

UNIVERSITY OF ALGARVE



SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022

An aerial photograph of a lush green forest. A river or stream flows through the center of the forest, with some fallen logs and debris visible in the water. The trees are dense and vibrant green, with some taller, thinner trees scattered throughout. The overall scene is a natural, undisturbed landscape.

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INTRODUCTION

Higher education institutions should lead the way in making influential contributions to the sustainable development of their regions. More than ever, however, they should continue to build bridges to the rest of the world through effective co-production of solutions. The war, the climate emergency and the food crisis demand that we focus on meeting basic societal needs and entrepreneurial projects, without compromising the ability of young (Gen Z) and future generations to meet their own needs in the centuries to come and to flourish by developing their life projects, embedded in respect for the rights of nature.

This is the 2nd Sustainability Report of the University of the Algarve, presented in 2023 updating on some of the significant activities in 2022 (1st Report) in terms of UAIG's contribution to each of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations (UN) Agenda 2030. It has been prepared within the UAIG Council + Sustainable and Healthier, with the valuable contribution of some of its members. This report also monitors our contribution to other relevant international agreements, namely the Paris Agreement, the European Green Deal and COP 28, for a fairer, greener and more prosperous society and to encourage a more sustainable and peaceful way of life, to promote joint efforts between people and organisations and to have a mission-oriented approach. These needs will be taken into account and action will be taken, individually and collectively, to enhance the protection of our societies, as well as terrestrial and marine ecosystems, based on the development

of local capacity to address challenges and the use of scientific evidence to guide progress.

This report has been organised to reflect, although not exhaustively, UAIG's contribution to sustainability in the four central axes of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Teaching, Research, Community and Governance. By generating and disseminating science-based knowledge through formal and informal education science-based knowledge in a wide range of scientific fields, we will become a more sustainable place to work and study, with less impact on nature. The well-being of societies, the protection of the environment, and the mitigation of and adaptation to global changes that threaten life on Earth are part of the 17 SDGs, which cover several interrelated areas, such as the eradication of poverty, equitable access to education and quality health services, the creation of decent jobs, energy and environmental sustainability, and the conservation and management of water and ocean quality. Given the relevant role that higher education institutions play in society, they must contribute to the achievement of these goals.

UAIG, through **Teaching, Research, Community, and Governance**, supports a healthier life in its campi but also contributes to a fair society and a balanced environment outside its walls, regionally and bridging not only in Europe but also to other continents, Africa, America or Asia. This report will demonstrate this within our regional context but also within the cooperation with the European University of the Seas SEA-EU and the WIDERA Sustainable Horizons Project SHEs.

Alexandra Teodósio
Ana de Freitas
Eduardo Esteves
Carla Brito
Leonia Fernandes
Luis Nunes

Marcio Simão
Margarida Ribau-Teixeira
Maria Adelaide Paiva
Miguel Puig
Pedro Pintassilgo
Vânia Serrão Sousa



GOAL

1

NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms, everywhere.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

Number of students: 9294

Number and % of total of low-income students receiving financial aid:

2135; 23%

N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 1 and % of total:

88,3%

Programme for academic success

UAlg has a programme to *promote academic* success and reduce dropout for all *UAlg students*.

Soft Skills for Life

UAlg provide also the *Soft Skills for Life* and the *Interculturality and Mindfulness* programme to develop students' soft skills to promote the integration of students and support psychological well-being.

Student financial support

UAlg has a *Social Support Fund*, which covers:

- Emergency Grant – monetary contribution aimed at responding to occasional situations
- Collaboration Scholarship co-funding of the costs of attending a study cycle through the participation of the student in some activities within the Social Services.

Mobility Programme within Portuguese-speaking Universities (AULP)

UAlg through the *AULP* Mobility Program supported 2 students per year (2020/2021) exchange between higher education institutions members of the Association of Portuguese-speaking Universities (AULP) and aims to award less developed countries within the Portuguese-speaking countries, as



Cape Verde, Macau, Mozambique, S. Tomé and Príncipe and Timor-Leste, and also Angola and Brasil, providing students with the opportunity to undertake a period of study in Algarve (with access to free residence and cantina services).

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **8**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **0.69**
Citation count: **61**

Portugal 2020 Programme

UAlg is accredited by the *Portugal-2020* Program for the provision of services within Research and Technological Development (R&D), Entrepreneurship, Internationalization and Innovation. Projects: European Space Agency Business Innovation Center, Prototyping, RESTART, INOVA 2.0 and DIGITEC Transfer, help entrepreneurs and agrifood companies towards more profitable, competitive and sustainable business models. These *activities* are developed both directly or with other local, regional, national and international partners.

Collaboration

UAlg in collaboration with Members of *Algarve Active Aging* promotes creative and viable solutions that improve the quality of life and health of older people, as poverty prevention measure. The project from UAlg under the CRESC Algarve 2020, *ALPHAMAIS* develop new food preparations and functional ingredients based on carob enhancing and promoting a highly resilient endogenous Portuguese product.

CRIA – Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer of the University of Algarve

This UAlg *Unit* that supports all the academic community in the scope of entrepreneurship and tech transfer, and provides support and innovation to regional agents, both directly or with other local, regional, national and international partnerships. This activity includes the assistance to the start-up of sustainable businesses.

COMMUNITY

Social support in the local community

UAlg develops initiatives and activities to improve access to basic services for all,

such as: *Volunteering activities*, Re-Food project and an undergraduate education: postgraduate studies, language courses, seminars, conferences, lectures, free courses and many other types of events. Also, the *Active and Health Ageing-A3*, establishes a comprehensive and innovation-based approach to active and healthy ageing in the Algarve

Inclusive School

The office for Students with *Special Educational Needs (NEE)*, offers inclusive high-quality education and facilitate students' transition into society with autonomy through training programs.

GOVERNANCE

Representativity

UAlg participates in policy decision making at a national/global level (*Associação das Universidades de Língua Portuguesa, Conselho de Reitores das Universidades Portuguesas, Conselho Coordenador dos Institutos Superiores Politécnicos*), and at regional and local level (*CCDR Algarve*) to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all dimensions.

Local cooperation

UAlg integrates the Algarve Supra Council Platform, for cooperation with Local *Councils* for Social Action, and the *UAlg V+* Volunteer Group established partnerships with several institutions, aiming in the eradication of poverty and social exclusion.

The Regional Smart Specialization Strategy (*Algarve TECH HUB SUMMIT'2022*), promoted between UAlg and CCDR, also contributes to an increase in the percentage of specialists in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) from 3.6% to 4%, approaching the European average. Essential areas for the combat of poverty and social exclusion.

