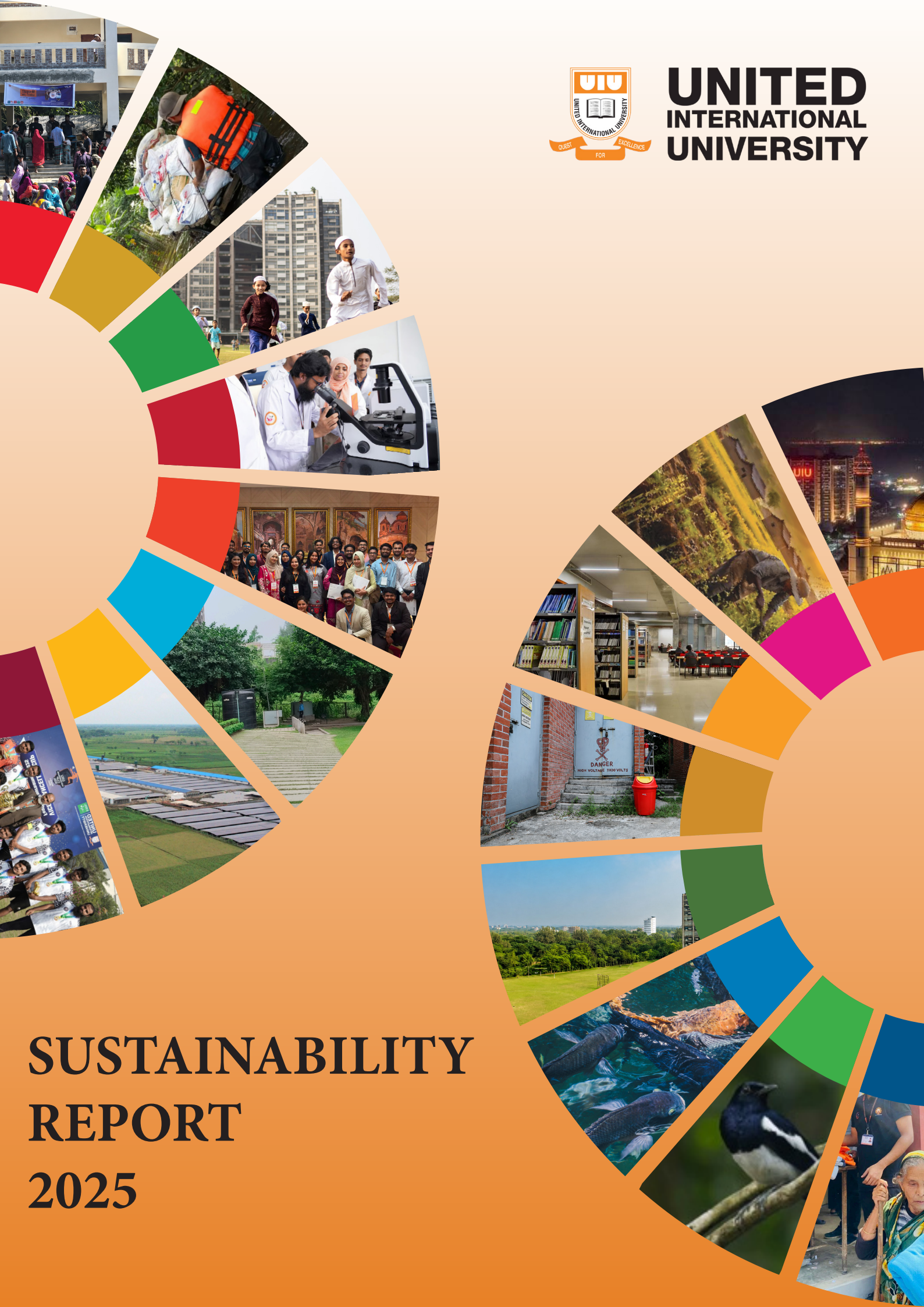
UNITED INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

PREFACE

United International University (UIU) continues its strong commitment to advancing sustainability and contributing meaningfully to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a leading higher education institution, UIU integrates quality, innovation, and social responsibility into its academic framework, research, and community initiatives. The university places special emphasis on key priority goals, including SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Through interdisciplinary research led by centers such as the Institute of Research, Innovation, Incubation, and Commercialization (IRIIC), alongside hands-on projects and collaborative workshops, UIU empowers faculty and students to address pressing local and global challenges. By forging strong partnerships with government agencies, international bodies, industry leaders, and civil society, UIU acts as a catalyst for transformative action, shaping an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable future.

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UIU Campus

ampliflying impact 2025

FORWARD



Dr. Md. Abul Kashem Mia
Vice Chancellor

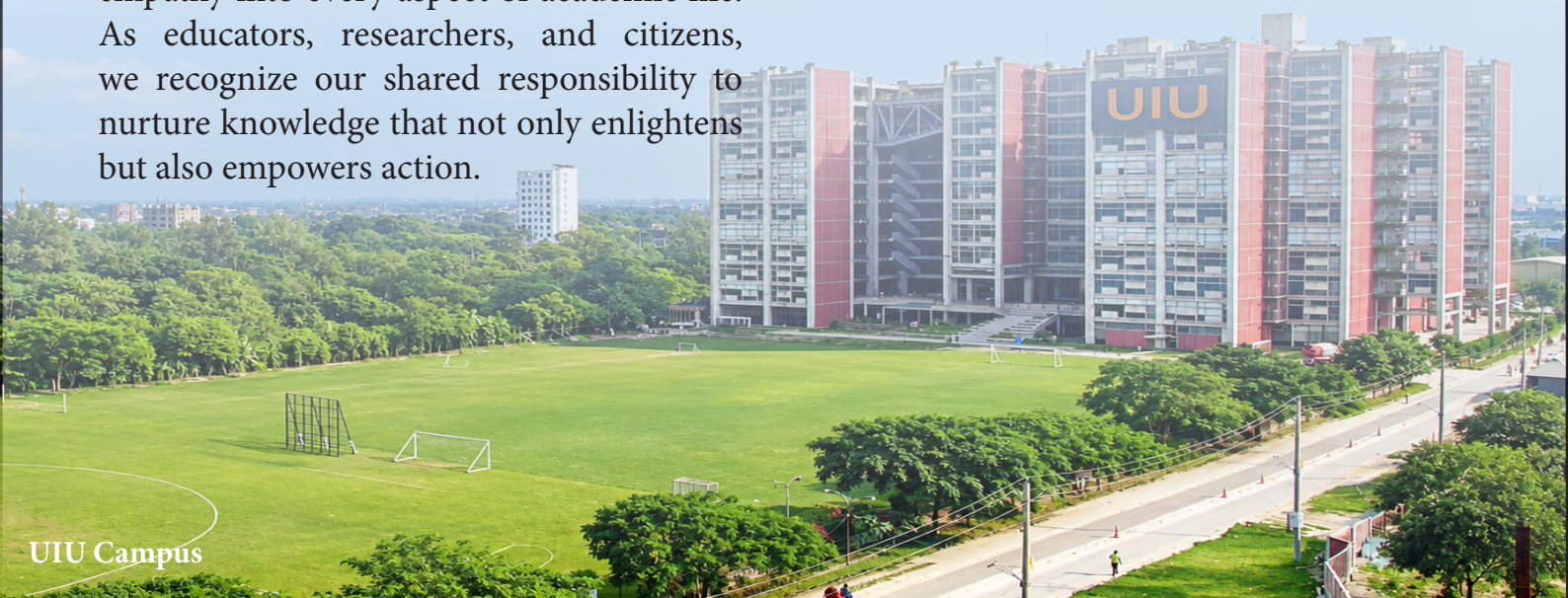
We are navigating an era defined by profound transformation where environmental degradation, economic inequality, technological disruption, and social fragmentation converge into a shared global challenge. This polycrisis is not a distant phenomenon, it is unfolding around us, shaping our daily realities, our institutions, and the lives of those we educate. Yet, amid this complexity lies an extraordinary opportunity to reimagine how we live, learn, and lead in pursuit of a more sustainable and equitable future.

At United International University (UIU), our vision of sustainability extends far beyond reducing footprints or managing resources, it encompasses a holistic approach, one that integrates innovation, ethics, and empathy into every aspect of academic life. As educators, researchers, and citizens, we recognize our shared responsibility to nurture knowledge that not only enlightens but also empowers action.

This report embodies UIU's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), serving as both a reflection of our progress and a reaffirmation of our purpose. Across disciplines, our faculty and students are engaged in research that addresses climate resilience, renewable energy, poverty alleviation, gender equity, and digital inclusion. Our campus practices promote conscious resource use, while our partnerships strengthen community well-being and national development.

As Bangladesh stands at the crossroads of rapid urbanization and climate vulnerability, universities like UIU have a pivotal role to play. We are not merely observers of change, we are catalysts for transformation, bridging knowledge with impact, and innovation with compassion. The future we envision must be one built on collaboration, creativity, and care for both people and the planet.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all members of the UIU community and our partners for their unwavering commitment to sustainability. Together, we will continue to learn, adapt, and lead, ensuring that education remains a beacon of hope and a force for a better tomorrow.



