

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



17.2.5 Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs

17.2.5 - Does your university as a body collaborate with NGOs to tackle the SDGs through:

- student volunteering programmes,
- research programmes,
- development of educational resources

Yes

Table of Contents

I. Introduction: The Mandate of NGO Collaboration.....	3
II. SDG 17.2.5 Compliance Requirements	3
III. Compliance Evidence: Collaboration Pillars	3
3.1 Student Volunteering Programmes.....	4
3.2 Development of Educational Resources and Capacity Building.....	8
3.3 Collaboration on Research Programs.....	14
IV. Conclusion: UBT as a Key Third-Sector Partner	16

I. Introduction: The Mandate of NGO Collaboration

Sustainable Development Goal 17 emphasizes that achieving the 2030 Agenda relies heavily on revitalizing and strengthening global partnerships. As the cornerstone of the assessment methodology for institutional impact rankings, SDG 17 is mandatory for inclusion and carries the highest weighting (22%) in the overall score.

This report demonstrates the University of Business and Technology's (UBT) compliance with a key qualitative metric under this Goal: Indicator 17.2.5: Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs. This metric measures how universities actively partner with NGOs—non-profit, voluntary citizens' groups that are independent of government control—to pool resources and collectively tackle social issues aligned with the SDGs.

II. SDG 17.2.5 Compliance Requirements

To demonstrate compliance with Indicator 17.2.5, the university must collaborate with NGOs to tackle the SDGs through specific mechanisms. UBT provides documented evidence across the following required areas:

1. Student volunteering programmes.
2. Research programmes.
3. Development of educational resources.

III. Compliance Evidence: Collaboration Pillars

UBT leverages its Centers for Community Responsibility and academic departments to establish robust, auditable partnerships with regional NGOs focusing on critical SDG areas such as well-being (SDG 3), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), quality education (SDG 4), and community engagement (SDG 17).

3.1 Student Volunteering Programmes

UBT actively collaborates with NGOs to create opportunities for students and staff to participate in hands-on, volunteer-based community service, directly meeting the requirements of this metric.

- Inclusive Sports Volunteering (Saudi Special Olympics Federation): UBT signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Saudi Special Olympics Federation. This agreement specifically focuses on enhancing inclusive sports programs and initiatives through local and international volunteering opportunities.

The University of Business and Technology Signs Memorandum of Understanding with the Saudi Special Olympics Federation



- Community Health Volunteering (AlBir Society Jeddah): UBT students and staff participated in a walking event celebrating the Saudi National Day, which was organized by the AlBir Society in Jeddah. This participation promotes national patriotism and public health by encouraging a healthy lifestyle.

Volunteering: A Leader's Vision and a Nation's Message



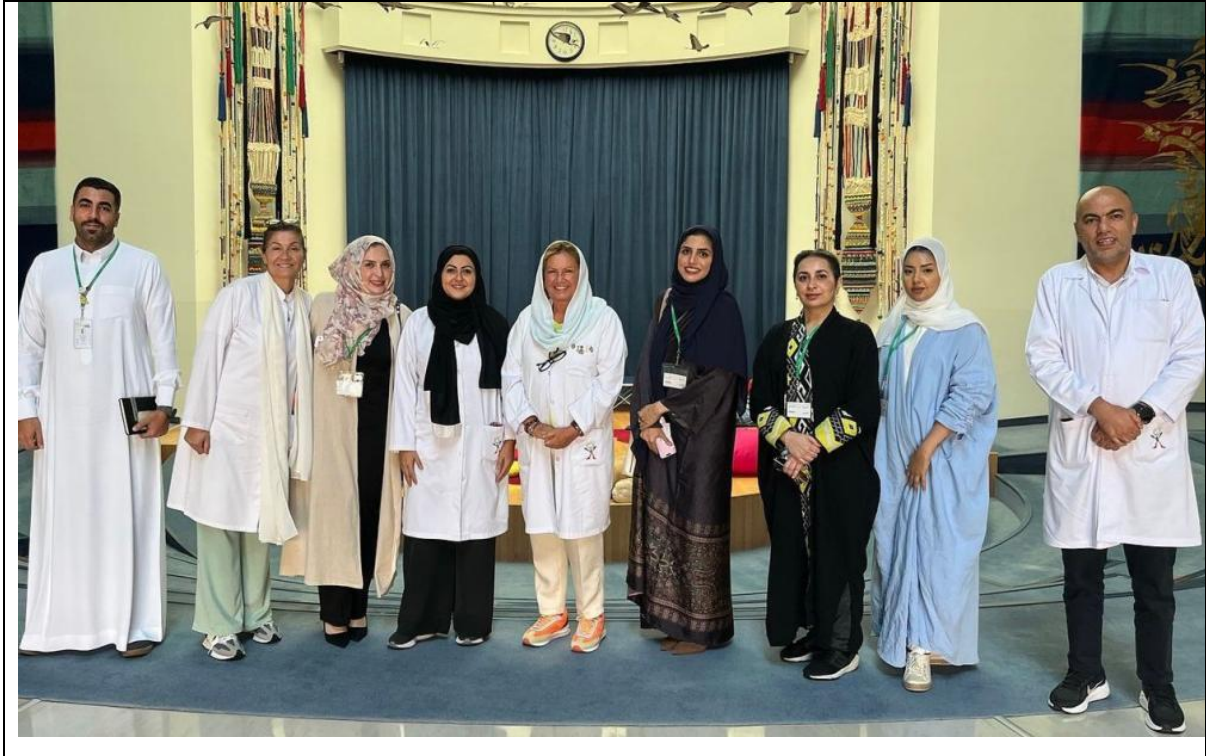
- Therapeutic NGO Support (Wesal Alkhair): UBT hosted an alumna, Ms. Latifa Momenah (CEO and founder of Wesal Alkhair), who gave an inspiring talk on volunteerism. She actively encouraged students and staff to register and get involved as volunteers with her therapeutic riding program, which supports individuals with physical, emotional, and cognitive challenges.

