

Assessment of Sustainability Literacy and Knowledge For Staff and Students



Northern Technical University recognizes sustainability literacy as a fundamental pillar for advancing responsible education, institutional development, and societal impact. In alignment with its academic mission and strategic commitment to sustainable development, the University conducted a comprehensive Sustainability Literacy Survey involving both students and staff to evaluate institutional awareness, knowledge, and engagement with sustainability principles and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Development of the Assessment Framework

The sustainability literacy assessment framework was developed through an institutional effort led by academic specialists and experts in sustainability education, environmental sciences, and educational assessment. The tool was designed to systematically measure participants' understanding of sustainability concepts, awareness of global environmental challenges, and the ability to apply sustainable practices within academic and professional contexts.

The framework integrates institutional policies, academic standards, and continuous improvement principles to ensure alignment between sustainability education and the university's long-term strategic objectives.

Mapping Between SDGs and Academic Specializations

A key component of the assessment involved conducting a structured mapping between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the university's faculties and student specializations represented among survey respondents. Particular emphasis was placed on disciplines related to:

- Environmental Sciences
- Climate Studies
- Environmental Sustainability
- Engineering and Technical Fields connected to environmental solutions

This mapping enabled the university to identify how academic programs contribute to sustainability priorities and to evaluate interdisciplinary alignment between educational outcomes and global sustainability challenges.



Key Components of the Assessment Tool

The assessment evaluated sustainability literacy across three primary dimensions:

1. Sustainability Concepts

Participants' understanding of core sustainability principles was examined, including environmental protection, social responsibility, and economic sustainability.

2. Global Sustainability Challenges

The survey assessed awareness of major global challenges such as climate change, environmental degradation, resource scarcity, and social inequalities.

3. Sustainable Practices and Application

The tool evaluated participants' familiarity with sustainable practices across different disciplines and measured confidence in applying sustainability knowledge to real-world professional contexts.

Implementation Process

The Sustainability Literacy Survey was implemented across multiple faculties and administrative units at Northern Technical University. Participation included students and employees representing diverse academic and professional backgrounds. The assessment was integrated into academic engagement activities, awareness initiatives, and institutional sustainability programs.

In addition, the survey examined participation in sustainability-related courses, workshops, and capacity-building activities, providing insight into institutional efforts supporting sustainability education and professional development.

Results and Analytical Insights

Data collected from the survey provided valuable evidence-based insights into sustainability awareness and educational integration within the university community. The analysis demonstrated:

- A strong recognition of sustainability relevance across academic disciplines.
- Active participation in sustainability-related educational activities, with 74% of participants confirming engagement in sustainability or SDG-related courses and workshops.
- High acknowledgment of the importance of integrating sustainability practices into future professional careers.

- Growing confidence among participants in applying sustainability concepts to real-world challenges.

These findings highlight both institutional strengths and areas for further enhancement in sustainability education and capacity development.



Institutional Impact and Continuous Improvement

The survey results serve as a strategic decision-making tool supporting:

- Curriculum development and program enhancement
- Integration of sustainability competencies across disciplines
- Faculty development and training initiatives
- Expansion of interdisciplinary sustainability collaboration

The outcomes contribute to strengthening environmental awareness, promoting responsible citizenship, and embedding sustainability within institutional culture.

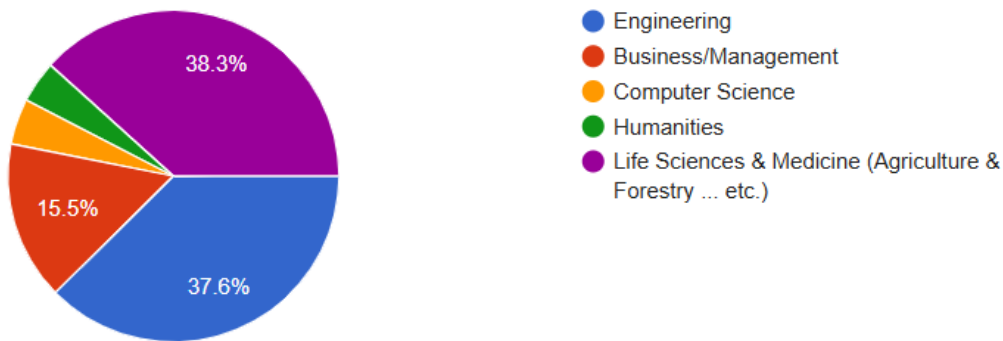
Compliance with Institutional Policies

The development and implementation of the Sustainability Literacy assessment adhere to Northern Technical University's academic regulations, quality assurance standards, and curriculum development policies. The initiative reflects the university's commitment to integrating sustainability into teaching, research, and community engagement activities.