GOAL

2

ZERO HUNGER

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



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

Number and % of total of graduates in agriculture and aquaculture including sustainability subjects:

194; 11%

N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 2 and % of total:
134; 4%

Study programs

UAlg offers *degrees at different academic levels* (graduation, masters, and PhD) and elective courses that focus on food security issues, with emphasis on food production and transformation, environmental sciences, and marine and

rural resources. All UAlg degrees' courses syllabi identify the main contribution to the SDGs, namely SDG 2.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(no. of papers): **100**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.27**
Citation count: **1304**



Food waste assessment and awareness

The amount of food waste generated from food served within the university is estimated yearly, as part of an ongoing collaboration between the Food Engineering Department and the Social Services (SAS). The total food waste is estimated based on the total food products acquired by UAlg and by sampling food waste by type of meal (fish, meat, or vegetarian) and the total number of meals served at university in 2022. The average amount of food waste during the meals' preparation (pre-consumption) is estimated to be 9%, and the food waste after meals'

consumption is 23%. Compared to 2021, the number of meals served increased considerably, while the waste per meal remained relatively stable. Moreover, the *volunteering activities of UAlg V+ group* in collaboration with Re-food and the Food Bank allows UAlg to distribute food that is not served in the canteens to people and families in need.

Assessment	2021	2022
Food Waste (Metric tonnes)	25000	32549
Population	9086	10116

From food by-products to compost

Collaboration between the Ecomposting Project and UAlg V+ for the creation and implementation of a composting station in the Gambelas Campus aims to valorise organic waste as high quality compost

COMMUNITY

Empowering local producers with food security and sustainable production know-how

CRIA manages the University of the Algarve's incubator, named UALG TEC START, which provides local farmers and food producers with facilities (e.g. laboratories, technology, equipment, and plant stocks) to improve sustainable farming and production practices. As a result, many start-ups and spin-offs have been developed, such as *SPAROS*, *Carob World*, *Grand Carob*, *Pharmaplant*, *BEQ*, which are now reference companies in the national and international markets in which they operate. UAlg provides access on food security and sustainable agriculture and aquaculture knowledge, skills or technology to local farmers and food producers thru projects such as: *Access2Sea*, integrating a market approach to SME development in aquaculture; *Atlazul*, with the aim of promoting cross-sectoral, sustainable business projects in the tourism, fishing or aquaculture sectors in the regions of Alentejo, Algarve, Andalusia e Galiza; *CRIA Start+* and *CRIA TT 2.0* to support the creation of new innovative companies and the transfer

of Technology and Knowledge from UAlg researchers, labs and R&D centres to the Market in the RIS3 areas in the Algarve, including but not limited to tourism, sea and agri-food; *Sabor SUR* in which one of the activities is the identification of the training needs of farmers and the development of an online platform for training and knowledge transfer; and *MD.net* that aims to empower the various stakeholders in the Mediterranean area to adopt innovative practices in developing new products and services associated with the Mediterranean Diet.

GOVERNANCE

2022

Total (annual) food waste:

50957 kg tonnes

Campus population:

10461 people

Food waste per person:

4.87 kg/person/year

Supporting food security and healthy meals

In addition to food, accommodation and health services, there are *scholarships* for low-income students (social support scholarships) and, under the "+ Superior" programme. There is also an emergency fund to help students with financial difficulties. This fund covers an Emergency Grant, a financial contribution for occasional situations; a Collaboration Scholarship, and co-funding the costs of attending a study cycle through the collaboration of the student with UAlg activities. Those who are unable to pay can still access these services for free ([here](#)). Thousands of quality, diverse, and affordable meals are served every day in the SAS cafeterias, canteens, and restaurants. The menus, planned under the supervision of a nutritionist, include a choice of meat, fish, or vegetarian dishes. A full meal includes soup, main course, bread, dessert (sweet or fruit) and a drink (water or juice).

GOAL

3

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure access to quality healthcare and promote well-being for all, at every stage of life.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

Number of graduates: 1725

Number and % of total of graduates in

health professions: 407, 24%

N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 3 and % of total: 634; 18%

Study programs

UAlg offers several degrees (graduation, masters, and PhD) in health sciences and medicine.

Life skills development for all

Life skills courses for all, including time management, stress management and study methodologies to improve the well-being and performance of all genders have been offered and recognized by OCDE as an innovative example on career guidance and

successful transition to higher education.

Improvement of pedagogical strategies

UAlg promoted the increase of the number of hours of classes in simulated practice laboratories, such as training in different areas of *health and well-being* for the development of skills of students.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output

(No. paper): **470**

Field-Weighted

(Citation Impact): **1.42**

Citation count: **8040**



International Centre on Ageing (CENIE)

UAIG is an associate of the International Centre on Ageing CENIE. It is a partnership of Universidad de Salamanca and the Fundación General del Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas in Spain, the General Directorate of Health and UAIG in Portugal, that aims to tackle the progressive increase on the life expectancy and the reduction of birth rates in European (and global) populations and to help people so they can have a longer life, active and independent.

The *Algarve Biomedical Center*, is a consortium of CHUA and UAIG, with the mission to create, transmit and disseminate research and provide

services to improve the health and quality of life of the community

COMMUNITY

UAIG develop actions, projects, and programs in the local community to improve and promote health and well-being, like FISU programme, a worldwide certification for Higher Education Institutes programme, a worldwide certification for Higher Education Institutes

Best practices

Recently, UAIG awarded "Platinum" certificate within the FISU Healthy Campus *for the year 2022 (Best Practice)* where several activities were recognized as best practices.

Volunteering

Some of the best practices were carried out in the context of the *volunteering* UAIG V+ group, like e.g. training (celebrating International Bread Day) in collaboration with Auchan Portugal and UAIG Social Services, the "*5 a Day*" *Program of the Faro Region* Supply Market directed at primary school children, health promotion and disease prevention actions in partnership with the Municipality of Alcoutim, Parish of S.B. Alportel and Faro Municipal Library part of "From University to Community" project, and training "Gestos que salvam..." for teachers

UAIG collaborates with the Center for Counselling and Early detection of *UHIV/AIDS Infection (CAD)* the Association

for Family Planning (APF), and the Students Union (AAUAIG) to implement a comprehensive program focusing on Family Planning and Sexual and Reproductive Health.

GOVERNANCE

Representativity

UAIG promotes health and well-being of its academic community, offering medical care and psychological services, sports, and cultural activities.

