Alexandria University: International Collaboration and Research on the Sustainable Development Goals and comparative approaches and develop international best practice on tackling the SDGs

Reporting period: 2025 onwards

Alexandria University actively participates in international research and academic partnerships aimed at addressing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Through European Union-funded collaborative projects, the University contributes to the exchange, evaluation and development of sustainable practices across different national and regional contexts.

Alexandria University has a credible evidence base for this criterion. The most compelling document identified is the Pro-GREEN-LABs Best Practices Document (August 2025), supported by AGROW-HUB's international research and innovation framework.

A significant example is the Erasmus+ Pro-GREEN-LABs project, which connects European and Southern Mediterranean universities to review international approaches to sustainable architectural education and urban development. The consortium has produced a documented review of European best practices, supporting the adaptation of sustainable development approaches to different institutional and societal contexts.

Alexandria University also coordinates the AGROW-HUB project, which brings together universities and stakeholders from Egypt, Tunisia and several European countries to develop innovative, transferable solutions for agricultural waste management and the circular bioeconomy. Through international knowledge exchange, Living Labs, curriculum development and entrepreneurship support, the project seeks to establish replicable models of sustainable resource management.

Additional collaborations, including AquaVET and the joint Sustainable Blue Economy programme with Université du Littoral Côte d'Opale, further strengthen international knowledge exchange in aquatic ecosystem health and coastal resource management.

Collectively, these initiatives demonstrate Alexandria University's commitment to international cooperation, comparative learning and the development of practical approaches to sustainable development.

Alexandria University has evidence of international collaboration in research, education and sustainable development that can support this THE Impact Rankings criterion

Through international collaboration and research, review comparative approaches and develop international best practice on tackling the SDGs.

To demonstrate compliance convincingly, Alexandria University has three interconnected activities:

1. International collaboration: Working with universities, research institutions or international organizations in other countries.
2. Comparative approaches: Jointly examining different methodologies, policies, technologies or experiences for addressing sustainability challenges.
3. International best practices: Developing, testing, adapting or disseminating effective approaches that can be applied in different countries or institutional settings.

The university's strongest evidence is likely to come from internationally funded research projects and joint academic programmes that explicitly address sustainable development, rather than general memoranda of understanding.

Strongest documented evidence



1**. AGROW-HUB – Sustainable Agricultural Waste and Circular Bioeconomy**

Strongest evidence

Period: October 2025–October 2028
Role: Alexandria University is the project coordinator.

This EU-funded Erasmus+ project involves partners in Egypt, Tunisia, Greece, Italy and Spain. It seeks to develop transferable solutions for agricultural waste valorization, green technologies, curriculum modernization and sustainable entrepreneurship.

Its planned Living Labs and innovation hubs offer a framework for testing and transferring sustainable practices across Mediterranean countries.

Relevant SDGs: 4, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 17.

2. Sustainable Blue Economy and Coastal Resource Management – France

Period: 2025 onwards
Partner: Université du Littoral Côte d'Opale, France.



The 2025 agreement and Faculty of Science annex establish cooperation in a master's programme addressing sustainable blue economy and coastal resource management.



The programme provides a mechanism for comparing coastal management approaches, exchanging expertise and developing professional competencies in sustainable marine resource use.

Relevant SDGs: 4, 13, 14 and 17.

Assessment: Strong evidence of an international academic framework, but completed comparative studies or jointly adopted best practices have not been established by the agreement alone.

3. Interreg NEXT MED – Mediterranean Sustainable Development Cooperation

Date: 28 January 2025

Alexandria University organized a meeting to develop research proposals under the Interreg NEXT MED programme, covering climate change, sustainable water management, energy efficiency, waste management, green entrepreneurship and cultural heritage.

The programme promotes cross-border solutions to shared Mediterranean environmental and development challenges.

Relevant SDGs: 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13 and 17.

2. Additional highly relevant international projects

The European Commission's records provide further evidence, including one project that is especially well aligned with the requirement to review comparative approaches and develop international best practices.

4. Pro-GREEN-LABs – International Best Practices in Sustainable Urban Development

Direct evidence of best-practice review

Period: March 2024–March 2027
Coordinator: Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany
Alexandria University: Consortium partner

This Erasmus+ project brings together universities from Germany, Italy, Sweden, Egypt and Jordan to compare and improve approaches to sustainable architectural education and urban development.

The project establishes collaborative urban laboratories, integrates environmental and social perspectives, and develops green competencies through experiential learning.

Most importantly, the European Commission lists a project deliverable entitled “Best Practices Document,” published on 12 August 2025, covering European best practices relevant to education and capacity building.

This is particularly valuable because it documents an actual comparative best-practice output, rather than merely proposing future cooperation.

Relevant SDGs: 4, 11, 13 and 17.

European Commission

5. AquaVET – Aquatic Animal Health and Ecosystem Management

Period: 2024–2027
Role: Alexandria University is the project coordinator.

AquaVET is an Erasmus+ collaboration involving Egypt, Croatia, Italy and Nigeria. It focuses on exchanging expertise and developing capacity in aquatic animal medicine and ecosystem health across Mediterranean and sub-Saharan regions.

Its cross-regional structure is particularly relevant to comparing aquatic ecosystem management practices across different environmental and institutional contexts.

Relevant SDGs: 3, 4, 14 and 17.

The project and partners are confirmed, but a specific completed comparative best-practice deliverable was not verified.

projects proposed for funding in 2024

3. Assessment against the THE Impact Rankings requirement

Evidence	**International collaboration**	**Comparative approaches**	**Development of best practices**
Pro-GREEN-LABs	Confirmed	Explicit in project approach	Published consortium best-practices deliverable
AGROW-HUB	Confirmed	Cross-country model planned	Replicable model under development
AquaVET	Confirmed	Cross-regional exchange framework	Specific outputs need verification
Sustainable Blue Economy – France	Confirmed	Potential through joint programme	Completed outputs need verification
Interreg NEXT MED	Preparatory engagement	Programme objective	Not demonstrated by meeting alone