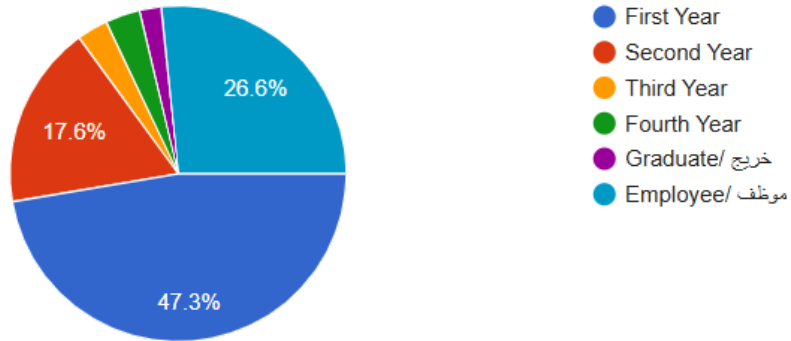
Below are some of the questions included in the sustainability literacy survey:

Part 1: General Information (for Demographic Context)

❖ The field of study:

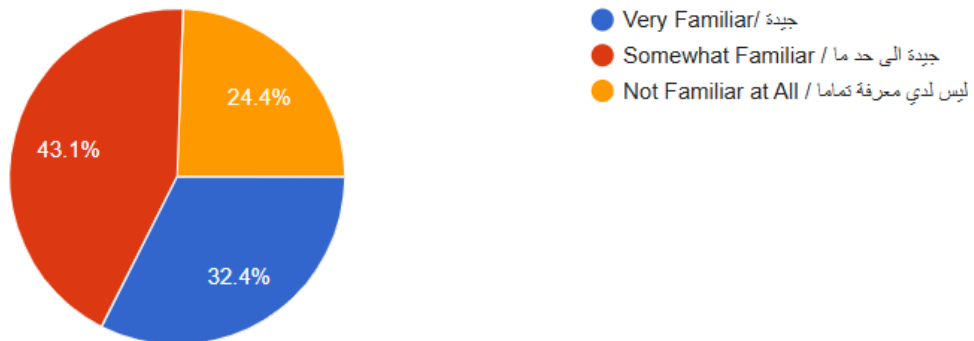


❖ Students/ Staff :

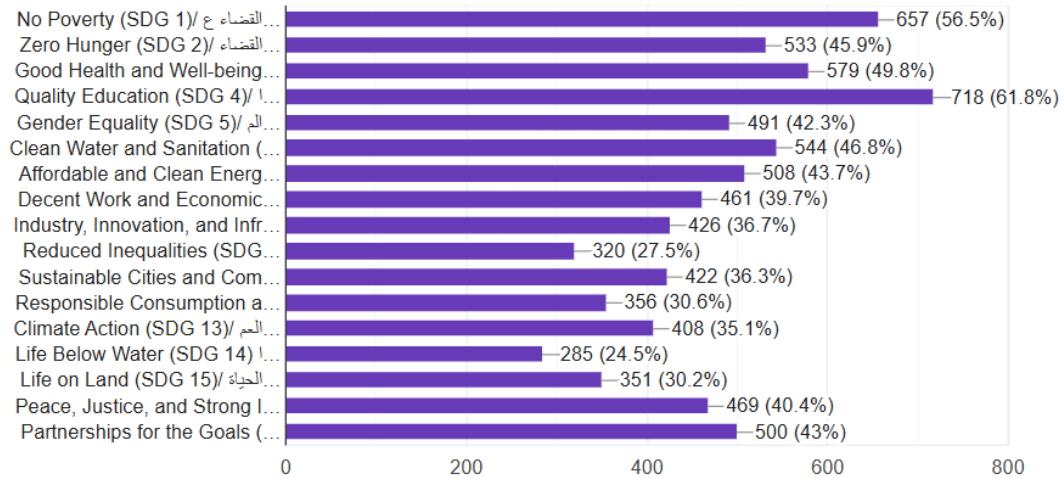


Part 2: Knowledge of Sustainability and SDGs

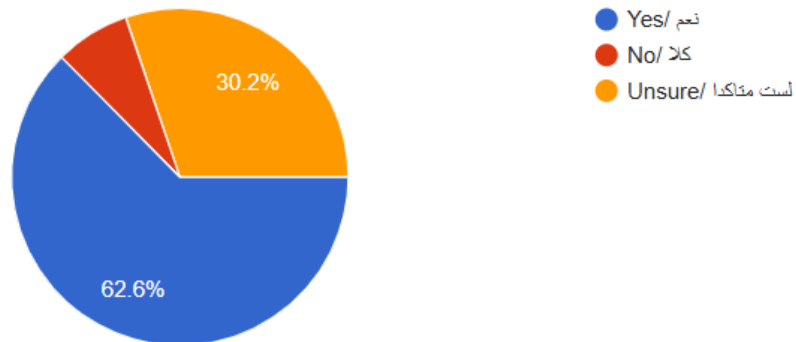
❖ Familiar with the term “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”



❖ Which of the following SDGs are you familiar with?

