



**ASU**  
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية الخاصة  
Applied Sciences Private University



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# COMMITMENT REPORT

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## Introduction

ASU acknowledges the significance of the SDGs as a global framework for addressing social, economic, and environmental challenges. The university aligns its mission with the principles of sustainable development and strives to integrate these goals into its operations, curriculum, and community engagement activities.

In the pursuit of a more sustainable and equitable world, the international community came together in 2015 to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This comprehensive framework, comprising 17 interconnected goals, addresses the most pressing global challenges, ranging from poverty and hunger to climate change and inequality. As we embark on the journey towards 2030, this report serves as a reflective lens, capturing the progress made, challenges encountered, and the collaborative efforts shaping a future defined by resilience, inclusivity, and environmental stewardship.

Within these pages, we delve into the achievements and setbacks encountered on the path to achieving the SDGs. Through a lens of global cooperation and shared responsibility, we explore the transformative actions taken by governments, businesses, communities, and individuals worldwide. This report not only serves as a status update on the current state of affairs but also as a testament to the power of collective action in addressing complex, interrelated issues.

As we navigate the dynamic landscape of sustainable development, this report aims to inspire renewed commitment, innovative solutions, and strengthened partnerships. By understanding where we stand today, we pave the way for informed decision-making, strategic interventions, and a shared vision for a future where no one is left behind. Together, let us navigate the challenges ahead, armed with the knowledge that our collective efforts can forge a more sustainable and prosperous world for generations to come.

## Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of Applied Science University 's progress and initiatives related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It outlines the university's commitment to sustainable development and its efforts to contribute to the global agenda outlined in the SDGs.

## Campus Operations

ASU has implemented various sustainable practices within its campus operations. This includes energy-efficient infrastructure, waste reduction programs, and sustainable transportation initiatives. The university is committed to minimizing its environmental impact and promoting a culture of sustainability among students and staff.

## Curriculum Integration

To ensure that students are well-versed in sustainable development principles, ASU has integrated SDGs into its academic curriculum. Courses across disciplines emphasize the importance of addressing global challenges and finding innovative solutions. The university encourages research projects that focused on evidence base practice and contribute to sustainable development goals.

## Research and Innovation

ASU is actively involved in applied research and innovation projects that align with the SDGs. Faculty and students engage in studies that address pressing issues such as climate change, inequality, and healthcare. The university fosters a research environment that encourages interdisciplinary collaboration to tackle complex challenges.

## Community Engagement

Recognizing its role as a community influencer, ASU actively engages with local and global communities to promote community participation and involvement in the decisions toward sustainable practices. Outreach programs, partnerships with local organizations, and awareness campaigns contribute to community development aligned with the SDGs.

## Gender Equality and Inclusion

ASU places a strong emphasis on gender equality and inclusion within its academic and administrative spheres. The university is committed to providing equal opportunities for all individuals, irrespective of gender, and fosters an inclusive environment that values diversity.

## Challenges and Opportunities

While ASU has made significant strides, challenges remain. These include financial constraints, changing regulatory landscapes, and the need for continuous adaptation to emerging sustainability trends. The university sees these challenges as opportunities for growth and improvement.

## Future Roadmap

To further enhance its contribution to the SDGs, ASU has outlined a comprehensive roadmap. This includes expanding sustainability initiatives, strengthening partnerships with like-minded organizations, and continually evaluating and improving its impact on sustainable development.

## Conclusion

ASU remains dedicated to its role in advancing the SDGs. This report reflects the university's commitment to creating a positive impact on society and the environment. As ASU continues to evolve, it will actively seek new ways to contribute to the global agenda of sustainable development.