UIU Campus

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 1: No Poverty

> *"At United international University (UIU), we believe education is the strongest tool to break the cycle of poverty. In 2024, our efforts under SDG 1 focused on removing financial barriers, supporting disadvantaged students, driving Innovation, and creating meaningful employment opportunities. Together, these initiatives helped thousands of young people pursue education and build better futures.*

1 NO POVERTY





1

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

RESEARCH

Institute of Islamic Banking, Finance & Economics (IIBFE-UIU)

Financial exclusion remains one of the most persistent drivers of poverty in Bangladesh, particularly for households outside the formal banking system. In March 2025, UIU inaugurated the Institute of Islamic Banking, Finance, and Economics (IIBFE-UIU), a dedicated research and training centre focused on Shariah-compliant finance and inclusive economic development. Launched alongside a formal MoU with CSBIB, the institute is building a long-term pipeline of skilled finance professionals for Bangladesh's banking and microfinance sectors, directly strengthening the national workforce's capacity to design and deliver poverty-reduction financial products.

Figure 1.1: Inauguration of the Institute of Islamic Banking, Finance & Economics (IIBFE-UIU), March 2025



Source: UIU Office for Social Responsibility, 2025

Research and Innovation Week 2025

UIU's August 2025 Research and Innovation Week united students, faculty, and industry partners to tackle real community-level challenges. Moving beyond theory, teams developed applied, SDG 1-aligned research projects designed to directly reduce unemployment and economic vulnerability in local communities.

Figure 1.2: Research and Innovation Week 2025, industry-academia poster session, Aug 2025



Source: UIU Office of Research, Innovation, Incubation and Commercialization (IRIIC), 2025

LEARNING SUPPORT

MoU with Robi Axiata

Signed in December 2025, UIU's industry-academia partnership with Robi Axiata brings artificial intelligence workshops, leadership development sessions, and structured graduate-employability programming onto campus. The agreement targets one of the clearest levers against student poverty: the transition from degree to income.

16 Cr+
financial aid disbursed

19+
programmes & events(2025)

100%
non-repayable community support

Free Skill Development for Employment

"Get Set Go" (English & public speaking), Mock Interview Sessions, Professional Skills Development 1.0 & 2.0 (Corporate Excel, CV writing, interview technique), and the HSBC Student Work Placement Roadshow offered career-readiness training entirely free of cost.

A seminar on China's economy (25 Feb 2025) introduced Mandarin language learning as a route into international job markets, broadening the markets UIU graduates can compete in.

Figure 1.4: Students' Skill Development for Employment, Free of Charge



Source: UIU Career Development Center, 2025

OPERATIONS

MoU with Bangladesh Finance PLC

UIU signed a memorandum of understanding with Bangladesh Finance PLC in September 2025 to formally connect the corporate finance sector with university research and student development, spanning financial literacy training, joint applied research on financial inclusion. Combined with UIU's **BDT16 Cr+** in annual financial aid, this reflects institutional-level commitment to removing cost as a barrier to education.

Figure 1.5: MoU signing with Bangladesh Finance PLC, Sept 2025



Source: UIU Office for Social Responsibility, 2025

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Winter Clothes Distribution 2025

Chilmari Upazila in Kurigram District sits in one of Bangladesh's most climate- and poverty-vulnerable char regions. On 11–12 December 2025, UIU volunteers and staff distributed winter clothing directly to underprivileged families in several char communities ahead of the cold season.

Figure 1.6: Winter Clothes Distribution, Chilmari Upazila, Kurigram, 11–12 Dec 2025



Source: UIU Office for Social Responsibility, 2025

Eid Clothes Distribution & Iftar with Orphans

UIU's Social Services Club organised an Eid clothing distribution and iftar programme for orphaned children, direct, non-repayable support (THE Indicator 1.3.3), run entirely by student volunteers.

Figure 1.7: Eid Clothes Distribution and Iftar with Orphans, UIU Social Services Club, 2025



Source: UIU Social Services Club, 2025

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

> *"At United International University (UIU), we recognize that food security begins at home, on our own campus, before it can be addressed in the wider community. In 2025–2026, our efforts under SDG 2 spanned affordable campus dining, food-security research through IDSS-UIU, farmer-facing markets and seminars, and recurring emergency food relief for vulnerable communities across Bangladesh.*





2 ZERO HUNGER

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

OPERATIONS

Campus Food Outlets & Student Hunger Interventions

UIU operates seven distinct food outlets across campus, including specialised coffee shops such as Brew, a juice bar, the international fast-food chain CP Five Star, and Khan's Kitchen, reportedly the largest kitchen chain in Asia. Most outlets sit on the ground floor for easy access, with an additional food shop on the third floor serving students attending upper-level classes. All outlets are monitored by a dedicated UIU inspection team covering hygiene, pricing, and portion quality. A faculty lounge additionally provides tea, coffee, and snacks during office hours, and UIU supplies food at every meeting, seminar, and workshop held on campus.

Figure 2.1: One of the seven food outlets on campus



Source: UIU campus food outlet survey

Sustainable and Healthy Food Choices

Several outlets, including Toua's Kitchen, offer vegetarian and vegan options alongside standard fast-food items, giving students a spectrum of sustainable food choices. While not every outlet stocks health-forward items, vegetables, lemon juice, and similar options are available at select shops, and pricing across the food court remains broadly affordable for the student population.

Figure 2.2: Vegetarian and vegan kitchen service counter



Source: UIU campus food outlet survey

Food Purchases & Waste Tracking

UIU procures food from local and sustainable sources, reducing transport emissions, supporting soil health at nearby farms, and keeping spending within the local economy. Food waste across campus outlets is monitored through kitchen staff observation and active waste-reduction practices, supporting UIU's approach to responsible food management under Indicator 2.2.1.

9+
community relief initiatives

8,000+
students served daily

100%
local & sustainable food purchasing

Sustainable & Local Food Sourcing

UIU prioritises food purchases from local and sustainable sources across its campus outlets, a choice that delivers benefits well beyond the plate. Shorter transport distances mean lower greenhouse gas emissions from food delivery. Nearby farms, often practising organic methods, help protect soil health and reduce harmful chemical runoff. Buying local keeps spending inside the regional economy, strengthening the communities UIU sources from. And because produce is harvested closer to peak ripeness, students get food at its freshest, better taste, better nutrition.

RESEARCH

Food Security Research, Institute of Development Studies and Sustainability (IDSS-UIU)

UIU builds food-security knowledge primarily through IDSS-UIU's academic research, aligned with the FAO's four-pillar framework of food availability, access, utilisation, and stability. Researchers examine food insecurity among vulnerable groups, from low-income households in Dhaka South City to farming communities across rural Bangladesh, highlighting inflation, high food prices, climate-driven droughts and floods, low income, and transport disruption as the key threats to dietary diversity and food access.

Figure 2.3: FGD on Sustainable Development & Local Adaptation



Source: Institute of Development Studies and Sustainability (IDSS) – UIU

UIU International Conference on Sustainable Development (UIU-ICSD)

IDSS-UIU organises the UIU-ICSD, an international academic conference centred on sustainable agriculture, food security, and climate adaptation, positioning UIU as a regional convening point for food-security scholarship.

Figure 2.4: UIU International Conference on Sustainable Development



Source: IDSS-UIU Official Website

STUDENT INNOVATION

Student & Graduate Engagement in Global Food Challenges

UIU students compete in the Hult Prize Challenge UIU, tackling global food and poverty challenges through student-designed ventures, and UIU graduates go on to contribute professionally to international bodies including the United Nations World Food Programme.

AI-Maati o Manush (AI for Soil and People) Policy Panel

Run in association with the AI Forum Bangladesh, this seminar series brings sector experts and agricultural innovators together to explore how digital tools, machine learning, and AI can protect farmers from unfair market intermediaries, forecast weather patterns, and improve regional crop yields, connecting UIU students directly to applied agri-tech policy discussion.

2

STUDENT INNOVATION

UIU Social Services Club: Recurring Food & Emergency Relief

Its 2024 flood response collected dry food, medicine, saline, clothing, and roughly Tk 4.8 million in donations across Feni, Noakhali, and Cumilla within the first two days, one of UIU's clearest direct food-relief actions. The 2025 Korail slum fire assessment identified food and safe drinking water as urgent needs for approximately 1,500 affected households. Recurring Eid programmes (2024, 2025) provided iftar meals and new clothing to 100–150 orphans and underprivileged children each year.

Figure 2.5: UIU Social Service Club Activities



Source: UIU Social Service Club

Local Farmers' Markets Hosted on Campus

The Grand Farmers Market (Friday Haat) runs weekly at Unimart Metro, United City, beside UIU's campus, giving regional farmers and food producers a direct-to-consumer platform for fresh produce, cutting out middlemen. UIU's Entrepreneur Development Forum also hosts Banik Bazar.

Figure 2.6: Local Farmers' Markets Host on Campus Side.



Source: Friday Haat, Unimart Website

Traditional Bengali Food Festival at UIU Playground

Moreover, the DCCSA-run UIU Pitha Utsob festival showcases traditional Bengali food producers supplying dairy, grain, and molasses for the campus-wide event.

