



## Annual Report for SDG16

### Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Badr University's in Cairo (BUC) independent Student Union and the Student Activities Department work together to create a supportive, engaging, and dynamic environment for students. By offering a range of extracurricular activities, fostering student leadership, and organizing internal and external competitions, these bodies ensure that students have opportunities for personal, academic, and professional development. This comprehensive approach contributes to the overall well-being of students, preparing them for success both during their time at the university and beyond.

#### Support and Care for Students

##### Facilitating Student Activities

- **Student Welfare:** The Student Activities Department is involved in addressing student concerns related to well-being, including academic support, mental health initiatives, and social integration. By offering services that enhance the student experience, the department helps ensure that students have a positive and fulfilling time at university.
- **Counseling and Guidance:** Through the Student Union, students have access to counseling services or peer support networks, helping them navigate challenges, whether personal, academic, or social. This can create a supportive environment, particularly for new students or those facing difficulties.
- **Campus Engagement:** The Student Activities Department coordinates a wide variety of student-run activities, events, and clubs. These might include cultural, artistic, and sporting activities, which not only provide students with a break from their studies but also contribute to personal growth, leadership, and teamwork skills.
- **Clubs and Societies:** The university supports a range of clubs and societies that cater to diverse interests, including sports, arts, music, drama, literature, and more. These provide students with a platform to pursue their passions, develop new skills, and form lasting friendships.

Badr University in Cairo (BUC) has a clear commitment to engagement and collaboration with local stakeholders, including residents, local government, civil society representatives, and community groups such as refugee resettlement agencies. Ensuring that these stakeholders have meaningful mechanisms for participating in university decision-making is an essential part of BUC's strategic plan for 2022-2027. This approach fosters community integration, promotes social responsibility, and enhances the university's role in addressing societal challenges. Here's how Badr University can achieve the following.

Badr University (BUC) has a formal commitment to preventing corruption, bribery, and organized crime through comprehensive policies, clear reporting mechanisms, and educational programs. These efforts are designed to protect the integrity of the institution, create a safe environment for students and staff, and ensure that all members of the BUC community adhere to high ethical standards. The university's stance on these matters included in its official publications and communicated through various platforms (BUC Website and Facebook) to ensure full awareness and compliance.

### **Preventing and Address Corruption**

- **Anti-Corruption Policies:** BUC have a formal anti-corruption policy that outlines procedures for identifying, reporting, and addressing any form of corruption. This could include corruption in academic affairs as well as corruption in administrative processes.
- **Zero-Tolerance Approach:** Like many institutions, BUC adopts a zero-tolerance policy toward corruption, emphasizing that any form of bribery, fraud, or unethical behavior will result in severe consequences. This explicitly mentioned in official documents and student handbooks.
- **Code of Ethics:** BUC's Code of Ethics or Code of Conduct serve as a formal document, outlining the university's expectations for ethical behavior among students, faculty, and staff. The code address not just academic matters but also interactions within the campus and with external parties, reinforcing the importance of honesty, fairness, and transparency.

Badr University, as a body, supports and upholds the principle of academic freedom as a core value. This include freedom for faculty and researchers to choose their research topics, the right to teach and speak publicly about their work, and a commitment to protecting academic inquiry from censorship, political or commercial influence, and other forms of interference. Policies supporting academic freedom would be clearly articulated in official university documents, ensuring that all members of the university community can contribute to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge in a safe and supportive environment.

### **Freedom to Choose Areas of Research:**

- **Autonomy in Research:** Faculty and researchers at Badr University are afforded the freedom to choose their areas of research without external interference. This means that professors, researchers, and students can explore a wide range of topics in their fields, whether those areas are traditional or cutting-edge, controversial or conventional.
- **Encouragement of Innovation:** BUC encourages innovative and interdisciplinary research, providing faculty and students with the flexibility to pursue new ideas and push the boundaries of knowledge. The university provides research grants, resources, and institutional support to ensure that researchers can explore their interests freely.
- **Research Ethics Committees:** While academic freedom is protected, Badr University has research ethics committees to ensure that research is conducted ethically, responsibly, and in accordance with national and international guidelines, especially for sensitive or potentially controversial subjects.

Badr University in Cairo, like many higher education institutions in Egypt, plays a significant role in contributing to community development, particularly through partnerships with various government ministries and organizations. The university's involvement with the Ministry of Social Solidarity could take various forms, typically aimed at promoting social welfare, sustainable development, and support for underserved communities.

In terms of specific collaboration, here are some potential areas in which the Badr University Foundation might contribute, especially through joint projects with the Ministry of Social Solidarity

#### **1. Social Welfare Programs**

- **Community Outreach:** Badr University participates in or organizes outreach initiatives that address local social challenges. This includes campaigns for poverty alleviation, healthcare access, education, and other social services in collaboration with the Ministry.
- **Social Development Projects:** Through the university's research and community service programs, students and faculty may contribute to initiatives designed to improve living conditions, provide vocational training, or support marginalized communities.

## 2. Vocational and Professional Development

- **Skills Training:** In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, the university runs training programs to enhance skills for unemployed individuals or vulnerable groups. This includes job readiness training, technical skills, or entrepreneurial programs.
- **Empowerment Programs for Women and Youth:** The university helps to design and implement programs aimed at empowering women, youth, or persons with disabilities, which are key groups supported by the Ministry of Social Solidarity in Egypt.

To sum up, Badr University's Foundation, through partnerships with the Ministry of Social Solidarity, is engaged in a variety of community development activities, contributing expertise, research, and practical support to help improve the lives of individuals and communities across Egypt.

Badr University (BUC), like many universities, plays a pivotal role in providing outreach, general education, upskilling, and capacity-building programs to a variety of stakeholders, including policymakers, government officials, and the general public. Through a collaborative partnership, Badr University and the Ministry of Labor can play a key role in upskilling graduates, training public officials, and building capacity in critical areas such as law, economics, technology, climate change, and migration. By offering free training programs, workshops, and capacity-building initiatives, BUC contributes to Egypt's national development goals and help create a more skilled, informed, and capable workforce that can tackle the country's evolving challenges. This partnership not only benefits individual graduates and policymakers but also strengthens the broader socio-economic landscape.

Two initiatives the Entrepreneur-Club (E-Club) and the Second International Scientific Conference on One Health—highlight Badr University's significant contributions to economic empowerment and global health challenges. The E-Club helps train and support aspiring entrepreneurs, fostering innovation and economic growth within the community, while the scientific conference tackles climate change and global health issues through a collaborative, One Health approach, bringing together experts to address sustainable development and the future of public health in a rapidly changing world. Both initiatives contribute to creating a knowledge-driven society that can meet the challenges of the future in a holistic and innovative manner.