Collaboration

UAIG contributes to improving *health and well-being* results, through collaborations with educational and health institutions in activities aimed at primary school students, in partnership with the Faro Diabetology Unit of the Algarve Hospital and University Center and the Association for the Study of Diabetes Mellitus and Diabetic Support in the Algarve, in courses within the scope of the Parenting support project, in collaboration with the Tavira Health Center (ACES Sotavento). Health School UAIG- ESS also organizes in collaboration with local agency events such as and in projects such as Romani Tehara (gypsies of tomorrow) – women's empowerment for self-care in the gynecological and reproductive sphere, in collaboration with the Portuguese Red Cross. UAIG and CCDR, in collaboration with other entities, promoted the *Seminar – Health, Food and Mediterranean Diet*, reinforcing the debate on Health and the Mediterranean Diet, important for the Algarve Region.

GOAL

4

QUALITY EDUCATION

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



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

Number and % of total of graduates in who gained a qualification that entitled them to teach at primary school level: 100, 6%

Number and % of total of first-generation students starting a degree: 1190; 55%

N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 4 and % of total: 2071, 59%

UAlgoritmo magazine – an educational tool FOR ALL

One relevant activity led by UAlg in 2022 was to the consolidation of the *UAlgoritmo magazine* as a successful activity to increase teaching and learning quality linked to scientific outreach to convey scientific literacy to the public and may be considered as an

educational tool that can be used across students' communities of Algarve region and general society that is available in open access

Online and hands on activities with global impact

UAlg also lectured online activities and in situ practical demonstrations not only in the Algarve but also in different continents, namely in Africa, with classes open conferences, practical seminars, for the *monitoring marine biodiversity in coastal Areas and improving quality of life*, through research and educational projects such as LuandaWaterfront, MarAfrica, Little Fish, *Blue route* (access as guest).

Exceptional Support to Ukrainian students' refugees

Starting in 2022, UAlg provided



extraordinary support to students in an emergency for humanitarian reasons due to the war and provided for the granting of scholarships by the Portuguese State to ensure the payment of tuition fees and means of subsistence. Moreover, *free intensive Portuguese course for Ukrainian refugees* was also offered.

UAlg is an institution committed globally to social inclusion through the *volunteering group UAlg V+ there were also several evidences of supporting refugees as Ukrainians in 2022*

In 2022/23 UAlg welcomed students to enter their study cycles and complete their degrees in Algarve, as well as teachers and researchers so they can continue

their work here. Training in English and intensive Portuguese language courses were available to facilitate integration, and 12 students were enrolled in different bache, masters and PhD, in the areas of engineering, medicine, economics, to communications and humanities, the success rate was 65%.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus,
up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **83**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.22**
Citation count: **799**

CEAD carried out several research activities in Adult Education and Community Intervention

Research Centre for Adult Education and Community Intervention – CEAD's – carried out several research activities in Adult Education and Community Intervention, to build and disseminate scientific knowledge with educational and social utility, as well as to support planning and decision-making processes in this subject. In this context in 2022 it was highlighted subjects as:

- Gender, inequalities and social participation – crossing a range of traditional themes in adult education, such as non-formal and informal learning, education and training, work and social participation, analysed from an intersectional perspective.
- Non-traditional students in Higher Education – with a focus on the dynamics of equality and inequality of minority groups of students.

COMMUNITY

UAlg V+ volunteering activities with students sharing smiles with elderly people

UAlg organizes and carries out several volunteer projects and ad-hoc volunteering activities in cooperation with NGOs and social institutions within the framework of the UAlg V+ volunteering group. One of the "regular activities" included host first cohorts of students in UAlg with solidarity activities with *elderly people* –sharing smiles– was organized starting in 2022.

Inclusive study conditions

The *UAlg Libraries* are located on the different campi and are open to the general public, being spaces to promote balanced study conditions to achieve success in diversified educations path. UAlg offers a range *life long-training educational was highly diversified*: Higher Professional Technical Courses (CTeSP), Professional masters, Free Courses, Postgraduate Courses, Isolated Curricular Units, Seminars, Conferences, Lectures and Workshops, Exams, Art and Culture Events and "UAlg Team" lectures

GOVERNANCE

Programa Recuperação e Resiliência (PRR) Impulsos –Jovem e Adultos –UAlg Skills4All includes lifelong learning activities with Scholarships and Incentives

This project contributed to an increase in 2022 in the number of students and graduates in STEAM areas and the number of adults in lifelong learning. The programme, scholarships for STEAM areas was created for residing students, following the model of the +Superior Programme, being reinforced for the female gender. The current scholarship support regulations were published in 2022.

GOAL

5

GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

Number and % of first-generation women starting a degree: 605, 50%

Number of female graduates by subject area (STEM, Medicine, Arts & Humanities/Social Sciences): Total- 1116; 65%

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 5 and % of total: 388;11%

In 2022 the Gender Equality Plan of UAlg was presented in research centres through researchers and postgraduate students especially through CIAC,

CINTURs and CEAD to increase awareness raising/training on gender equality and unconscious gender biases, both for staff and for decision-makers. Examples of dissemination events are the webinars "*Perceptions of gender (dis)equality at UAlg*" and "*Sexual orientation, gender identity and inclusive language*".

Special rights for students' mother and father's statutes

Student mothers and fathers with children up to 5 years of age and especially young pregnant women, or women who have recently given birth



or are breastfeeding, enjoy special rights so they can easily reconcile their studies and participation in academic life with family life. Some of these special rights are extended until children are 12 years old, or if there are special care needs.

Measures are underway to improve learning performance in general (all genders), including support programmes in mathematics, and life skills development courses and activities, time management, stress management and study methodologies.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output (No. paper): **17**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.06**
Citation count: **163**

Sustainable Horizons– European Universities designing the horizons of Sustainability– SHEs

By the coordination of the *Sustainable Horizons* project – SHEs started in 2022, UAAlg contributed to reinforce research for a more an inclusive society, supporting researchers/academics deeply thinking, One aim is empowering women adapting to new sustainable development challenges through institutional change within the network and with the best practices, define road maps to effectively implement inclusive approaches to open science policies, *gender balance plans*, sustainability reports, researcher's societal links and advanced studies masters and PhD in sustainability sciences.

COMMUNITY

UAAlg Whistleblowing claim portal made available to the community

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of the academic community, further policies and procedures for the protection of all communities a Whistleblowing portal were started to be developed at UAAlg in 2022. Law No. 93/2021, of 20 December,

establishes the General Regime for the Protection of Whistleblowers (GDPR) in the University of the Algarve, for the protection of those who report violations of the laws of the Union, as referred to in the UAAlg Whistleblowing Channel.