Figure 2.7: DCCSA-run UIU Pitha Utsob



Source: UIU Pitha Utsob, TimesUIU

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

> *"At United International University (UIU), we believe a healthy campus is the foundation of a healthy society. Across 2025–2026, our work under SDG 3 spanned institutional health partnerships, community outreach, mental wellbeing support, and safe, smoke-free campus infrastructure, extending care beyond our own students to the wider communities around us.*

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING





RESEARCH

Institutional Research MoUs

In December 2025, UIU signed a research-collaboration MoU with East West University, coordinated jointly through EWU's Center for Research and Training and UIU's Institute for Advanced Research (IAR), covering joint research projects, capacity-building, and co-authored publications. UIU has also signed separate MoUs with United Healthcare Services Limited (UHSL) and United Medical College Hospital (UMCH) in October 2025, both aimed at strengthening research collaboration and advancing work aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Figure 3.1: MoU signing with a partner hospital/ pharmaceutical institution



Source: UIU Office for Social Responsibility, 2025

Hospital, Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Partnerships

UIU maintains active memoranda of understanding with multiple hospitals, diagnostic centres, and pharmaceutical companies, securing affordable healthcare provision for staff and students alongside academic collaboration opportunities. The School of Life Sciences has built a dedicated partnership with Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd., combining student visits to manufacturing facilities with industry professionals serving as guest faculty, giving students direct exposure to Bangladesh's pharmaceutical sector and preparing future pharmacists for community-facing careers.

Public Health Media & Academic Engagement

UIU's academic voice on health reached both broadcast and print audiences in 2025: the "Point of View" podcast, presented with United Healthcare featured a discussion on Bangladesh's pharmaceutical industry and public health literacy with a senior Beximco Pharmaceuticals lead. Separately, UIU's Department of Biotechnology & Genetic Engineering was profiled in Kaler Kantho, and Dr. Md. Rezaul Islam, a research scientist at MIT, delivered a special seminar on brain health and disease using single-cell multiomics (3 Dec 2025).

6+
institutional health MoUs

2
full-time counsellors

2025-2026
period of active partnership signings

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Lung Health & Smoking Cessation Awareness

UIU Social Services Club, under the Directorate of Career Counseling and Student Affairs, organized a lung-health awareness session in collaboration with United Healthcare Services Ltd. in 2025. The session addressed the harmful effects of smoking and vaping, including COPD, reduced lung capacity, and increased susceptibility to respiratory infections, with an interactive Q&A on addiction, prevention, and smoking cessation.

Figure 3.2: Smoking/vaping awareness with United Healthcare Services Ltd.



Source: UIU internal record

Emergency & Crisis Response

UIUSSC's Winter Clothes Distribution 2025 reflecting cross-club mobilisation around a single humanitarian cause. Separately, a four-member UIUSSC team visited the Korail slum following a major fire that destroyed 500–600 homes and affected more than 6,000 residents. The team's on-the-ground assessment found that while government and humanitarian organisations were already supplying food, water, and blankets, many daily-wage residents remained unable to resume work due to psychological distress, identifying clothing, safe drinking water, food, and women's hygiene products as the community's most urgent continuing needs.

Eid Clothes Distribution & Blood Donation

UIUSSC's 2025 Eid programme distributed new clothes and shared iftar with 110 underprivileged and orphan children, run with faculty and volunteer support. In September 2025, the club also ran a Blood Donation Campaign paired with a Thalassemia Awareness seminar, delivered in partnership with the Bangladesh Thalassemia Foundation.

Figure 3.3: Distribution of new cloths among orphans



Source: IDSS-UIU Official Website

Civic & Preventive Health Initiatives

A 14-member UIUSSC team ran a Road Cleaning Campaign around the university on 24 January 2025, tying community cleanliness directly to public health. Separately, UIU's "From AWARE to EMPOWER" programme raised awareness of breast cancer and early screening, supported by a dedicated digital healthcare solution for the UIU community.

Figure 3.4: Road Cleaning Campaign, UIUSSC, 24 Jan 2025



Source: UIU internal record

3

MENTAL HEALTH

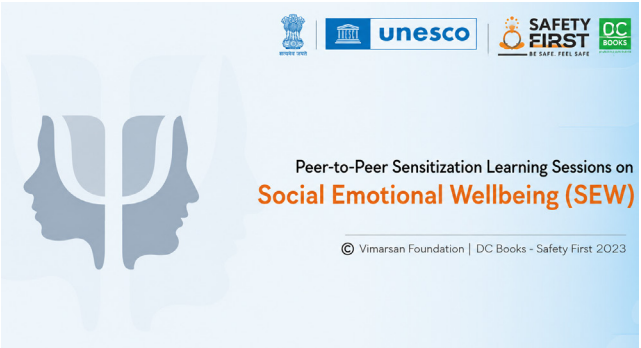
UIU Mental Health and Psychological Counselling Center

UIU operates a dedicated Mental Health and Psychological Counselling Center staffed by two full-time, experienced counsellors, bookable directly through the UIU Wellness Portal. The centre serves both students and staff, positioning mental health support as a standing institutional service rather than a one-off initiative.

National Wellbeing Partnerships

UIUSSC partnered with UNESCO and the University Grants Commission (UGC) on the "Let's Talk Well-Being" campaign (November 2025), a national initiative aimed at breaking stigma around mental health. This was followed by a UGC–UNESCO "Peer-to-Peer Orientation Learning Session on Social Emotional Wellbeing" (17 December 2025), led by Dr. Syed Tanveer Rahman of the University of Dhaka's Department of Psychology, focused on emotion management and healthy relationship-building for students.

Figure 3.5: Let's Talk Well-Being' campaign, Nov 2025



Source: UIUSSC / UNESCO-UGC

Culture & Community as Wellbeing Support

UIU Cultural Club's calendar of seasonal celebrations, UIU Barshabaron Utsab 1432 (Bengali New Year, 30 April 2025), UIU Autumn Festival 1432 (18 October 2025), and UIU Unplugged 9 musical showcase (30 August 2025), provides recurring, informal social outlets that support student wellbeing alongside formal counselling services.

Faculty Wellbeing

Beyond student-facing services, UIU maintains a faculty lounge offering refreshment and gaming facilities, supporting relaxation and mental wellbeing for faculty members between teaching commitments.

HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Shared Sports Facilities

UIU's university ground, gymnasium, and game room support student and staff sporting activity and intra-university tournaments, with the field also shared with local schools and outside institutions for community sporting events, promoting an active lifestyle beyond the campus boundary.

Figure 3.6: UIU university ground and sports facilities



Source: UIU internal record

Sexual & Reproductive Healthcare Access

The UIU Medical Center provides students with access to sexual, mental, and reproductive healthcare services, including information and education, with periodic awareness events run to build understanding among the student body.

Figure 3.7: UIU Medical Center



Source: UIU internal record

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 4: Quality Education

> *"At United International University (UIU), quality education means more than a degree. It means producing qualified teachers, opening our campus to lifelong learners, and carrying knowledge beyond our own gates. In 2025, 84% of our eligible graduates earned teaching qualifications, and our clubs and institutes ran a steady calendar of public learning events and outreach reaching well beyond the student body.*





4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

TEACHING GRADUATES

Producing Primary-Level Teaching Qualifications

Of UIU's 629 graduates measured under this metric, 529 (84%) gained a qualification entitling them to teach at primary school level. This reflects a structural strength in UIU's degree design: a large share of its graduate output carries direct relevance to Bangladesh's primary education workforce, not as a side effect but as a built-in outcome of the curriculum.

LEARNING EVENTS

Community Educational & Health-Literacy Events

UIU hosted a run of community-facing educational events through 2025, each open to the general public rather than restricted to enrolled students: the Qirat Competition & Eid Clothes Distribution with Orphans (15 March 2025), a Thalassemia Awareness & Free Screening Campaign (2 August 2025), a seminar on "Blood Donation Benefits & Thalassemia Awareness" (21 September 2025), and a paired Blood Test & Blood Donation Campaign (20–21 September 2025). Together these events combine public health literacy with open-campus access, meeting the lifelong-learning bar of events "open to the general public.

Figure 4.1: Qirat Competition among Orphans



Source: uiu.ac.bd/event/qirat-competition-eid-clothes-distribution-among-orphans-with-iftar-2025

Debate & Public Discourse

UIU students took part in "Justice 1.0," an online debate competition held 6–9 March 2025, engaging with the different social dimensions of justice in Bangladesh, opening a public discourse platform beyond the university's own student body.

LEARNING EVENTS

Tarunno Manch 2025

UIU students and staff participated in Tarunno Manch 2025 (21–23 August 2025), an education outreach initiative taking UIU's engagement beyond its own campus into the wider community, the clearest evidenced example of "educational outreach activities beyond campus".