UBT Hosts Alumni Guest Speaker, Ms. Latifa Momenah, to Inspire Volunteerism



- Exploring Disability Support Volunteering (The Help Center): A UBT delegation, including the Director of the Community Responsibility Center, visited The Help Center to discuss potential collaboration avenues, explicitly including volunteer opportunities for students and staff.

UBT at the Community Responsibility Center



3.2 Development of Educational Resources and Capacity Building

UBT collaborates with NGOs to create or enhance educational resources, training programs, and critical skills development workshops for both the student body and the community served by the NGO, aligning with the metric's requirements for developing educational resources.

- **Entrepreneurship and Skills Development (Injaz Saudi Arabia):** UBT signed an MOU with Injaz Saudi Arabia in support of entrepreneurship. This collaboration led to hosting the "Company Program" competition, which helps students set up their own businesses and gain entrepreneurial skills. Additionally, workshops on project management and the program were organized in collaboration with Injaz.



- Youth Skills Training (Mutqen Program): UBT collaborated with the Mutqen program (a community service initiative) through the Career Center and Community Responsibility Center. An MOU was signed to strengthen community service relations that contribute to the development of young people's abilities and qualify them for professional growth. This included providing a variety of programs and products that enable youth to possess life and professional skills, such as the interactive session “Discover Your Depths” using the DISC personality assessment.

Mutqen program in UBT



- NGO Strategy and Service Enhancement (Al-Faisalya Women's Welfare Society): UBT actively participated in the Strategy Ideation Workshop with the Al-Faisalya Women's Welfare Society. This collaboration involved UBT faculty sharing knowledge and expertise and contributing to the design of innovative initiatives across tracks like Human Capital Development and Digital Transformation, providing crucial capacity development for the NGO.

UBT Strategy Building with Al- Faisalya Women's Welfare Society



- Community Volunteering Education (AlBir Society Jeddah): UBT collaborated with the AlBir Society Jeddah to organize a seminar on volunteering, aimed at sharing experiences, promoting a culture of volunteering, and exchanging knowledge in community development.

Volunteering: A Leader's Vision and a Nation's Message



- Support for Orphan Empowerment Strategies (Ekhaa Foundation): Dr. Sarah Zakour from UBT participated in a workshop held by the Orphan Foundation “Ekhaa”. Her contribution provided valuable insights and recommendations on how to enhance strategies for orphan empowerment.



- Youth Education Outreach (Global Shapers Community): UBT enthusiastically supported the Eduindustry initiative by the Global Shapers Community in Jeddah. UBT hosted an entrepreneurship workshop facilitated by Global Shapers personnel, aiming to enhance high school students' understanding of the job market and equip them with essential skills.

UBT & Eduindustry Initiative



3.3 Collaboration on Research Programs

While the primary collaborations focus on education and volunteerism, UBT's engagement with NGOs often involves a strong element of knowledge mobilization and expert critique, which satisfies the research/knowledge exchange aspect of the collaboration metric.

- **Research Alignment Dialogue (National Center for Family Businesses):** The CEO of the National Center for Family Businesses (a key national institution, which often acts similarly to a major non-profit/quasi-NGO in its focus) visited UBT to discuss collaboration avenues. The purpose of the visit was explicitly to discuss ways of collaboration in the areas of scientific research, executive training, and social responsibility. Furthermore, UBT faculty contributed policy-focused insights aimed at enhancing strategies for the NGO Ekhaa Foundation.

National Center for Family Businesses Visit to UBT



- International Research Networks: UBT participates in global sustainability initiatives like the PRME Middle East Chapter Regional Forum, which involves collaborative efforts between academia, industry, and government for a sustainable future, including topics like Responsible Production and Consumption (SDG 12). While this latter example involves government/industry, participation demonstrates UBT's alignment with international networks often working toward NGO-related outcomes.



IV. Conclusion: UBT as a Key Third-Sector Partner

The University of Business and Technology consistently demonstrates comprehensive compliance with SDG 17 Indicator 17.2.5 by forging strategic partnerships with a variety of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and third-sector entities. UBT's collaborative approach effectively mobilizes institutional resources to tackle the SDGs across all three required mechanisms of the indicator. By actively integrating NGO partnerships into its core functions, UBT not only fulfills the technical requirements of this crucial SDG 17 metric but also reinforces its central role in building a "socially conscious community" and enhancing "social development and integration" within the Kingdom.