In accordance with the principles of transparency, good conduct and good practice, UAAlg has added to its whistleblowing channel the possibility of submitting complaints in the areas of "non-inclusion/discrimination" and "harassment".

GOVERNANCE

UAAlg monitors yearly the Inclusive Gender Equality Plan UAAlg

The Working Group with the mission of preparing and presenting the *UAAlg Inclusive Gender Equality Plan* also monitored Gender equality in terms of Teaching, Research, Human resources and perceptions within the community and submitted a report of 2021/2022. UAAlg has a student disciplinary regulation and the charter of rights and duties of the academic community, both contributing to enforcing gender equality.



GOAL

6

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure availability and sustainable management of clean drinking water and sanitation for all.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 6 and % of total: 89; 3%

Study programmes

The university offers study programmes contributing to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation, namely the bachelors in: *Food Engineering*; *Marine and Coastal Management*. At master level: *Marine and Coastal Systems*; the *Erasmus Mundus in Applied Ecohydrology*; *Erasmus Mundus in Coastal Hazards – Risks, Climate Change Impacts and Adaption*; *Sustainable Management of Rural Areas*; and *Urban Water Cycle*. At doctorate level: *Agricultural and Environmental Science*; *Biotechnological Sciences*; *Marine, Earth and Environmental Sciences*.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output

(No. paper): **154**

Field-Weighted

(Citation Impact): **1.318**

Citation count: **2394**

UAlg is actively engaged in advancing research and innovation in alignment with SDG 6, providing meaningful contributions to address the outlined challenges:

UAlg's UNESCO Chair in Ecohydrology: water for ecosystems and societies (*UAlg honored with UNESCO Chair | University of Algarve*) aims to cooperate with universities, institutes, and other stakeholders, all over the world, to



develop education and research solutions that tackle the increasing worldwide degradation of aquatic ecosystems in the topic of aquatic ecosystems management, with particular emphasis on ecohydrology. Research unit CENSE-UAlg is dedicated to the development of innovative solutions that address the complexities of drinking water quality, water sustainable management, wastewater treatment and sanitation, and the broader water cycle, engaged in groundbreaking projects covering a large spectrum of water-related issues.

Headquartered at UAlg, the *Portuguese Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists*, a scientific and educational charitable organisation aims to connect scientists, engineers, water managers and other water professionals, regarding

to improve the groundwater knowledge, aiming for sustainable management to addressed populations needs worldwide, as well as protecting water resources and hydrological equilibrium.

The *research projects* in which UAlg is currently involved related to clean water and sanitation amounts to a total investment of over eight million euros. It is also a consultant to regional and local authorities in matters related to water and wastewater management and to adaptation to climate change.

COMMUNITY

UAlg has actively been collaborating in the preparation, follow-up, and scientific council of international, national, and regional bodies. As an example, UAlg participates in the *Loulé Adapta initiative (Municipality of Loulé)* in the context of the Circular Water Economy. UAlg also cooperates with national and regional agencies, including the Environmental Portuguese Agency, supporting some of its initiatives. At international level, UAlg directly cooperates with Angola through a research project regarding *Luanda Bay water quality*.

Examples of activities with the community include the creation and development of citizen science projects with students at regional schools to help better comprehend the water cycle and give the opportunity to be actively involved in field data collection and interpretation, such as the renowned *“Discovering the Aquifer”*; calls for *innovative technological ideas*; and forums for the discussion of *water-related issues*.

GOVERNANCE

Volume of water used in the university 2022: Inbound (treated/ extracted water): **32761 m³**

Year on year change from 2021: **minus 6%**

Campus population: **10461 people**

Year on year change from 2021: **plus 3%**

Water consumption per person: **3.13 m³**

Managing water and wastewater

All the academic community has free access to drinking water at bars and canteens, as also in the exterior water fountains. UAlg also promotes a campaign to *reduce plastic* that encourages the academic community to bring their own cup or reusable bottle.

The potable water at UAlg comes from a centralized water treatment plant under the responsibility of the public company *Águas do Algarve*. *Fagar* is the municipal company tasked with water distribution, as well as urban wastewater collection and transportation to wastewater treatment plants also operated by *Águas do Algarve*. Therefore, all wastewater produced at UAlg is collected by the municipal system and treated (tertiary treatment level) before being discharged into the environment.

UAlg has established laboratory procedures to proactively prevent the contamination of wastewater with substances that could pose potential risks to the environment or public health.

Measures for controlling water waste have been put into place as part of the UAlg's unwavering commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as stated in the 2017–2021 strategic plan. Buildings are equipped with water-savings sensors and drip irrigation is installed in the green areas. Rainwater is collected and used at green areas irrigation and maintenance. Most of the plants present at UAlg exteriors are native and drought-tolerant plants.

As part of the *“Together We Protect”* project UAlg with ZOOMARINE, nearly 5000 native plants were planted in bare spots on the Gambelas campus in 2021 and 2022 as recompense for those that were taken out during infrastructure building. Through R&D initiatives and events, Working Group Eco-campus of UAlg encourages mindful water usage on campus and in the surrounding community.

GOAL

7

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to sources of reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 7 and % of total: 60; 2%

Study programmes addressing energy issues

Our training offer includes bachelors in *Electrical and Computer Engineering*, and in *Mechanical Engineering*; the masters in *Mechanical Engineering – Energy, Air-conditioning and Refrigeration*; the post-graduate courses in Adaptation to Climate Change and Mitigation, in *Advances in Urban Water Cycle*, in Design and Rapid Prototyping; in *New Technologies for the Urban Water Cycle*; in *Sustainable Cities*; and in

several open courses.

Our students are motivated to participate in the researchers' projects, either through research grants (for undergraduates) or through Research Integration Internships (for students).

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output (No. paper): **125**
Field-Weighted (Citation Impact): **1.432**
Citation count: **1506**



Sustainable energy use

UAlg is dedicated to the advancement of energy-efficient technology and policies, as well as sustainable energy. The **T2UES** project aimed to address the issue of summertime traffic congestion in the Huelva and Algarve by designing and testing a network of recharging stations powered by renewable energy sources and light electric vehicles. The goal of the **LOCAL4GREEN** project was to identify energy- and carbon-efficient solutions for cities, islands, and remote locations. In order to facilitate the sharing of technological expertise, project **PELAGOS** established a permanent cluster of national HUBs in the blue energy industry. As a partner

in the **AGERAR** project, UAlg aims to increase the use and administration of renewable energy through the use of storage systems and information and communication technologies, as well as energy efficiency and sustainability in commercial and residential microgrids.