84%
Entitled graduates

629
total graduates measured

5+
public lifelong-learning events (2025)

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 5: Gender Equality

> *"At United International University (UIU), gender equality is tracked through application rates, enrollment, graduation, and leadership, with supporting policies developed as the data calls for them. In 2025, women made up over a third of our student body and academic leadership, while new access, scholarship, and family-support policies advanced through formal institutional review.*

5 GENDER EQUALITY





Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5

WOMEN'S ACCESS

Tracking Women's Application

UIU enrolled 817 female undergraduate students in 2025. Of these, 35.29% identified as first-generation university attendees, the first in their immediate family to pursue higher education at any level, based on a dedicated student survey. Tracking the full pipeline, women made up 25.2% of total applicants (1,088 of 4,310) but 36.88% of actual enrollments (817 of 2,215 accepted students), indicating that once admitted, women enroll at a notably higher rate than their share of applications alone would suggest.

Formal Participation Policy

To institutionalise this commitment, UIU has drafted a Women's Access and Participation Policy, guaranteeing equal opportunity for women across application, admission, enrollment, and participation in every academic program and university activity, including research, internships, extracurriculars, and leadership roles, with an explicit non-discrimination and periodic-monitoring clause.

Mentoring and Access Support

UIU's female-student hostel facility currently supports 77 students, providing safe residential access that enables continued participation for women who might otherwise face mobility or family barriers to attending university.

SUPPORT FOR WOMEN

Encouraging Women in Underrepresented Subjects

UIU's Directorate of Career Counseling and Student Affairs (DCCSA) runs outreach workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns aimed at encouraging female applications in fields where women remain underrepresented, an ongoing effort tracked through the university's public events calendar. UIU's CSE alumni pages also feature Achia Nila, a CSE graduate who founded Women In Digital and now serves as Country Director for Women Who Code, her workshops for current students are held up as a direct role model for young women considering software development.

Figure 5.1: Achia Nila (CSE alumna), Founded Women In Digital / Women Who Code



Source: UIU CSE / EDS alumni portal

817
female students enrolled (2025)

38%
of academic staff are women

41.16%
degrees awarded went to women

Scholarships and Financial Assistance

1,241 female students received merit-based, need-based, or enrollment scholarships in 2025, a substantial share of UIU's overall financial aid, directly reducing the economic barriers that most often push women out of higher education before completion. This support is proposed to be formalised further under a dedicated Scholarships and Financial Support Policy for Women, guaranteeing transparent eligibility criteria and dedicated support for financially disadvantaged and underrepresented female applicants.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Senior Female Academic Staff

Of UIU's 339 senior academic staff, 129 are women, a 38% share of senior academic leadership, positioning women meaningfully within UIU's academic decision-making and mentorship structures rather than only its student body.

Degrees Awarded to Women, by Subject Area

Of 882 total graduates in the measured cohort, women earned 41.16% of all degrees awarded. Subject-area breakdown shows with representation varying by discipline: women earned 19.31% of STEM degrees (107 of 554 STEM graduates) compared to 40.73% of Arts & Humanities/Social Sciences degrees (135 of 328 graduates), informing UIU's continued outreach encouraging women's participation in STEM fields under Indicator 5.3.4.

Tracking the Graduation Gender Gap

UIU's own data shows a graduation rate of 27.43% for women and 72.56% for men within the measured cohort. Tracking this data supports UIU's ongoing work under Indicator 5.6.7 to understand and support women's academic progression through to graduation.

POLICIES & PROGRESS

Existing Policy

UIU currently maintains a Maternity Policy, supporting continued participation for mothers among students and staff.

Proposed Policies (in development)

UIU is developing additional policies to further strengthen its support for women across the university:

(i) **Non-Discrimination Policy for Women:** formal protection against gender-based discrimination (proposed).

(ii) Non-Discrimination Policy for Transgender People: proposed for development.

(iii) Childcare Facilities and Family-Support Policy: a dedicated policy is in development to support students and staff with childcare needs.

(iv) Women's Mentoring and Leadership Development Policy: a formal mentoring scheme is being developed to expand structured mentorship opportunities for women.

(v) Paternity Leave and Support Policy: proposed to support shared childcare responsibility and, indirectly, women's continued participation.

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

> *"At United International University (UIU), responsible water management starts with knowing exactly how much we use and extends to protecting the waterways of the city around us. In 2025, UIU measured its full campus water consumption through a metered deep tubewell, upgraded water-efficient fixtures across its buildings, and extended technical support to canal-protection projects across Dhaka through CSIRS.*

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION





Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

6

WATER CONSUMPTION

Measuring Whole-University Water Consumption

UIU measures its total water consumption through a metered on-site deep tubewell (Meter No. 12001886), with official DWASA billing records providing periodic consumption data covering the university's entire water supply. This gives UIU a genuine whole-university measurement baseline, campus population stands at 9,912 (9,202 students, 468 faculty, 242 staff), though supported by DWASA's official billing records, which document the university's periodic consumption pattern.

Wastewater Treatment & Pollution Prevention

Campus sewage is routed through four septic tanks connected to four soak wells, where solids undergo primary treatment before partially treated effluent disperses safely into the ground, avoiding direct discharge into surface drains. The facilities team carries out regular maintenance and desludging, while laboratories follow chemical handling and containment protocols, including neutralisation of acidic/basic solutions, to prevent polluted water entering the wider system.

Free Drinking Water & Water-Efficient Building Standards

UIU provides free, purified drinking water across campus, with two purification stations on every floor, maintained by support staff. Campus buildings incorporate water-efficient fittings in line with BNBC 2020 (Part III, Chapter 4, Clause 4.6.2), including dual-flush toilets (6/4 litres per cycle) and low-flow fixtures, actively reducing potable water demand across the university.

WATER-CONSCIOUS

Drought-Tolerant, Low-Irrigation Landscaping

UIU maintains landscaped green areas built around drought-tolerant, native species, including large Krishnachura and Banyan trees that provide shade, reduce soil evaporation, and moderate campus temperature. Landscaping practices lean on natural rainfall dependence rather than heavy irrigation, with mulching used to conserve soil moisture, an approach that keeps campus greenery water-efficient by design rather than as an afterthought.

4+4
septic tanks & soak wells

2/floor
drinking-water point

100%
buildings fitted with dual-flush

Promoting Conscious Water Use on Campus

UIU actively promotes responsible water use through awareness signage placed near drinking-water stations, paired with lever-type taps and dual-flush toilets already in use across buildings. The awareness boards explicitly discourage wasting drinking water and outline its health value, reinforcing conscious water behaviour among students, staff, and visitors at the point of use.

6 WATER MANAGEMENT

CSIRS Community Water Education

Through the Centre for Smart Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability (CSIRS), UIU delivered water-management education across Gaibandha, Kallyanpur, Barishal, and Dhaka in 2025, spanning stakeholder consultations, field engagement, and community awareness on safely managed sanitation, climate-resilient sanitation, and canal protection. In Kallyanpur specifically, community-based cleanup and awareness activities engaged local students, teachers, and families directly in keeping canal water clean and flowing freely.

Off-Campus Water Conservation, Kallyanpur Canal Project

CSIRS contributed engineering support to the Kallyanpur Canal component of the PLEASE Project, helping design and apply a modular floating waste-interception barrier to capture plastic waste, restore canal flow, and protect the waterway from further pollution, delivered in collaboration with Dhaka North City Corporation, RedOrange, SACEP, and UNOPS.

Cooperation on Water Security

UIU's CSIRS-led work extended into direct cooperation with local government on urban water security, including participation in municipal Climate Action Plan workshops addressing canal protection, drainage, and climate-resilient waterway management, positioning UIU as a technical partner to Dhaka North City Corporation rather than a passive observer of the city's water challenges.

Figure 6.1: Drought-tolerant campus landscaping



Source: UIU internal record

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

> *"At United International University (UIU), affordable and clean energy is not an aspiration but a research discipline. Since 2010, our Centre for Energy Research has run nearly 100 renewable-energy projects, from Bangladesh's first grid-connected solar PV plant to rural mini-grids bringing electricity to communities beyond the national grid, while our newest Solar Energy Lab, built with Huawei, is training the next generation of clean-energy engineers.*

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY





7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy

7

RESEARCH

Centre for Energy Research(CER)

Established in September 2010 under the Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, UIU's Centre for Energy Research has grown into one of Bangladesh's leading renewable-energy research and consultancy centres, delivering close to 100 projects on renewable energy and environmental management, roughly half of them already completed. CER's research spans policy formulation, technology development, and efficient energy management, positioning UIU as a technical resource for the national energy sector rather than a purely academic observer of it.

Rural Electrification Through Solar Mini-Grids

Under the direction of Shahriar Ahmed Chowdhury, CER's team designed solar PV-based mini-grids of varying voltage levels for rural, off-grid areas of Bangladesh, ten of the country's eleven currently operating mini-grids trace back to CER's design work. Each installation has brought electricity for the first time to communities too remote to connect to the national grid, turning UIU's energy research directly into rural development impact.

Bangladesh's First Utility-Scale Grid-Connected Solar Plant

CER also designed the 3.28 MWp Engreen grid-connected solar PV project at Sarishabari, Jamalpur, Bangladesh's first utility-scale, grid-connected solar facility, which began commercial operation in August 2017. Building on this, the centre's director has contributed to drafting national net-energy-metering guidelines to integrate distributed renewable systems into Bangladesh's grid.

