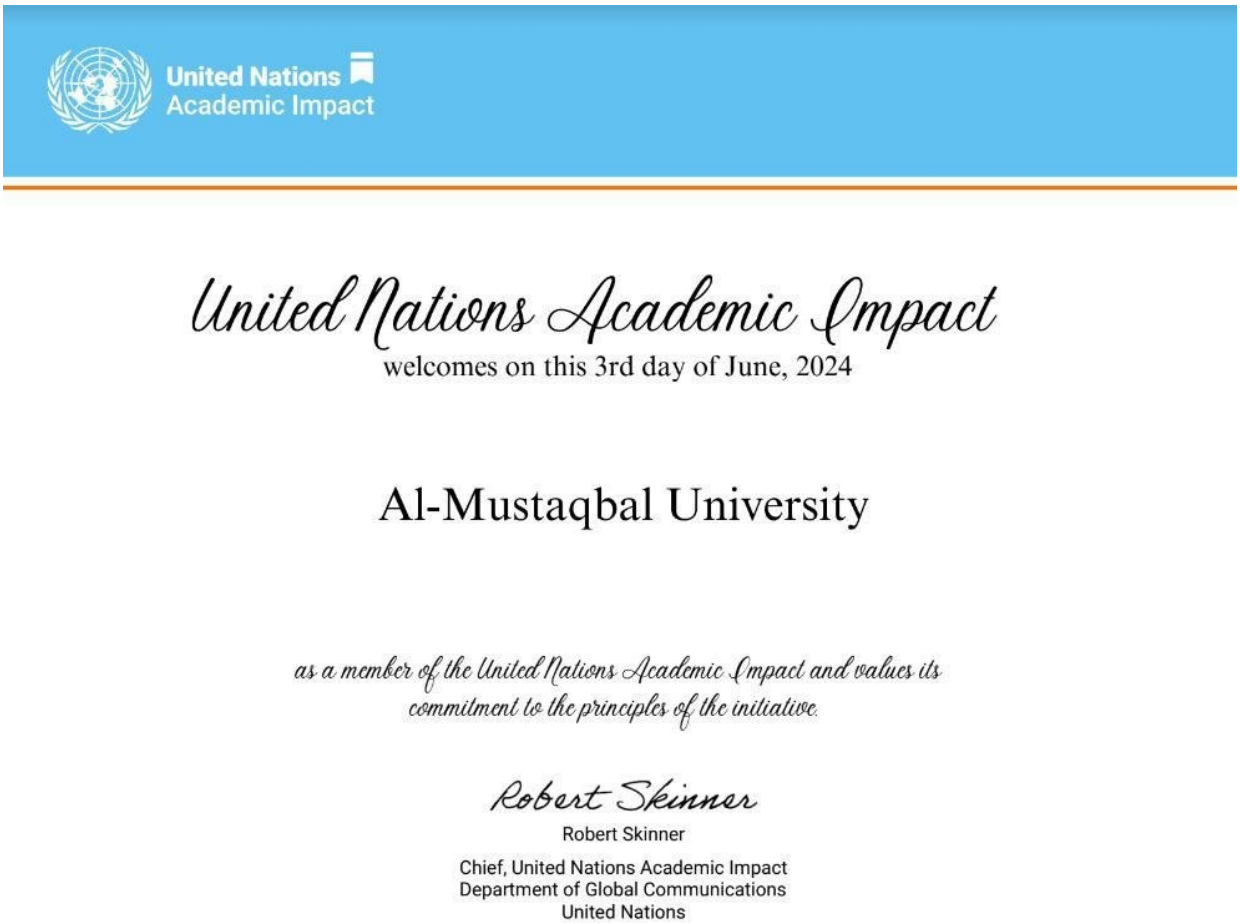


Al-Mustaqbal University

United Nations Academic Impact

The University is a member of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), the first private university in Iraq and the fourth Iraqi university overall to join. UNAI links more than 1,600 institutions in over 150 countries, aligning higher education with the priorities of the United Nations, including sustainability.

Membership connects the University to a global network of academic and civil-society partners working on sustainability and climate action, and commits it to education that helps communities respond to global challenges.





OUR COMMITMENT

By working alongside international and Iraqi NGOs, youth networks and civil-society partners, the University helps carry climate adaptation from policy into communities. It will continue to deepen these partnerships so that its research and expertise reach those most exposed to a changing climate.

AL-MUSTAQBAL UNIVERSITY

Towards a Sustainable University