

5.3.3. Alexandria university include local biodiversity into its planning and development process

AlexU, as an institution, attempts to embed environmental sustainability and — by implication — some aspects of biodiversity- and ecosystem-conscious planning into its campus development and building projects. That suggests a direction consistent with “including local biodiversity / environment into planning and development.”

Evidence that AlexU includes environmental / ecological / “green/infrastructure & sustainability” thinking in planning and development

- **Existence of a formal “Green University” policy/strategy covering campus infrastructure**

- AlexU’s website lists a “Green University” policy under its official SDG/sustainability framework
- The “Green University” proposal explicitly addresses “environmentally friendly infrastructure and standards,” including criteria such as building design (energy/climate, water use, waste management, green spaces, transport, environmental quality) for new and existing buildings.
- The criteria include **use of green areas, landscaping, water-saving / wastewater reuse, waste management, and efforts to reduce resource-use footprints.**
- For instance: in a development project on the “Abis campus,” AlexU reports that 52% of the area is allocated to green areas + lake, with the rest for buildings/streets. They also use treated sewage water / rainwater for irrigation of green spaces, use low-water-demand plants (xeriscape), and aim to reduce water consumption by ~30%. **Interpretation:** That shows that AlexU is not building “concrete jungles,” but considers green spaces, water reuse, landscaping, and environmental design — all of which create / preserve habitat, greenery, and lower ecological footprint. That aligns with biodiversity-sensitive campus development (even if the explicit goal isn’t “biodiversity conservation”).

- **Waste, water, resource-use & environmental-impact management across campus and in faculties**

- AlexU runs a university-wide initiative to separate and recycle waste, with labeled containers in all faculties, aiming to reduce pollution and waste impact
- It also implements programs to reduce use of paper and plastic, shift to electronic administration, exams, courses — which reduces resource consumption and waste generation tied to campus operations.

Interpretation: These practices aim to mitigate negative environmental impacts of campus operations — which, while not explicitly “biodiversity protection,” contribute to reducing pollution, resource overuse, and ecosystem stress, indirectly supporting environmental sustainability and likely reducing harm to local biodiversity.

• **Integration of sustainability / environmental-development into new building / campus expansion projects**

- In the “Recycling Program for University Waste” report, for the new buildings in the “Abis campus,” there is mention of “green building implementation as reflected in all new construction and renovation policies
- The design of that campus balances built areas (buildings, streets) with green areas and lakes (52% green/lake vs. built area), showing that expansion / development includes ecological / green-space planning.
- The “Green University” criteria include “providing green spaces on campus” as a major axis of sustainability in campus planning.
- **Interpretation:** This shows that new campus buildings / expansion aren’t simply maximizing built-up concrete, but consciously integrating green spaces, landscaping, water management, and green-infrastructure design. That is a fairly strong institutional commitment to balancing development with environmental and potentially biodiversity-relevant planning.

• **Environmental awareness, community-outreach, and institutional commitment linking to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

- AlexU publicly states that it is committed to the full set of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including those directly related to environment, life on land, water, cities, sustainable consumption/production, climate action.
- The University organizes environmental events, such as a 2022 symposium “Climate Changes and Green Transformation,” with top administration and external partners, indicating that environmental/climate thinking is part of strategic planning and public commitment.
- Faculties — e.g., Faculty of Pharmacy, Alexandria University — implement a “Green Circle” project to reduce waste, manage water use, reuse greywater to irrigate plants, adopt energy-saving lighting, promote sustainability among students and staff, and even expand green spaces. **Interpretation:** These show that environmental sustainability is not isolated in a small administrative unit; rather, multiple faculties and governance bodies at AlexU are engaged, embedding sustainability into institutional culture and planning.
- about “green spaces,” “trees,” “water reuse,” “waste reduction,” etc. That is good for environmental sustainability, but not always equivalent to biodiversity-conservation planning.
- **Transparency or environmental-impact reports** associated with every new building / expansion — I did not find public Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) summaries or ecosystem assessments for construction projects at AlexU.
- **Integration of ecological / biodiversity science units** (e.g., botany, ecology, environmental biology) into the planning or design process (though there are environment-related faculties, I did not find explicit linkage to campus planning decisions).
- **Quantitative monitoring of biodiversity outcomes** (e.g., number of tree species planted, survival rates, biodiversity indices on campus, habitat quality). The publicly available data seems focused on waste, energy, water, but not on biodiversity metrics.