INDUSTRY ATTACHMENTS

Huawei–CER Solar Energy Lab

UIU and Huawei jointly inaugurated Bangladesh's first Solar Energy Lab with Energy Storage System (ESS) facilities, based on the UIU campus. The lab offers three-month certificate courses to young engineers and working professionals, directly building the hands-on technical skills needed as Bangladesh's rooftop solar capacity grows. The inauguration, held in UIU's Multipurpose Hall, was chaired by UIU's Vice Chancellor and attended by the Adviser to the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources and the Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh, positioning the lab as a genuine industry-government-university collaboration.

100
renewable energy projects

11
rural solar mini-grids designed

3.28 MWp
BD's first grid-connected solar PV plant

World Bank/IDCOL-Funded Solar DC Mini-Grid Laboratory

CER was awarded a research grant of BDT 1.1 crore from the World Bank, channelled through the Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), to establish a solar DC mini-grid laboratory. Researchers argue DC mini-grids can replace conventional AC mini-grids at lower cost, reducing dependence on imported foreign technology and opening space for local manufacturing, directly supporting Indicator 7.4.5's call for assistance to low-carbon technology innovation.

Peer-to-Peer Smart Village Grid Research

In partnership with ME SOLshare Ltd., CER developed a solar PV peer-to-peer smart village grid, an applied research project exploring how households in a single community can trade excess solar power directly with one another, a model with direct relevance to decentralised clean-energy access in rural Bangladesh.

POLICY ENGAGEMENT

Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (BDP2100)

CER contributes to the Bangladesh Delta Plan (BDP2100), an ongoing national planning initiative run jointly by the Ministry of Planning of the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of the Netherlands, extending UIU's energy research into long-term national infrastructure and climate planning, satisfying Indicator 7.4.4's call for informing government clean-energy policy at the national level.

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

> *"At United International University (UIU), decent work starts with our own employment practices, a uniform, gender-blind salary scale, recognised labour rights, and formal policies against discrimination and forced labour, before extending outward to the 359+ students UIU places into real work placements each year.*

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH





8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

8

WORKPLACE PRACTICE

A Single, Uniform Salary Scale

UIU pays all staff and faculty under one published salary scale, with no gender-based pay tiers, a single equity scale applies university-wide, directly satisfying the pay-scale-equity requirement rather than treating it as a stated aspiration. The scale is publicly available, giving the university a rare degree of pay transparency for its sector.

Labour Rights, Non-Discrimination & Anti-Slavery Commitments

UIU's sustainability policy documents eight distinct employment-practice commitments in sequence: recognition of union and labour rights, including freedom of association and collective bargaining for all staff, including women and international employees; a formal policy against workplace discrimination on the basis of religion, sexuality, gender, age, or refugee status; a policy commitment against forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour; guaranteed equivalent rights for outsourced workers; the pay-scale-equity commitment above; active tracking of pay-scale gender equity; and a formal appeal process for employees to raise concerns about rights or pay. All eight are documented and publicly evidenced through UIU's Sustainability Office.

EMPLOYMENT SCALE

Expenditure Per Employee

Across UIU's 577 employees, total university expenditure of BDT 1,131,087,920 translates to approximately BDT 1,182,078 in expenditure per employee, a figure reflecting the university's full operating scale (salaries, infrastructure, research, and student services) distributed across its workforce, not salary alone.

Figure 8.1: UIU academic and administrative staff at a campus workplace event



Source: UIU sustainability webpage

STUDENT PLACEMENTS

Turning Study Into Paid Experience

Of UIU's 9,202 students, 359 held work placements of more than one month during the reporting period, real, sustained workplace exposure rather than short campus visits, directly building the employability outcomes UIU pursues through its Career Development Center and recruitment drives covered elsewhere in this report

577
total university employees

11.31 Cr+
annual university expenditure

359
Student work placements

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

> *"At United International University (UIU), innovation is measured in outcomes, not intentions. In 2025, our Institute of Research, Innovation, Incubation & Commercialization backed a student team into the top 20 ventures worldwide at Harvard's Health Systems Innovation Lab, ran Bangladesh's exclusive Regional Hub for the HSIL Hackathon two years running, and connected students directly to bKash, Grameenphone, Microsoft, and Robi Axiata through 20 industry-facing activities.*

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE





Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA

A Full Calendar of Industry Exposure

UIU's Directorate of Career Counseling & Student Affairs (DCCSA) and its affiliated clubs ran 20 distinct SDG 9-aligned activities in 2025, 10 organized directly by DCCSA, 10 by student clubs and organizations. These placed students in direct contact with professionals from bKash Limited, Daraz Bangladesh, Banglalink, Augmedix Bangladesh, Grameenphone, Robi Axiata, and Microsoft Bangladesh, spanning telecommunications, fintech, e-commerce, and analytics. A Day-Long Bootcamp on T-Shirt Design Using Creativity & AI gave 40 students hands-on exposure to AI-supported creative work, while club-based programming added MUN and debate events, innovation roadshows, and an industry visit to Cybernetics HiTech Solutions, building professional, technical, and industry-readiness skills well beyond the standard classroom.

STARTUP INCUBATION

Launchpad by UIHP@UIU: IRIIC's Flagship Incubator

Since launching, Launchpad has supported more than 90 startup teams drawn from 30 different universities, with 41 teams successfully graduating, a completion rate of roughly 46%, reflecting a selective, hands-on mentorship process rather than a pass-everyone certificate mill. Graduating teams have shared BDT 15,00,000 in seed funding, with individual grants of up to BDT 150,000, real capital behind student ventures, not symbolic prizes.

Figure 9.1: Launchpad by UIHP@UIU Grand Finale



Source: thedailystar.net/campus/noticeboard/news/uiu-launchpad

Team Soundvision, External Validation

Team Soundvision, after graduating from IRIIC's incubation track, went on to secure BDT 10,00,000 in independent accelerator funding, evidence that skills built inside UIU translate directly into investor confidence outside it.

20
industry/ innovation

90+
startup teams

bdt 15,00,000
seed funding distributed

Global Recognition

Team ShigellaAI (UIU's Dhaka Hub) advanced through the Harvard Health Systems Innovation Lab (HSIL) Venture Building Program 2026 against 14,700+ applications, 12,500+ participants, and 1,500+ teams from 41 countries, breaking into the top 20 ventures worldwide. Along the way the team secured Harvard-led training, global mentorship, and up to USD 25,000 in Microsoft Azure credits.

National Convenor Status

IRIIC has served as Bangladesh's exclusive Regional Hub for the HSIL Hackathon for two consecutive years, drawing over 1,000 participants from 60+ institutions each time and positioning UIU as a national gateway to the competition. Supporting programming includes the Youth Co:lab Springboard Programme 6.0 (March 2024), a Design Thinking seminar (August 2023), the Bangladesh Corpus Public Lecture Series (2024), and co-design workshops with external partners such as ESB and CRP.

9

RESEARCH

United Group Grant to the Institute for Advanced Research

In 2025, UIU's Institute for Advanced Research (IAR) received a BDT 2 Crore grant from United Group, a substantial single-source research investment reflecting industry confidence in UIU's research capacity.

Active Industry & NGO Consultancies (2025–2026)

Beyond this grant, UIU ran an active slate of funded consultancy projects across 2025:

(i) Development of Fecal Waste Flow Diagram (SFD), CWIS Action Plan and Implementation Guideline, funded by SKS Foundation, for 1 City Corporation, 2 Municipalities, and 1 Union (June 2024–September 2025)

(ii) Technical Support to the Plastic Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia Project PLEASE (Kallyanpur Canal Area), funded by RedOrange Limited (2025)

(iii) Revise and Update the National Strategy for Water and Sanitation in Hard-to-Reach Areas of Bangladesh 2012, funded by the Participatory Management Initiative for Development (PMID) (March 2025–January 2026)

(iv) Mapping Urban Flood Vulnerability Using GIS-AHP and Its Implications for Climate-Resilient Sanitation: A Case Study of Barishal City Corporation, funded by SKS Foundation (April 2025–July 2026)

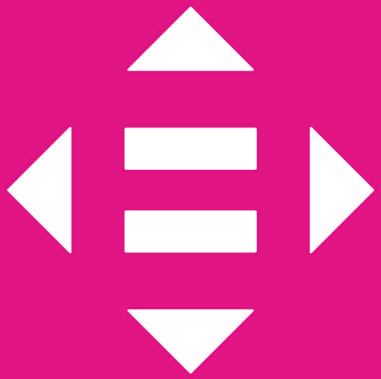
Together these place UIU's research income squarely in applied, government- and NGO-adjacent infrastructure and sanitation consultancy, directly reinforcing the CSIRS work already documented under SDG 6.

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

> *"Reducing inequality means ensuring people from different backgrounds have equal and fair access to education and employment. At United International University, that commitment runs through admissions, recruitment, tuition support, and campus accessibility, supporting students and staff from a wide range of backgrounds.*

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES





10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduce inequality within and among countries

10

REPRESENTATION

First-Generation Students

Of the 2,213 students starting a degree at UIU, 521 are the first in their family to pursue higher education, 23.54% of new intake. This reflects the university's reach across families with varied educational backgrounds.