COMMUNITY

The Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer division (**CRIA**) encourages entrepreneurship and technology transfer, particularly **start-ups** that foster and support a low-carbon economy/technology and extends this support to all regional agents wherever innovation is recognized.

UAlg promotes the communication of clean energy and energy-efficient technology policies by hosting workshops such as the **PERIN 2019** "Science, + Europe" days; the 1st Winter Seminar in "Energy Systems in Housing and Hotels"; and the public Presentation Sessions of the **Carbon Neutrality Roadmap 2050** and the National Energy and Climate Plan (2030). Project **Culatra2030** – non-intrusive water desalination proposed, in collaboration with the Association of Residents of the Island of Culatra, the development of a non-intrusive desalination prototype, using surplus of local photovoltaic production.

GOVERNANCE

UAlg as a body has a policy in place for ensuring all renovations and new builds are following energy efficiency standards

In 2022 UAlg has taken numerous measures in this field to improve the energy efficiency of its buildings, monitor energy consumption, and produce energy. Every new building or renovation is implemented with a photovoltaic power station at the top. See "Iniciativa Estratégica 4.4: Instalações e equipamentos", See "Ação: Promover e acompanhar a construção das novas infraestruturas" in the **Activities plan 2022**.

Sustainable energy production and consumption

The University's Activity Plans include the goal of efficient energy use and the generation of electricity from renewable sources.

A commission is in charge of conducting energy audits for the Campi and recommending measures to reduce consumption and increase energy production.

Every new building or building renovation considers the installation of rooftop photovoltaic power stations. Common lamps are being **replaced by LEDs**, and the vehicle fleet is being replaced by electric vehicles.

GOAL



DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 8 and % of total: 1175; 33%

Study programmes

The university offers a large number of courses addressing the domains of decent work and economic growth, particularly in the fields of economics, management, and sociology. These courses include bachelor's degrees in: *Business Administration; Economics; Management; and Sociology.*

The offer at master level is vast, including: *Accounting; Business Management; Finance; Health Care*

Services Management; Hospitality Management and Administration; Human Resources Management; Management and Evaluation in Healthcare Technologies; Management, Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Marketing Management; Quality Management and Agro-food Marketing; School Management and Administration; Sociology; Sustainable Management of Rural Areas; Tax Management; Tourism Economics and Regional Development; and Tourism Organizations Management. PhD studies include those in: Economic and Management Sciences; Quantitative Methods Applied to Economics and Management;



Sociology; and *Tourism*. Some of these degrees are taught in English and recruit a considerable number of international students.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus,
up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **190**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.33**
Citation count: **2219**

UAlg is committed to sustainable development, including social wellbeing and socially responsible economic development. Examples of projects along these lines include:

ACCESS2SEA (New opportunities for more competitive and sustainable blue growth in Atlantic Area), designed to improve the attractiveness of the Atlantic shore for aquaculture's small and medium enterprises by enabling new business opportunities and providing sustainable and easier access to it.

CABFishMAN (Conserving Atlantic Biodiversity by Supporting Innovative Small-scale Fisheries Co-management), contributing to the preservation of the marine environment and resources, through the promotion and management of small-scale fisheries in the Northeast Atlantic.

MONITUR (Observation and monitoring of the Algarve tourist destination), building an integrated and holistic evaluation model to measure and monitor the development of sustainable tourism in the Algarve.

COMMUNITY

UAlg upholds democratic principles, encourages freedom of expression and participation, and maintains close ties with its community. It recognizes labour unions and labour rights, including freedom of association and collective bargaining, for all, including women and international staff. The Economic and Social Council, with 12 external representatives, fosters UAlg's relationship with regional environments, including

labour associations. UAlg staff is also participating actively in *Unions of workers*

UAlg's commitment to gender equality is evident in its *balanced gender ratio among teaching staff which is annual monitored in detailed reports*.

Additionally, the university's Quality Manual ensures the quality of human resources, materials, and support services.

The university has a strong focus on entrepreneurship to foster economic development, through *CRIA* (Division of Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer of the University of Algarve). In terms of the relationship with companies, the UAlg participates in two collaborative laboratories (CoLabs): The *S2AQUA* dedicated to sustainable and intelligent aquaculture, and the *KIPT* addressing knowledge and innovation in tourism.

GOVERNANCE

UAlg complies with the current legislation regarding equal pay for work of equal value and equal opportunities for all, as established in its *Plan for Gender Equality*. As shown in *Statutes* the administration and governance is based on respect for identity, encouraging the free expression of ideas and opinions, and guaranteeing freedom of scientific, and technological creation. It stimulates the participation of all university bodies in common academic life and promotes a close connection between its activities and the community in which it is integrated. The university has an *Ethics Committee* open to appeals from any member of the academic community. The Economic and Social Council is an external consultation body to promote relations between UAlg and regional environments.

GOAL

9

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build resilient infrastructure,
promote inclusive and
sustainable industrialisation
and foster innovation.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

**No. of Curricular Units taught
registered for SDG 9 and %
of total: 698, 20%**

Study programmes

UAlg offers a consolidated portfolio of courses in the scope of basic exact sciences (*mathematics, chemistry, and biology*), *engineering, biomedicine, information technologies, education sciences*, social sciences, economy, and tourism which prepare students to work and contribute to industrial activities, challenge them to think outside of the box and promote innovation within the scope of their future professional activities. UAlg provides offers ranging from open courses, professional Higher Technical Courses, undergraduate (1st

cycle degrees), to master (2nd cycle degrees), to doctorates (3rd cycle degrees). The classes in these programs are mostly practical and problem-solving focused, and they all have linkages to the industry.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018-2022

(Data source: Scopus,
up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **1257**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.437**
Citation count: **2189**

Number of university spin-offs established at least 3 years ago that are still active: 92

In total UAlg was able to increase the income related to industry and commerce activities by 57%. There were increases in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEAM) (20%) and Arts & Humanities/Social Sciences (150%) (Table 1).

Table 1

Values obtained by UAlg within the scope of research and industry and commerce activities.

Research income from industry and commerce by subject area	2022
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)	347 567 €
Medicine	95 972 €
Arts & Humanities / Social Sciences	583 042 €
Total (€)	1026 582 €

UAlg has reinforced its academic staff in the areas of STEAM, Medicine and Arts & Humanities / Social Sciences, with increases of people involved in academic/research activities of 2%, 7% and 5% respectively (Table 2).

Table 2

Numbers of academic staff by subject area.