## SDG17 Partnerships for the Goals

SDG 17 aims to strengthen global partnerships and cooperation for sustainable development. It encourages the sharing of knowledge, expertise, and resources among countries and organizations. This goal recognizes that addressing complex issues requires collective efforts and inclusive partnerships across borders and sectors. Effective partnerships can enhance the implementation of sustainable development strategies and contribute to a more interconnected and resilient world. while this goal

emphasizes global collaboration and cooperation to achieve the other SDGs. ASU Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

The Sustainable Development Goals, SDGs were launched in January 2016 and will guide the policies and funding of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for the next 15 years. The United Nations Development Program works with governments to integrate the SDGs into their national development plans and policies, and this in turn has led to the need to implement a new agenda to promote Sustainable Development, Agenda 2030 which is a new tool for sustainable development, which aims to end poverty, promote prosperity and well-being for all people, in addition to protecting the environment by 2030. Below is a summary of how the ASU is carrying out different strategies, activities, and actions to contribute to each of the SDGs and thus make the University focused on contributing to society and the educational community and positioning itself in its current special place.

### SDG1 No Poverty

ASU aims to end poverty in all its forms worldwide. It focuses on eradicating extreme poverty, ensuring equal access to resources, social protection systems, and basic services for all. The goal underscores the importance of addressing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, including income, access to education, healthcare, and social inclusion. Achieving SDG 1 involves implementing sustainable policies, promoting economic opportunities, and building resilience among vulnerable populations to uplift people from poverty and create a more equitable global society

ASU Students Affairs provides social scholarships for low-income students yearly <https://www.asu.edu.jo/ar/Students-Affairs/Pages/Activities2020.aspx>  
This webpage from ASU website mentioning the scholarships in point 10.

### SDG 2 Zero Hunger

when this SDG aims to This goal aims to end hunger, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture practices ASU works continuously to achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

Example : ASU lunched an Agricultural National boot camp and competition.

<https://www.facebook.com/ASPUJordan/photos/a.570659532995548/2548239508570864/>

### SDG3 Good Health and Well-being

ASU focuses on health promotion and disease prevention aspects that are included in Healthy People 2030; including Health behaviors, Maternal and child Health, Adolescent development, Emergency preparedness, Community and Environmental health and Global health care. ASU focuses on improving healthcare, reducing maternal and child mortality, and addressing major health issues

During the academic year 2021/2022, the university The Faculty of Pharmacy, the Faculty of Nursing and the Deanship of Students' Affairs organized one of the biggest volunteering campaigns at the national level in collaboration with the Ministry of

Health and the National Center for Security and Crises Management. and conduct health awareness and educate the public during the health crises that hit the world .

The University continued to lead in providing services and organizing activities that support the goal of achieving good health and well-being to all its staff, Faculty members, students, stake holders and the community.

The University continued to provide services and support to the community through activities on annual based programs, including:

- Health awareness campaigns targeting local community, public and private schools and refugees.
- Community health services in the form of volunteering work carried out by students, faculty members and staff to provide health care services to underserved population.
- Annual major events such as: blood donation campaign, breast cancer examination and awareness day, charities, and Bazaars .
- Annual Conferences and joint research in collaboration with partner universities locally and internationally.

The annual plan for health-related activities for the academic year 2021/2022 included many activities that covered School health programs, community services ,charities, donation and health awareness campaigns

## SDG4 Quality Education

ASU continued to organize and host annual educational activities in partnership with the local community that aim to support everyone's right to access quality education . On the other hand, the university continued to organize volunteering educational activities that targeted local schools and the public.

ASU ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. ASU emphasizes providing accessible and quality education for everyone by introducing up to date instructional designs that meet the new technology and advancement in the teaching-learning activities and methods of instructions.

## SDG5 Gender Equality

ASU focuses in its strategy to maintain gender equality by providing equal opportunities and rights for all despite their gender i.e. education, employment and administrative positions. This goal advocates for equal rights, opportunities, and representation regardless of gender.

## SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation

ASU is keen to apply reducing water consumption and protecting water quality while they are key objectives in sustainable buildings. Therefore, at Applied Science Private University, many projects have been developed to sustain all-natural available resources and enhance the recycle of natural resources. For instance, grey water and harvested rooftops rain water have been one of the most successful projects in study and implementation phases. That is, harvested rooftops water is collected where an

average monthly volume of harvested rooftops water is 365 m<sup>3</sup>. In this project, rooftop rain water was collected, treated, and quality tested before and after treatment by on-site treatment lab.