International Students from Developing Countries

UIU enrolled 4 international students from developing countries within the reporting period, forming part of a student body that draws from a range of national backgrounds.

Students with Disabilities

6 of UIU's 2,213 students are recorded as having a disability, supported through the university's accessibility infrastructure and financial assistance programmes described below.

Employees

UIU's workforce of 467 employees is supported by an equal-opportunity employment policy applied consistently across recruitment and daily university life.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

Equitable Admissions and Recruitment

UIU maintains a non-discriminatory admissions policy. Recruitment follows a selection process aligned with University Grants Commission requirements, based on the qualifications of each position, with every job announcement stating that UIU is an equal opportunity employer.

Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Mechanisms

UIU runs a dedicated Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee alongside a Grievance Committee that addresses discrimination and workplace concerns. Administrative and academic rules are built to prevent discrimination on the basis of disability, religion, race, or gender.

Institutional Oversight

Policy decisions at UIU pass through the Admin and Academic Committee, made up of administrative section heads, academic department heads, Faculty Deans, and the Vice Chancellor, who review and resolve issues as they arise through regular committee dialogue.

23.54%
first-generation students

0.27%
students with disabilities

0.18%
int. students from developing countries

SUPPORT

Tuition Waivers

UIU offers tuition fee waivers of 100% for "poor and meritorious students" and for wards of Liberation War freedom fighters, 25% for students from ethnic and tribal communities, and 25–50% for students with disabilities, in keeping with government mandates and the university's own support policies.

Physical Accessibility

Campus infrastructure includes ramps, designated accessible washrooms, and large-capacity lifts, giving students and employees with physical disabilities direct access to university facilities.

Mental Health & Disability Support

The UIU Mental Health and Psychological Counselling Centre provides trained psychological support for students and employees, working alongside the university's physical accessibility measures as part of a structured disability access scheme that includes mentoring and other targeted support.

Housing Support

UIU employees receive a housing allowance equal to 50% of basic pay. Additionally, United Group, UIU's sponsor, offers accommodation within walking distance of campus, built with physical accessibility for residents with disabilities.

UNITED INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

> *"At United International University (UIU), building a sustainable community starts with the campus itself, a pedestrian-priority environment, subsidized shared transport across Dhaka, and a heritage space preserving Bangladesh's Liberation War history, extended outward through affordable institutional housing and active collaboration with the country's leading urban planners.*

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES





11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

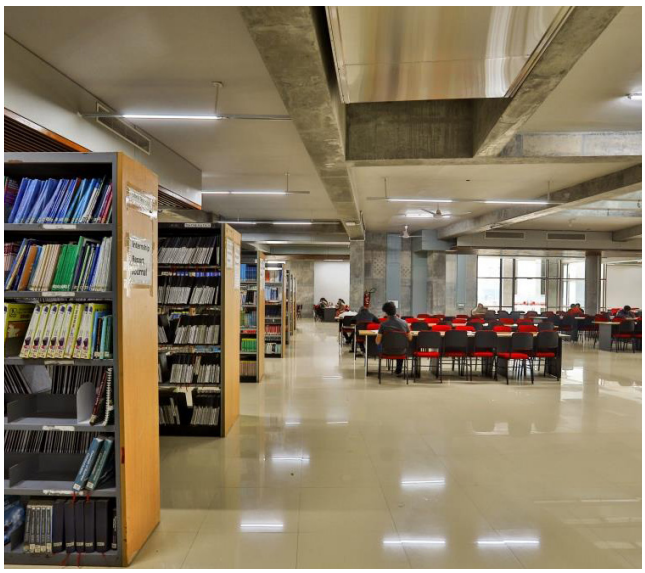
11

HERITAGE & ACCESS

Controlled Public Access & the Shaheed Irfan Library

UIU maintains a formal visitor access system: members of the public, guests, and prospective students register and obtain a Visitor Card from the ground-floor reception desk before entering campus, balancing public accessibility with security, formalised through the Academic and Admin Committee's 258th and 264th meetings. The Shaheed Irfan Library extends this openness further, welcoming outside readers, including researchers, alumni, and prospective students, during designated visitor hours.

Figure 11.1: Shaheed Irfan Library, UIU



Source: UIU sustainability webpage

Swadhinota Corner, Preserving Liberation War Heritage

Housed within the Shaheed Irfan Library, Swadhinota Corner is a dedicated heritage and exhibition space commemorating Bangladesh's Liberation War, featuring historical photographs, documents, and artefacts. Open to students, faculty, alumni, and the public alike, it gives UIU a genuine, standing contribution to national cultural heritage preservation, not a one-off exhibit.

A Full Calendar of Public Cultural Performances

UIU Cultural Club ran a dense 2025 calendar of public performances: UIU Megahunt V-11 (13 January), UIU Orientation Spring 2025 (28 February), UIU Unplugged 9, a full musical showcase with flashmob (30 August), UIU Media Fest 2025 (23 September), UIU Soroter Utshob 1432 (18 October), the 8th UIU Convocation Flashmob, and the UIUCC Annual Picnic in Gazipur (12 December). The club also represented UIU externally, winning recognition at South East University, AIUB (16 September), DIU's Nobanne Bangaliana 2.0 (22 November), and Khulna University's Pochishe Joydhoni (6 December), extending UIU's cultural contribution beyond its own campus into Dhaka's wider university arts scene.

1 Dedicated liberation war heritage space

12+ public cultural performances

4 cultural competitions won/attended

COMMUTING & PEDESTRIAN

A New Shuttle Route, Built From Commuting Research

Based on an internal assessment of student commuting difficulties, UIU introduced an additional shuttle bus route from 1 October 2025, serving students travelling from Shantinagar, Malibagh, Rampura, and Badda, a direct, research-informed response to congestion and safety concerns rather than a routine service expansion.

Subsidized Bus & Free Shuttle Services

UIU runs two complementary transport services: a heavily subsidized student bus service covering major areas of Dhaka, and a free shuttle service connecting UIU with nearby locations, including a new UIU–EWU/Aftabnagar route (launched 4 October 2025) running three buses on scheduled trips. Together these give students an affordable, shared alternative to individual motorized transport across the city.

Figure 11.2: UIU shuttle bus service



Source: UIU sustainability webpage

Remote Academic Work

UIU enabled fully online undergraduate and graduate classes during specified 2025 periods (from 20 May and again from 15 June), reducing campus commuting during those windows and supporting flexible academic delivery.

Pedestrian-Priority Campus Design

Beyond a designated checkpoint near the entrance, regular vehicle access is restricted, letting the main campus function predominantly as a pedestrian zone. Dedicated walkways, physical barriers at vehicle-pedestrian interaction points, and ramped access connecting pathways (visible in Image 2) support both general pedestrian priority and accessible movement for people with mobility needs.

Figure 11.1: Curved pedestrian walkway, campus interior



Source: Authors' Compilation

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Institutional Housing for Employees

UIU employees can access institutional housing through the United Group Executive Complex at United City, with defined monthly rents by apartment type (A/B/C) and dedicated C-Type North accommodation specifically for female bachelor/single employees, including UIU staff. Rents range from roughly BDT 17,500 to 41,000 per month inclusive of service charge, depending on tenant category and apartment type.

Affordable Dormitory Housing for Students

UIU female students have access to shared dormitory accommodation at the same Executive Complex, with six students per apartment in the C-Type North building, at BDT 6,000 per person per month with no service charge.

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

> *"At United International University (UIU), responsible consumption is governed by two formal policies, Ethical Sourcing & Procurement, and Waste Management, Plastic & Disposable Items, both in effect since 25 May 2024 and extended contractually to every outsourced supplier and service provider on campus. In 2025, UIU tracked and recycled 101.5 of the 700 metric tons of waste it generated, with full university-wide measurement now being rolled out.*





Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

ETHICAL SOURCING

A Formal Procurement Policy, Not Informal Practice

UIU's Ethical Sourcing & Procurement Policy governs the purchasing of food, office supplies, and other required goods across the university, weighing quality, safety, ethical practice, and environmental impact in every procurement decision. Suppliers are contractually required to meet relevant labour, health and safety, and environmental law, with priority given to approved, qualified suppliers and to products with minimal, environmentally friendly packaging. Responsibility sits with the Procurement Office, Store, and relevant departments, giving the policy operational ownership rather than leaving it as a statement of intent.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Segregated Hazardous Waste Handling

UIU's Waste Management, Plastic & Disposable Items Policy requires hazardous waste, laboratory chemicals, batteries, e-waste, and medical waste, to be kept entirely separate from general waste and handled only by trained or designated personnel. Physical infrastructure backs this up directly: a dedicated bin sits outside the campus's high-voltage utility area, and a separate collection point serves the Medical Center specifically for medical waste, giving the policy visible, on-the-ground enforcement rather than existing on paper alone.

Tracking Landfill vs. Recycling

The same policy commits UIU to progressively developing waste records covering generation, reuse, and landfill disposal, with an explicit aim of minimizing landfill volume through segregation, recycling, and recovery.