Number of academic staff by subject area	2022	Relative to 2021
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)	230	2%
Medicine	120	7%
Arts & Humanities/Social Sciences	257	5%

COMMUNITY

Contribution to healthcare of the community

UAlg has the UAlgTec *Health Simulation Centre* at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of the Algarve designed to promote continuous improvement in the healthcare provided to the population of the Algarve and as an incentive to retain healthcare professionals in the region by increasing the postgraduate training offered in the area of clinical practice).

Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer

One of UAlg's commitments is to promote the transfer of knowledge. To this end, it has the support of *CRIA (Entrepreneurship and Technology Transfer Division)*. CRIA is a structure of the University of Algarve designed to promote relations between the research and development units and/or researchers from the University and companies; support the creation of new companies (start-ups and spin-offs) that benefit from knowledge transfer; manage incubation spaces that welcome technology-based companies; popularize patent registration and exploitation of other industrial property mechanisms; dynamize consortia responsible for applied research projects; and develop lines of external cooperation, particularly in the international field.

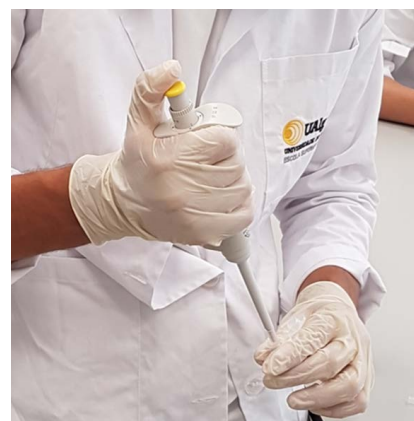
Taking molecular genetics to high schools

The Molecular Genetics Mobile Lab or "*Laboratório itinerante de Genética Molecular*" (Lab-it) between 2018 and 2022 introduced hands-on laboratory activities in molecular genetics. The area of molecular biology is fundamental for XXI century biotechnology and biomedical sciences innovations. The objective of this project was not only discussing the educational fundaments

of molecular genetics but also show students the potential of molecular biology and biochemistry for innovation through the implementation of problem-solving scenarios, namely (i) criminal forensic investigation, (ii) prenatal genetic screenings, (iii) molecular detection and diagnostic of patients infected with bacteria carrying multi-resistance to antibiotics. In 2022 a total of 13 schools have collaborated with Lab-it, 43 practical sessions were done, which taken place between 2 of February and 8 of April of 2022 and 487 students and 24 teachers participated (Figure 1).

Figure 1

Hands-on laboratory activities in molecular genetics.



GOVERNANCE

Creating conditions to innovate

UAlg has officially launched UAlg TEC CAMPUS - the University of the Algarve's Business Accelerator, whose main objective is to boost and expand the region's technological ecosystem (Algarve Tech Hub), at national and international level, in the areas of information technology, driving a favorable change in the economy and society at regional and national level. <https://www.ualg.pt/lancamento-oficial-do-ualg-tec-campus>.

GOAL

10

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduce inequality within and between countries.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

Proportion of first-generation students: 13%

Proportion of international students from developing countries: 5%

Proportion of students with disabilities: 1%

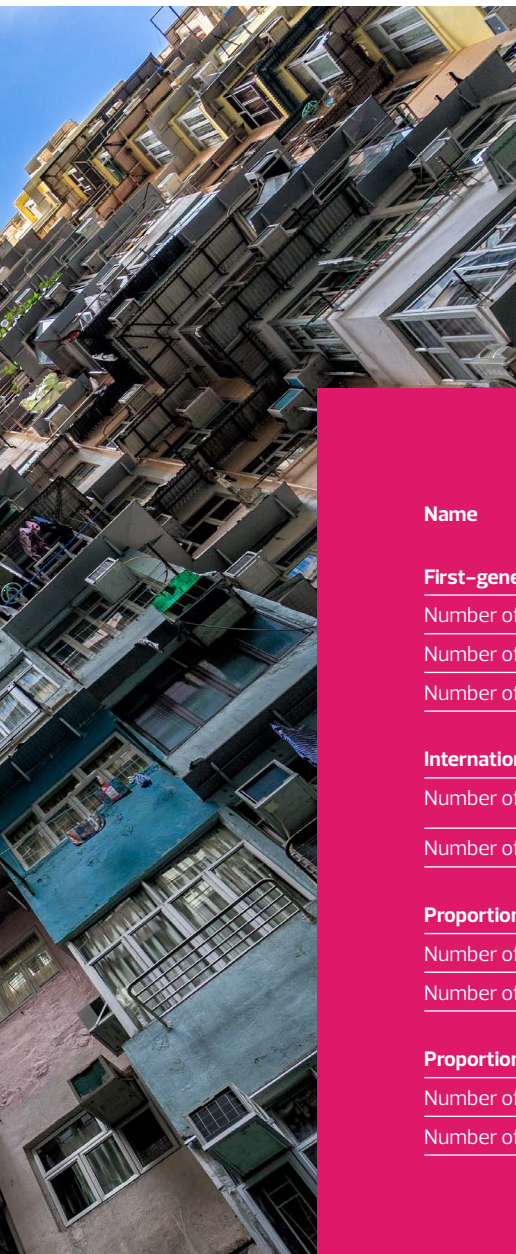
N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 10 and % of total: 653; 18%

Study programs

Humanitarian Action is a post-graduate degree that aims to professionally prepare humanitarian agents to support affected populations around the world in a timely, efficient, and effective manner while maximizing the benefits of humanitarian assistance in accordance with international standards and norms.

Admissions Policy for Inclusive Higher Education Access

UAlg is committed to fostering inclusivity in higher education through a comprehensive admissions policy. This policy embraces a diverse range of audiences, including vocational students, adults over 23 years old, student workers, and those with special needs. Recognizing education as a lifelong journey, we encourage personal and professional growth for individuals of all ages. Our commitment extends to accommodating the unique challenges faced by student workers and ensuring a barrier-free educational experience for students with special needs. Supported by specific statutes, our admissions policy operates within established legal frameworks, promoting fairness and equal opportunities in education. This



Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10)

Name	Value	Year on year change from 2023
First-generation students		
Number of students	9,294	7%
Number of students starting a degree	2,164	-1%
Number of first-generation students starting a degree	1,19	-11%
International Students from developing countries		
Number of students	9,294	7%
Number of international students from developing countries	417	5%
Proportion of students with disabilities		
Number of students	9,294	7%
Number of students with disability	73	0%
Proportion of employees with disabilities		
Number of employees	1,175	-9%
Number of employees with disability	38	3%

approach positions our institution as a beacon of accessible higher education, contributing to a more equitable and enriched learning community.