In addition, a preliminary project of grey water reuse is under analysis. For instance, initial studies have shown a volume of 493 L/day in fall semester, and 364 L/day in summer semester). The treated grey water can be used in re-flushing systems and irrigation of campus facilities to save fresh water and become an environment friendly campus. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. This goal addresses the need for clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, as shown in the link below.

<https://www.asu.edu.jo/en/ASU-Center/Pages/WaterConservationProgram.aspx>

## SDG7 Affordable and Clean Energy

ASU ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, to promote renewable energy and increase energy efficiency.

- ASU Environmental Studies and Renewable Energy Center established in 1996 for research issues of our academic staff and students, and to follow up the new technology in energy field, especially renewable energy which it's now capture the attention of all countries. The center Vision is to develop Energy Projects and help Researches to enhance the quality of energy research in the energy sector. While the mission is to carry out high-quality project technical support, research assistance and training in the renewable energy field in the university.

In 2013 ASU installed the PV project in two separated systems:

- Photovoltaic System of 500 kWp Grid connected installed on Engineering roof, library roof, and activity building roof.
- Test Field system of 58 kWp Grid connected.

Then in 2015 as the first university in Jordan, ASU installed the Weather Station to give useful data for persons who are interested in studying the weather parameters (temperature, humidity, wind speed, wind direction,..), this data upload and update automatically in the formal website of the university.

In addition to our PV projects and researches, ASU expanded and opened the opportunities of practical training for our students and others from other universities. also, as a future plan, ASU will hold many training courses in renewable energy and PV systems, and build a partnership with many leading institutions in energy field.

Reference : <https://www.asu.edu.jo/en/ASU-Center/CESRE/Pages/About.aspx>

- International\_MIC\_Union\_Competition



It is a global competition organized by the Make Impact Consortium (MIC), which is led by the American University of MIT, the number one university in the world.

The theme of this year's competition is to design solutions that achieve sustainable development in the areas of providing clean water sources, providing environmentally friendly energy sources, and rationalizing consumption of natural resources.

Competition stages:

The first stage, Making Innovators: The student participates in training courses on the topics of innovation, entrepreneurship, and the basics of design and product manufacturing, and concludes with the participant presenting ideas for solutions related to sustainable development. These courses are presented by specialized experts in this field from MIT University.

- Participants who complete this stage will receive certificates of participation from the MIC Federation.

- Qualifiers will be held at the end of this stage.

The second stage: Innovators Making: In which the students who qualify from the first stage participate in the competition for the best initial design, presenting solutions with a detailed design for the product they propose.

Reference:[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid0TeaU8Wq9P9tGEMqKP31sX5dRjEPY3qJzERKnviZYsasgbZw631jtWTgRT3zH97Nkl&id=147537315307774&mibextid=Nif5oz](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0TeaU8Wq9P9tGEMqKP31sX5dRjEPY3qJzERKnviZYsasgbZw631jtWTgRT3zH97Nkl&id=147537315307774&mibextid=Nif5oz)

## SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

ASU Promotes sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. ASU also focuses on fostering economic development and ensuring decent employment opportunities.

At the heart of SDG 8 is the recognition of promoting sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. This is crucial for achieving a sustainable future, as it addresses the need for economic development that benefits everyone, not just a select few.

ASU has a policy on anti-discrimination in the workplace (including discrimination based on religion, sexuality, gender, age, or refugee status) in the policy guide page 27 <https://www.asu.edu.jo/ar/Quality-and-Accreditation/Documents/Policies-Manual-2022-2023en.pdf>

ASU also has a policy on guaranteeing equivalent rights of workers (Academics) when outsourcing activities to third parties in the policy guide page 23 (Academic Freedom) <https://www.asu.edu.jo/ar/Quality-and-Accreditation/Documents/Policies-Manual-2022-2023en.pdf>



## SDG9 Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

ASU aimed to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation, to encourages technological advancement and infrastructure development.