2025 Waste Figures

UIU's Facilities/Estate Department tracked waste by category through 2025:

Waste Category	Generated (MT)	Recycled (MT)	Landfill (MT)
e-waste	1.5	1.3	0.2
hazardous waste	0.2	0.2	0.2
food waste	150	0	150
sanitary waste	150	0	150
other waste	398.5	100	298.5
Total	700	101.5	598.9

101.5 MT waste recycled

598.9 MT waste sent to landfill

700 MT average waste generated (2025)

DISPOSABLE ITEMS

Reducing Single-Use Plastic

UIU's policy actively discourages unnecessary single-use plastic, promoting reusable bottles and cups and requesting alternative, lower-plastic packaging from suppliers. This extends into events and catering directly, where single-use plastic use is meant to be minimized rather than defaulted to.

Figure 12.1: On-campus food outlet with waste bin



Source: UIU sustainability webpage

Minimizing Disposable Items

Reusable cups, plates, glasses, and cutlery are prioritized for meetings, seminars, events, and catering wherever practicable, with disposable items restricted to cases genuinely requiring them for health, safety, or hygiene. Campus signage, including branded "Use Me" prompts on waste bins, reinforces this behaviourally at the point of disposal, not just at the policy level.

Figure 12.2: Branded "Use Me" waste bin prompt



Source: UIU sustainability webpage

OUTSOURCED SERVICES

Contractual Extension to Outsourced Providers

Both governing policies apply explicitly to outsourced service providers, catering, cleaning, and security, with sustainability requirements written directly into service contracts and agreements, rather than requested informally.

Extension to External Suppliers & the Supply Chain

The same principle extends to external suppliers and contractors: responsible sourcing, environmental compliance, waste segregation, and plastic-reduction requirements are built into tenders, purchase orders, and contracts for equipment, stationery, and construction work, giving UIU's sustainability commitments reach beyond its own payroll and into its full supply chain.

UNITED INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 13: Climate Action

> *"United International University (UIU) is strengthening its contribution to climate action through low-carbon energy initiatives, energy-efficient campus operations, climate education, research capacity, and collaborative engagement, building a stronger institutional foundation for measurable progress in the years ahead.*

13 CLIMATE ACTION





Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

LOW-CARBON ENERGY

Rooftop Solar Generation

UIU operates a 128 kWp rooftop solar system, contributing directly to renewable energy generation and reducing dependence on conventional electricity sources, a concrete step in diversifying campus energy supply rather than a stated aspiration.

Energy-Efficient Infrastructure

Campus buildings incorporate open spaces and natural ventilation where feasible, reducing reliance on artificial cooling and lighting. LED lighting, modern appliances, and automated IoT-based switching systems further support efficient electricity management, cutting unnecessary energy consumption across daily operations.

Figure 13.1: Open Space Infrastructure



Source: UIU official website

Shared Transportation

UIU maintains institutional transportation services for students across multiple routes in Dhaka. Organised shared transport supports more efficient mobility by encouraging collective travel over individual journeys, for Spring 2025, UIU expanded transportation service specifically to reduce the private-traffic load generated by student commuting.

ENGAGEMENT

Building Climate Knowledge on Campus

On 24 April 2025, the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE), together with the IEEE UIU Student Branch, organised IEEE Power & Energy Society Day 2025, giving students, researchers, and academics a direct platform to engage with smart grids and clean-energy systems. Months later, on 13 August 2025, EEE and UIU's Centre for Energy Research (CER) ran a seminar on GIS-based renewable-resource assessment, addressing both technological and policy approaches to Bangladesh's sustainable-energy transition.

Disaster-Resilient Housing

UIU secured a research grant from the University Grants Commission (UGC) for the applied research directly targeting climate-driven displacement and disaster resilience.

128 kWp
rooftop solar capacity

CER
institutional climate-research

LED + IoT
energy-efficient lighting & intelligent electricity

Co-operative Disaster & Municipal Planning

CSIRS-UIU participated in "From Policies to Practice: Developing a Climate Action Plan for Municipalities" (17–18 September 2025), bringing together municipal authorities, government agencies, development partners, and academia. CSIRS-UIU Director Prof. Md. Mujibur Rahman presented directly on climate-resilient urban infrastructure to municipal participants and Department of Environment officials, satisfying the "inform and support government".

Figure 13.2: IEEE Power & Energy Society Day 2025



Source: Authors' Compilation

NGO Collaboration on Climate Adaptation

UIU collaborated with SKS Foundation/ FANSA-Bangladesh under the Rising for Rights project, integrating climate resilience and equity into Citywide Inclusive Sanitation planning. A stakeholder consultation in Gaibandha Municipality brought together local government, development partners, academia, and community representatives to shape implementation of the proposed action plans.

RESEARCH CAPACITY

Centre for Energy Research (CER), Institutional Capacity

Beyond campus operations, CER contributes to low-carbon energy through consultancy, renewable-energy education, and energy-auditing services, and has supported rooftop and grid-tied solar photovoltaic initiatives beyond UIU's own campus, extending UIU's climate expertise into Bangladesh's wider renewable-energy sector.

Figure 13.3: UIU's 128 kWp rooftop solar installation



Source: UIU official webpage

CSIRS-UIU, Connecting Policy, Practice and Local Action

Through CSIRS-UIU, the university has engaged with municipalities, government representatives, development organisations, and civil-society partners on climate planning and resilience, including technical discussions on reducing carbon and methane emissions and strengthening climate-resilient urban infrastructure. A formal MoU between UIU-CSIRS and Green Planet Initiative (signed 5 May 2026) further institutionalises this partnership work.

Figure 13.4: MoU signing, CSIRS-UIU and Green Planet Initiative



Source: csirs.uiu.ac.bd/mou-between-csirs-uiu-and-green-planet-initiative

UNITED INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 14: Life Below Water

> *"As an inland Dhaka university, United International University's contribution to SDG 14 centres on the freshwater rivers and canals that feed into Bangladesh's wider aquatic system, most directly through CSIRS-UIU's technical work restoring the Kallyanpur Canal and combating plastic pollution flowing toward the Bay of Bengal, under the regional PLEASE Project.*





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

CONSERVATION ACTION

Kallyanpur Canal Restoration & Plastic Waste Interception

Through CSIRS (the Centre for Smart Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability), UIU contributed engineering support to the Kallyanpur Canal component of the PLEASE Project (Plastic Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia), helping design and apply a modular floating waste-interception barrier to capture plastic waste, restore canal flow, and protect the waterway from further pollution, delivered in collaboration with Dhaka North City Corporation, RedOrange, SACEP, and UNOPS. Because Dhaka's canal network ultimately drains toward the Bay of Bengal, this work connects directly to reducing marine plastic pollution at its inland source, even though the canal itself is freshwater.

Figure 14.1: Kallyanpur Canal floating barrier system



Source: csirs.uiu.ac.bd/kallyanpur-canal-project-shows-how-to-combat-plastic-pollution-in-dhaka

RESEARCH

Research & Technical Contribution

UIU's applied water research through CSIRS and the Institute for Advanced Research (IAR) reflects the university's inland, urban-infrastructure focus, concentrated on sanitation, urban flood vulnerability, and canal/river pollution, connecting directly to the health of Bangladesh's wider water systems.

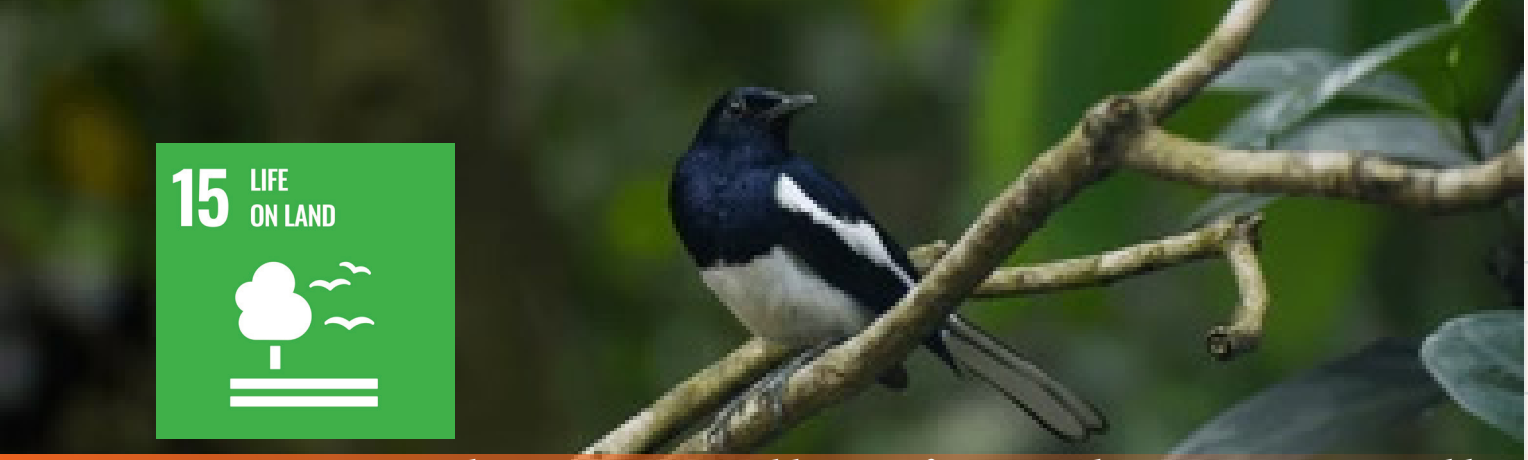
UNITED INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY | SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 15: Life on Land

> *"United International University's 16-acre green campus, research into Sundarbans mangrove ecosystems, and technical work restoring the Kallyanpur Canal reflect a genuine institutional commitment to life on land, carried forward through academic research, campus design, and applied environmental engineering practice.*





15 LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manageforests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss

RESEARCH

A Green Campus by Design

UIU's permanent campus in United City, Madani Avenue, spans 16 acres (25 bigha), including a large, lush green playground (roughly 213m × 91m) that supports both recreation and ecological balance. The campus is planted with native, low-irrigation species, Krishnachura and Banyan trees among them, chosen specifically to promote groundwater recharge and reduce surface evaporation, with routine mulching conserving soil moisture.