Hosting ukrainian students, teachers and researchers

UAlg is concerned about and develops effective actions for the inclusion of people from under-represented groups. In this regard, it has become a partner of the *Platform for Refugee Support*. In order to respond directly to the refugee crisis arising from the war in Ukraine, UAlg has made itself available to host Ukrainian students who will be able to enter their *study programmes* and complete their training in Portugal, as well as professors and researchers so that they can continue their work here. In this context, an order was also published

for students in humanitarian emergency situations arising from the conflict in Ukraine

The Ethics Commission

The *Ethics Commission* at UAlg is dedicated to upholding ethical, bioethical, and deontological principles within the University. Its core values revolve around human dignity, safeguarding fundamental rights, ensuring integrity, trust, and the security of institutional procedures.

Support Office for Students with Special Needs (*GAENEE*)

In line with the Inclusive School philosophy, UAlg has established specific accommodations to acknowledge the right to diversity, particularly for students with disabilities. This commitment is upheld while maintaining

high teaching and learning standards, facilitated by the *GAENEE*. To cater to students' unique requirements, *GAENEE* conducts annual initiatives to raise awareness, provide information, and offer training for educators, staff, and students

The UAlg Gender Inclusive Equality Plan –PI2

The University of the Algarve recently presented the Inclusive *Gender Equality Plan* which reinforces its commitment to equal opportunities for women and men and aims to affirm the institution as a place of tolerance, with respect for difference, without barriers. It also offered an intensive Portuguese course, free of charge, to Ukrainian refugee students admitted to UAlg. The University's Volunteering Group

GOAL

10

supports the activities The process of inclusion is carried out through the creation of Language Groups led by the members of this Community with the organisation of cultural exchange events.

Programme for academic success

UAlg has a *programme to promote* academic success, which includes a *Peer Mentoring Program*, and a coordination of different services to assist each student in need and to reduce dropout.

Soft Skills for Life

UAlg provide also the *Soft Skills for Life* and the *Interculturality and Mindfulness* programme to develop students' soft skills to promote the integration of students and support psychological well-being.

RESEARCH

**Publications
2018-2022**

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **47**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.8**
Citation count: **333**

Portugal 2020 Programme

UAlg is accredited by the *Portugal-2020* Program for the provision of services within Research and Technological Development (R&D), Entrepreneurship, Internationalization and Innovation. Projects: European Space Agency Business Innovation Center, Prototyping, RESTART, INOVA 2.0 and DIGITEC Transfer, help entrepreneurs and agrifood companies towards more profitable, competitive and sustainable business models. These *activities* are developed both directly or with other local, regional, national and international partners.

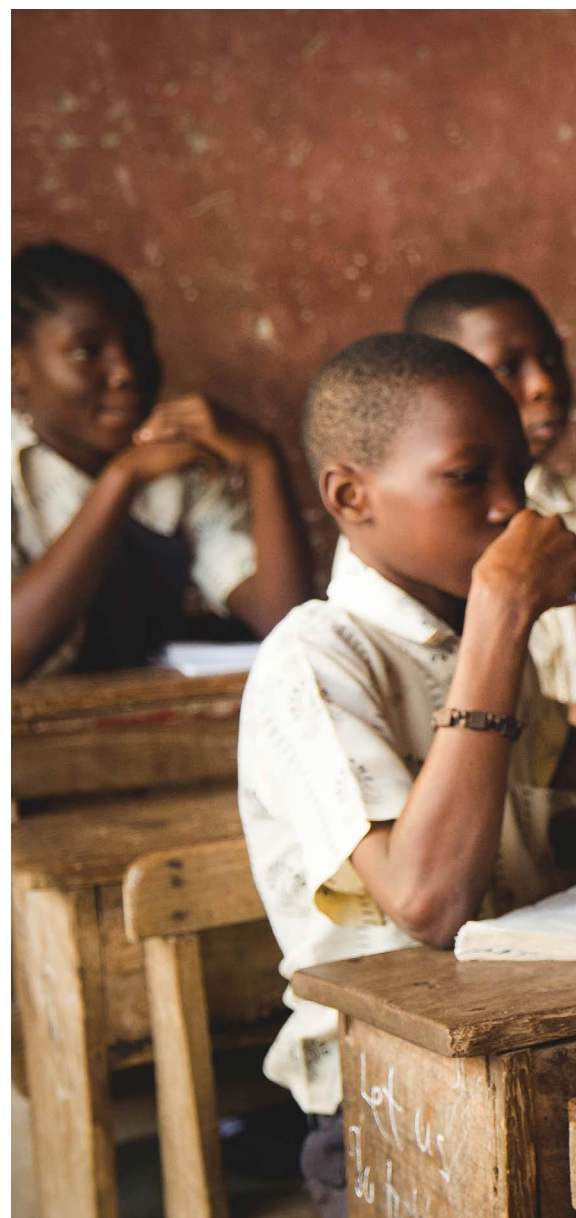
Collaboration

UAlg in collaboration with Members of *Algarve Active Aging* promotes creative and viable solutions that improve the quality of life and health of older people, as poverty prevention measure.

The project from UAlg under the CRES Algarve 2020, *ALPHAMAIS* Develop new food preparations and functional ingredients based on carob enhancing and promoting a highly resilient endogenous Portuguese product.

CRIA

Is a UAlg *Unit* that supports all the academic community in the scope of entrepreneurship and tech transfer, and provide support and innovation



to regional agents, both directly or with other local, regional, national and international partnerships. This activity includes the assistance to the start-up of sustainable businesses.

COMMUNITY

Enhancing Community Well-being

UAlg spearheads initiatives and programs aimed at enhancing accessibility to essential services within the local community. These include engaging in *volunteer activities*, contributing to the Re-Food project, and offering a diverse range of educational opportunities, such as undergraduate



and postgraduate studies, language courses, seminars, conferences, lectures, free courses, and various other events. Additionally, the Algarve Biomedical Center's Active and Healthy Aging initiative employs a comprehensive and innovative approach to foster well-being among the elderly in the Algarve region.

Promoting Inclusivity in Education

The department dedicated to Students with Special Educational Needs (NEE) at UAAlg is committed to providing high-quality, inclusive education. Through specialized training programs, the office facilitates students' seamless transition into society with a focus on autonomy.

GOVERNANCE

Representativity

UAAlg participates in policy making at a national/global level (Associação das Universidades de Língua Portuguesa, Conselho de Reitores das Universidades Portuguesas, Conselho Coordenador dos Institutos Superiores Politécnicos), and a regional and local level (*CCDR Algarve*) to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all dimensions.

Local cooperation

UAAlg integrates the Algarve Supra Council Platform, for cooperation with Local *Councils* for Social Action, and the

UAAlg V+ Volunteer Group established partnerships with several institutions, aiming in the eradication of poverty and social exclusion.