- Applied Sciences is at the forefront of Jordanian private universities by obtaining #1\_place in all criteria of the approved international classification Scimago Institutions for the year 2021, which are: scientific research, innovation, and community service. It also ranked fourth among public and private Jordanian universities in this evaluation, in addition to its distinction in the scientific research criterion alone, making it also first among Jordanian private universities. [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid02bWRJVECGxz7hjoXq5WQhxMsu5pyKFRMhyrnpMjwLyhvQEqK4rmPVMwEHP9Q83gBwl&id=124015275093200&mibextid=Nif5oz](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02bWRJVECGxz7hjoXq5WQhxMsu5pyKFRMhyrnpMjwLyhvQEqK4rmPVMwEHP9Q83gBwl&id=124015275093200&mibextid=Nif5oz)
- The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center (ICE) at the Applied Sciences Private University made “Global Entrepreneurship Week” challenge. It is an event held during one week every November of each year, under the supervision of the Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship, and it is the largest global event to celebrate innovators and job creators who launch startups to realize their ideas on the ground, drive economic growth and increase the well-being of communities. The competition aims to shed light on the ideas of Jordanian youth and how to help them transform them into a tangible reality. Within this week’s activities, ideas and pioneering projects of students at the Applied Science Private University will compete to be qualified to compete at the level of Jordanian universities.

Our university won first place in 2020 with a team from the College of Pharmacy after competing against 22 teams from various Jordanian universities and qualified for the semi-finals in 2021. All the best to our students this year.

The winning teams receive valuable prizes, and some of them are invited to join the Innovation Lab at the Queen Rania Center for Entrepreneurship to continue developing their businesses.

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid02x2NbXVncUoZQr2N8zt14s9Yg1jJLY6WNzzuwvmYvHSFisV7aom6e5o7k6hs7bYSZl&id=147537315307774&mibextid=Nif5oz](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02x2NbXVncUoZQr2N8zt14s9Yg1jJLY6WNzzuwvmYvHSFisV7aom6e5o7k6hs7bYSZl&id=147537315307774&mibextid=Nif5oz)

## SDG10 Reduced Inequality

Addressing inequality is a multifaceted approach at ASU, encompassing international collaboration and the implementation of diversity and inclusion strategies for the benefit of students, staff, and the international community. As a leading university in Jordan with a substantial international student population (over 1000 FTE) from developing countries, ASU upholds equality in program fees, discounts, privileges, and access to services for both local and international students. The commitment to treating all students as 'ASUers', regardless of gender, nationality, religion, or culture, is paramount.

Ongoing International Credit Mobility (ICM) projects, along with values of acceptance and respect, are anticipated to strengthen through collaboration. The university envisions that such projects will enhance students' interpersonal and communication skills, fostering diverse career opportunities.

## SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. This goal focuses on creating livable and sustainable urban environments.

For Examples:

- ASU provides public access to libraries including books and publication.
- ASU provides free public access to open spaces and green spaces.
- ASU provides affordable housing for students
- ASU provide a community participation for the public in the committees, events and services i.e. theater for cultural activities and schools graduations.

## SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production

ASU ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns to encourage responsible use of resources and reduced environmental impact.

The university employs various methods to enhance consumption and production efficiency across the campus. Alongside several new policies aligned with this objective, the university has established an efficient system for recycling furniture, paper, and electronic waste and the medical and chemical waste both locally on campus and through third-party collaborations.

The disposal of chemicals is completely disposed of in waste bottles labeled with the type of material and the appropriate labeling, and then contacting the Ministry of the Environment to be disposed of permanently in a good way for sale.