Research on Threatened Ecosystems

UIU faculty, particularly in the Department of Environment and Development Studies (EDS), publish actively on tropical forest conservation and the Sundarbans mangrove ecosystem, including comparative work on ecosystem health between natural and restored Sundarbans mangrove forests, and assessments of the Ratargul Freshwater Swamp Forest. The Department of Pharmacy separately maintains a medicinal plant collection on campus. Dr. Sharif Ahmed Mukul (EDS) is UIU's most consistently cited voice on conservation and protected-area research.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Lab Safety Standards

UIU's Environmental Engineering Laboratory mandates chemical waste protocols, keeping chemical waste separate from wastewater, labelled solid containers, and acid/base neutralization before disposal.

OUTREACH

Degree Programmes & Public Outreach

UIU's BSS in Environment and Development Studies (EDS) integrates ecosystem management and biodiversity conservation into its curriculum. A related publication, "Erosion of Traditional Ecological Knowledge and its Links to Resilience Among Communities in the Periphery of Bangladesh Sundarbans," reflects genuine research depth on the topic reflecting UIU's sustained academic engagement with the Sundarbans ecosystem.

Agriculture & Climate Research

IAR-UIU funds "Delineation of CC induced Loss and Damage in Agriculture and Farmers Led Adaptation" in the Teesta River Basin (July 2024–June 2026), and IRIIC maintains an active Agriculture & Climate research area.

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

> *"United International University (UIU) governs itself through a Syndicate and Academic & Admin Committee defined under the Private University Act 2010, and provides direct policy advice to national government through its Centre for Energy Research. The university has drafted a series of governance policies, covering elected staff representation, recognition of a students' union, and structured stakeholder engagement, now moving through formal institutional review.*

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

GOVERNANCE

Existing Governance Bodies

UIU's two highest governing bodies, the Syndicate and the Academic & Admin Committee, are both statutory under the Private University Act 2010 and meet regularly to take operational decisions. The Syndicate's composition is fixed by law: four ex-officio members, three nominated by the Vice Chancellor, three by the Board of Trustees, one by the Government, and one by the University Grants Commission. The Academic & Admin Committee similarly draws from ex-officio deans, department heads, and programme directors. Faculty and staff sit on these bodies in ex-officio and nominated roles

Elected Representation Policy

UIU has drafted a formal Elected Representation Policy establishing elected faculty and staff seats on the Board of Trustees, Syndicate, and Academic Council, with a defined election commission, secret-ballot voting, and two-year renewable terms.

Anti-Corruption Policy

UIU's Code of Conduct and Proctorial Rules cover academic and social misconduct, property damage, and prohibited acts, a published, standing policy satisfying Indicator 16.2.5 without needing further work.

ENGAGEMENT

Policy Practice

UIU engages extensively with external stakeholders through seminars, roundtables, and formal MoUs, partnerships now span BRAC University (research collaboration, Oct 2025), PNZ Innovation (research collaboration), Bangladesh Police, BUET, Streams Tech, Shinawatra University, Green University, LankaBangla Finance, Bangladesh Finance, IWM, iDE, Probasi Sheba, and Orange Ltd., evidenced through dozens of signed MoU photo sets and national media coverage.

Figure 16.1: MoU with PNZ Innovation



Source: tbsnews.net/economy/corporates/uiu-signs-mou-pnz-innovation-research-collaboration-1260481

Two Additional Policies in Development

UIU has drafted a Local Stakeholder Identification and Engagement Policy and a companion Local Stakeholder Participation in Decision-Making Policy.

16

7
draft policies for adoption

15+
active external MoU

MoU
with Bangladesh Police, BUET & others

INTEGRITY

Academic Freedom

Faculty at UIU can freely choose their research areas (documented via the Institute for Advanced Research's policy page). UIU has drafted one, covering the right to teach, research, publish, and engage in public dialogue, alongside protection from censorship or retaliation.

Financial Transparency

UIU regularly publishes financial data to the National Board of Revenue and government-approved audit firms in compliance with the Private University Act 2010. A drafted Publication of University Financial Data Policy would formalize annual audited statement publication, budget disclosure, and UGC-format reporting.

POLICY INFLUENCE

Direct Policy Advice to National Government

UIU's Centre for Energy Research (CER) provides direct, specific expert advice to government, having contributed to Bangladesh's national Net Energy Metering (NEM) Guidelines and Guidelines for the Grid Integration of Solar Irrigation Pumps, genuine national-level policy influence, not general commentary.

Policymaker Outreach & Government-Collaborative Research

The Department of Environment and Development Studies (EDS) works on knowledge-based sustainable-society issues spanning economics, law, technology, migration, and climate change, feeding into policymaker capacity-building. Multiple UIU research institutes, IRIIC, IAR, IBER, CER, AIMS Lab, and CENTeR, maintain funding and intellectual collaboration with government departments, giving UIU broad government-research touchpoints.

A Neutral Platform for Political Dialogue

. A drafted Neutral Platform and Safe Space for Political Dialogue Policy would establish a Public Forum Series, structured roundtables, and clear safe-space guidelines, while maintaining institutional political neutrality.

Campus Debate & Civic Discourse Culture

UIU's own campus culture already models much of what that policy would formalize: the Debate Club's Shaheed Irfan Bhuiyan Memorial 12th Inter-Club Debate Competition 2024, Channel 24's Gen-Z TV debate show hosted on campus, and open-space debate sessions on topics from engineering's societal role to student club participation, giving UIU an existing debate culture to build the formal policy on top of, rather than starting from nothing.

Figure 16.2: Shaheed Irfan Bhuiyan Memorial 12th Inter-Club Debate Competition 2024



Source: Author's Compilation

Figure 16.3: Friendly Debate Between Schools



Source: UIU official website

UIU's Commitment to

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

> *"The significance of international cooperation in accomplishing sustainable development is emphasized by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17) – Partnerships for the Goals. Understanding that the SDGs can only be achieved through solid alliances based on a common vision, set of values, and commitment to one another, UIU keeps enhancing its position as a center for academic cooperation, policy discussion, and multistakeholder involvement.*





Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

POLICY ENGAGEMENT

Policy Input to Government

UIU's Centre for Energy Research, IDSS, and AIMS Lab all show live evidence of direct government policy involvement, Titas Gas, an IDCOL power-sector report, and Prof. M. Fouzul Kabir Khan's national policy-body role among them.

Cross-Sectoral Dialogue, ICBTE 2025 Ran

UIU's School of Business & Economics hosted ICBTE 2025 (International Conference on Business, Technology & Economics), a real, current-year cross-sectoral conference. Two sister conferences (ICDRET, UIU-ICSD) run biennially and appear to be in their off-year for 2025.

RESEARCH

Four New 2025 MoUs

Since UIU's sustainability page listing 19 international university partnerships was published, UIU signed at least four new partnership agreements: PrimeSilicon Technology, Bangladesh Finance PLC, United Finance PLC (graduate employability and student financial products), and PNZ Innovation. UIU also joined CREST, a national semiconductor-excellence consortium, on 3 Nov 2025.

19
INT. university partnerships

EDUCATION

Institution-Wide Commitment

UIU states that its MDS and BSS-EDS programmes are "fully focused" on sustainable development, with cross-discipline integration into Engineering and Business curricula.

Dedicated Sustainability Courses

UIU's current course list is more complete than its last formal report: it now includes ECO 4345 (Poverty Alleviation & Microfinance) and ENV 2308 (Ecological System and Environment) alongside its established EDS, Engineering, and Business sustainability courses.

Alumni Engagement

Three well-documented 2025 alumni events give this sub-indicator genuinely submission-ready evidence: the SoBE Fest & Alumni Reunion 2025, the 8th UIU Convocation, and the UIU EEE Alumni Association's own Iftar Mahfil 2025 under a named Central Alumni Convener.

Figure 17.1: SoBE Fest & Alumni Reunion 2025



Source: Author's Compilation

4
new 2025 industry MoUs



1 NO POVERTY
2 ZERO HUNGER
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
15 LIFE ON LAND
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

UNITED INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

IQAC
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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