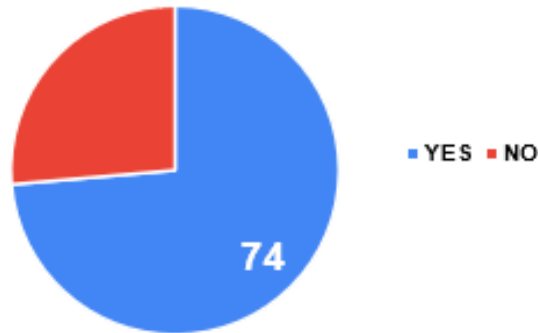


❖ Do you think sustainability is relevant to your field of study?

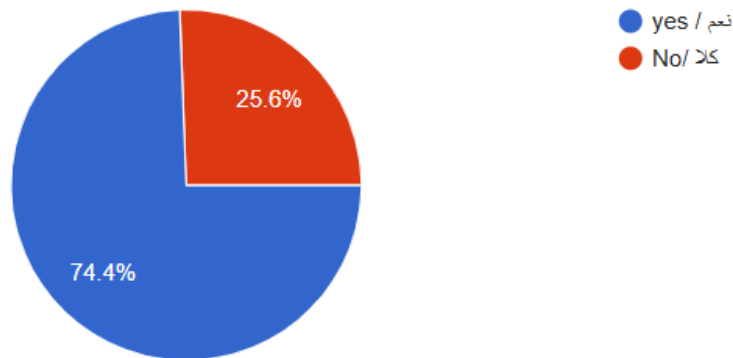


- ❖ Have you participated in any courses or workshops related to sustainability or SDGs?

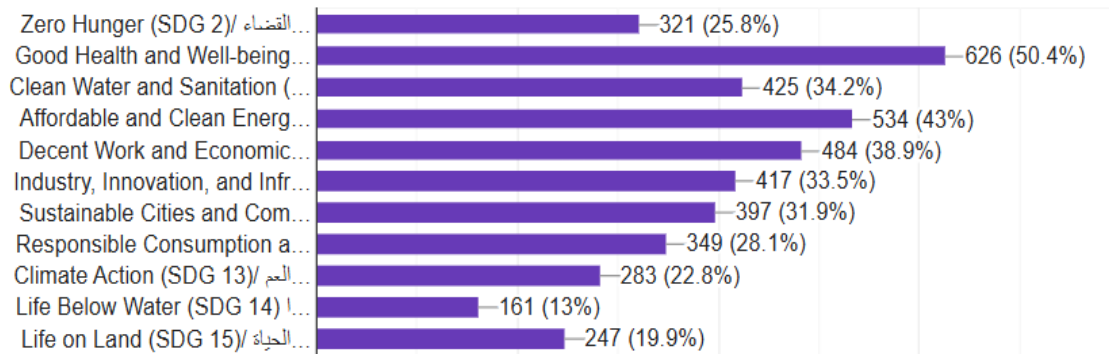
74 (%) YES



- ❖ Do you think sustainability education should be a mandatory part of your degree program?



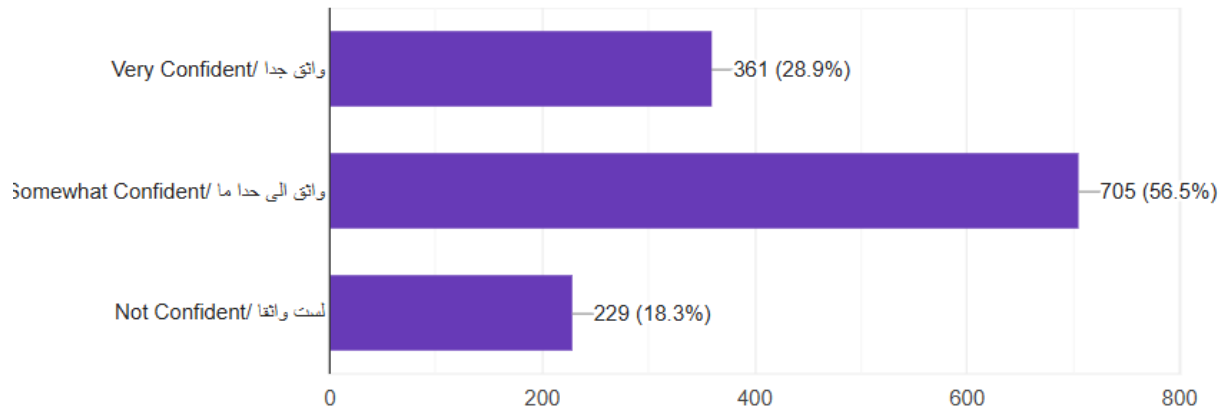
- ❖ Select the SDG goals you believe your studies will achieve, according to your specialization?





Part 3: Application of Sustainability Knowledge

- ❖ How confident are you in applying sustainability concepts to real-world problems in your field?



- ❖ In your opinion, how important is it for future professionals to integrate sustainable practices in their work?