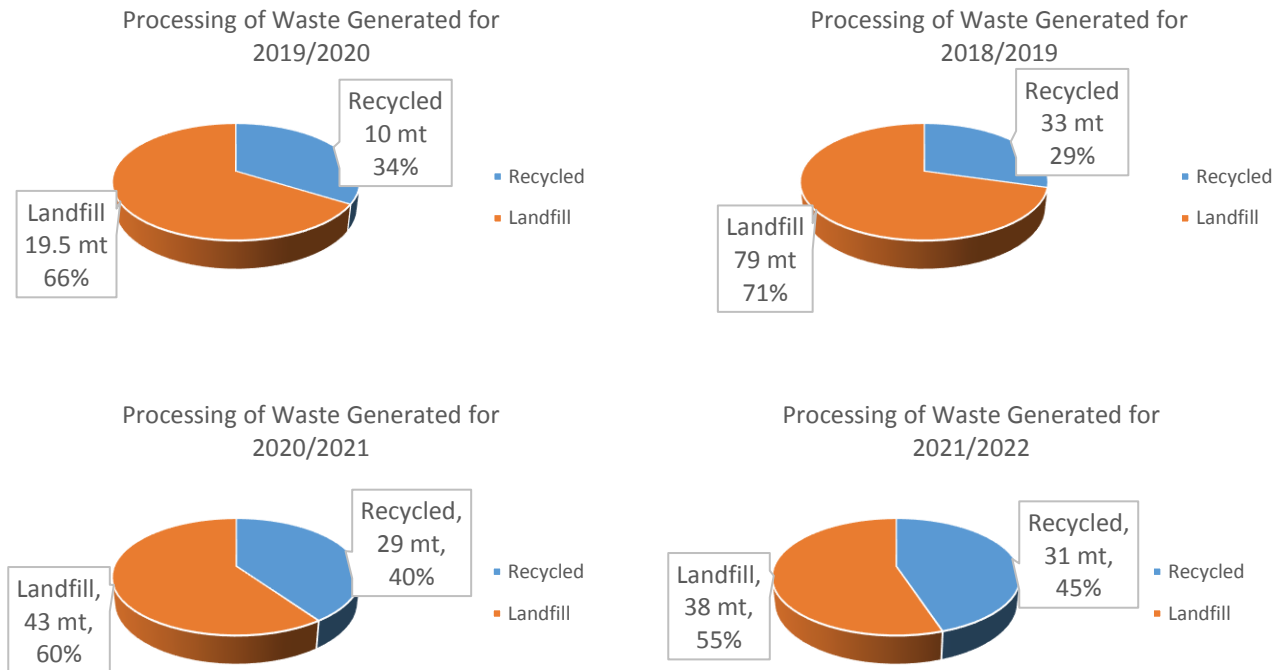
With regard to what is related to the departure, it is not disposed of and its purpose is:

If it is related to microorganisms, it is sterilized using an autoclave after dedicating it to its own harvest. If it is waste from the animal's home, it is disposed of in a special incinerator.

In the academic year 2021/2022, a substantial portion of furniture waste was locally recycled at the university, transforming wooden and metal furniture waste into new items for offices, lecture halls, and laboratories. Since 2016/2017, the university has recycled over 2900 chairs, desks, cupboards, and more. Additionally, the university has a paper collection system for recycling documents generated from exams, reports, and other activities. Over the past four years, approximately 15 tons of office papers have been collected and recycled. Electronic equipment, car spare parts, and other hardware

are also collected and resold to third parties for recycling and reconditioning, contributing to waste reduction.

To mitigate the consumption of fresh water from underground sources, the university employs two large sewerage tanks to collect rainwater, thereby increasing water storage capacity. The combined capacity of these tanks now exceeds 1000 m3. The harvested rainwater is repurposed for irrigation, and outdoor green areas have been equipped with artificial grass to minimize water consumption.



## SDG13 Climate Action

ASU takes urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, in order to address the need for global efforts to mitigate climate change and adapt to its effects. Sustainable and clean energy stands as a foundational pillar for sustainable development at the university. Demonstrating a steadfast commitment to this cause, "sustainable development" is explicitly woven into the vision and mission statement of the institution.

In recent years, the university has achieved noteworthy reductions in both energy consumption and CO2 emissions. This success is attributed to implemented policies, vigilant energy consumption monitoring, and collaborative awareness and education campaigns with relevant stakeholders.

The Renewable Energy Center (REC) serves as the primary driver behind these Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It plays a pivotal role in monitoring the

efficiency and operation of the PV system, generating annual reports on the university's electricity consumption and CO2 emission levels, and offering support and training for researchers and students in the field of renewable energy.

In the academic year 2019/2020, the REC initiated a university-wide research study focusing on the energy consumption of fluorescent lighting units. The study revealed a significant potential for energy reduction—50%—if equivalent LED lighting units with the same luminous intensity were used. Building upon this insight, in the year 2020/2021, REC successfully executed a project to replace 5500 lighting units across all university buildings. This involved the replacement of 80-Watt fluorescent lighting units with more energy-efficient 36-Watt LED lighting.

Research aligned with these SDGs has seen notable advancements in recent years, thanks to the overarching research policy at the university that identifies SDGs research as a top priority.

The ASU Renewable Energy Center, founded in 1996, serves as a hub for addressing research inquiries from our academic staff and students. Its primary focus is to stay abreast of new technologies in the energy field, particularly renewable energy, which has garnered global attention from countries worldwide.

<http://energy.asu.edu.jo/>

Evidence 1: real time data is generated daily at the Renewable Energy Center about the amounts of energy used and the amount of reduction in Carbon generation. The renewable energy center is in charge of measuring and monitoring the amount of low energy carbon used across the university.

## SDG 14 Life Below Water

This goal focuses on protecting marine ecosystems and biodiversity. Also aims to protect and ensure the sustainable use of oceans. This includes reducing marine pollution and ocean acidification. It also works towards ending overfishing and devising ways for conserving marine and coastal ecosystems

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development.

Due to ASU geographic location, which is in the middle of Jordan Capital – Amman it is far from the sea or water natural sources, so that this SDG is not applicable to ASU.

## SDG 15 Life on Land

This goal aims to preserve and restore terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity. protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

Healthy ecosystems protect the planet and sustain livelihoods. Forests and rangelands sustain a range of industries, generate jobs and income and act as a source of food, medicine and fuel for more than a billion people.

For Examples:

- ASU provides sustainable management of land for agriculture and tourism (educational outreach) through offer educational program/outreach for local or national communities on sustainable management of land for agriculture and tourism.
- ASU has a policy on reducing plastic waste on campus “The University adheres to strict procedures related to controlling the use of hazardous materials such as plastic and other similar materials, as procurement and purchase department is not allowed to buy any plastic materials unless there is no other alternative, in order to prevent and mitigate any possible effects on public health, also on the surrounding environment (inside and outside the university). The procedures related to this policy recommend: the use of recycled material and minimizing the use of different types of plastic materials”. Policy guide page 78

## SDG 16 Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. This goal focuses on promoting peace, justice, and strong governance.

ASU has elected representation on the university’s highest governing body from students (both undergraduate and graduate), faculty, and staff (non-faculty employees). These unions play a crucial role in providing governance input to the university and offering support for students, in addition to organizing social activities.

Evidence 1: The University Council, chaired by the ASU President, serves as the highest governing body at the university. It includes representation from various stakeholders, such as the ASU Vice President(s), the Deans of Faculties, the Dean of Student Affairs, the Dean of Scientific Research and Graduate Studies, a Representative from each Faculty, the Head of the Quality Assurance Unit, the Financial Manager, students' representatives, local community, and alumni representatives.

<https://www.asu.edu.jo/en/About-ASU/Pages/University-Council.aspx>

Evidence 2: The university policy guide, specifically on policy page 7, outlines the evaluation of the Governance Council and top management performance.

<https://www.asu.edu.jo/ar/Quality-and-Accreditation/Documents/Policies-Manual-2022-2023en.pdf>