The *Algarve TECH HUB SUMMIT'2023*, a component of the Regional Smart Specialization Strategy, jointly organized by UAAlg and CCDR, plays a pivotal role in elevating the proportion of experts in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs). This strategic initiative aims to boost the percentage from 3.6% to 4%, aligning more closely with the European average. Notably, this advancement in ICT expertise is crucial for addressing poverty and social exclusion by focusing on essential areas.

GOAL

11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities and communities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 11 and % of total: 351; 10%

In addition to the curricula addressing SDG 11, the *libraries at UAlg* offer year-round public access to both the academic community and the broader local community, including online resources. External users are afforded access to lending services as also to a wide range of events, exhibitions, book presentations, workshops, conferences, and seminars. UAlg aim is to foster an inclusive, dynamic academic and cultural community that transcends the confines of enrolled student body.

Study Programmes

UAlg offers study programmes encompassing modules designed to consolidate expertise in fostering inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities. For instance, the post-graduate *Sustainable Cities* course is tailored to address the emerging challenges of urbanism and sustainability. Similarly, the *Inclusive and Smart Sustainable Cities Free Course* is dedicated to promoting awareness on sustainability science and its specific relevance to cities and urban spaces. Additionally, the post-graduate *Urbanism* course aims to bridge educational gaps in the region by focusing on sustainable practices to navigate the intricate processes of contemporary urbanization.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus,
up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **166**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.05**
Citation count: **1850**

UAIG is actively committed to advancing research in accordance with SDG 11, making significant contributions to tackle the specified challenges related to sustainable cities and communities. Under this framework, UAIG currently oversees *projects* with a collective financial backing of over 1.7 million euros. UAIG students are actively encouraged to engage in research projects, facilitated either through research grants for undergraduates or initiatives like the CinTurs *Research Integration Internships* for students. This active involvement allows them to make meaningful contributions to the realm of sustainability. Parte superior do formulário

UAIG Sustainable Cities and Communities Projects

Culatra 2030 – Sustainable Energy Community is a pilot initiative aimed at facilitating the energy transition on Culatra, the barrier island within Ria Formosa in the Algarve region of Southern Portugal. This comprehensive project, under the coordination of UAIG, encompasses various facets of the green transition. Culatra Island, with the goal of achieving self-sustainability by 2030, has been chosen as one of six European islands designated by the EU to serve as a pilot community for renewable energy.

BIODES – this project seeks to showcase innovative and replicable

nature-based solutions within “pioneering” cities, functioning as dynamic “living laboratories”. Following successful testing, these solutions will be incorporated into planning proposals for implementation in other urban areas.

Valuing the Mediterranean Identity

UAIG is dedicated to assuming a pivotal role in advancing the promotion of the Mediterranean Diet. As a founding member of the Network of Higher Education Institutions for the Safeguarding of the Mediterranean Diet (RIESDM), UAIG takes the lead in coordinating the Action Plan and Safeguarding the Mediterranean Diet for Algarve. Our commitment is fortified through a strategic emphasis on research, innovation, and collaboration with various regional and national stakeholders.

COMMUNITY

Team UAIG, which offers a series of lectures and other activities, free, accessible, and informal to schools, has a specific topic regarding *Sustainable Cities* to engage young students in SDG 11 framework.

UAIG actively engages in collaborative initiatives with the local community, exemplified by its participation in the Joint Coordination Commission alongside six government ministries, 16 local municipalities, and an environmental NGO.

The university further collaborates with local authorities, including the Algarve Tourism Board and the Commission for Coordination and Development of the Algarve Region (CCDR Algarve), in the *Algarve Sustainable Observatory*. UAIG actively facilitates volunteering experiences aimed at fostering fairness and inclusivity in cities. The *UAIG V+* volunteering group actively engages in local and national projects dedicated to combating hunger and reducing food waste.

The amount of waste generated and recycled in the University is measured

by estimating the number and volume of waste containers (solid urban waste and selective collection: paper, glass and plastic) collected by FAGAR, a municipal company responsible for the collection and transport of (solid urban waste) and Algar, the regional company responsible for the selective collection of packaging in the recycling bins stations, named “ecopontos”. UAIG partnered with several institutions to develop the *Sustainability Observatory of the Algarve Region*

GOVERNANCE

UAIG’s policy for the transition to more sustainable cities and communities has also focusing on academia commute. Several initiatives have been successfully carried out, as the *UAIG Eco Bike programme*, awarded the National “Mobility on Bicycle” Award from the Portuguese Federation of Cycle Tourism and Bicycle Users continues to support light, sustainable mobility of students. In 2022, under the *Sustainable Horizons* project, 15 bikes were added to the previous 100. Within the same project, the walking trail *Seahorse Itinerary*, between Gambelas Campus and the Ria Formosa, aims to be a meeting point for students, staff, locals and tourists combining physical activity and outdoor activities and the observation of the beauty and sustainable in two works by Bordalo II, belonging to an array of around 200 pieces called “*Big Trash Animal Collection*” built several meters in height, through the 4 continents. Additionally, UAIG students under the age of 23 qualify for a 25% discount on public transportation through the “U23 pass” (recipients of social welfare services grants enjoy an increased discount of 60%).

In 2019, UAIG successfully participated in the Support Programme for Electrical Mobility in Public Administration (PAMEAP), resulting in the allocation of *four electric cars*. These electric vehicles replaced four petrol-running cars that were previously in use.

GOAL

12

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 12 and % of total: 384; 11%

Study programmes

Our training offer contributes to make students more conscious citizens of their consumption behavior and increase their knowledge of sustainable production methods. This applies, for instance, to the bachelor degrees in *Agronomy, Dietetics and Nutrition*, and Food Engineering. The offer at master and PhD level includes: Aquaculture and Fisheries; Food Technology; Horticulture. Additionally, UAlg offers various open

courses, in our commitment to lifelong learning, in the domain of *responsible consumption and production*.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output

(No. paper): **1226**

Field-Weighted

(Citation Impact): **1.31**

Citation count: **3034**



UAlg has been researching processes to reduce the global impact of pollution in different ecosystems, through projects such as:

METALCHEMBIO – Innovative combination of chemical and biological strategies for the recovery of metals from metal-bearing wastewater and leachates;

GREENTREAT – an integrated, sustainable process for the tertiary treatment of urban wastewater using microalgae in the Algarve region;

REALM – Reusing wastewater from agriculture to unlock the potential of microalgae;

EmergeMix – Impacts of mixtures of emerging contaminants in aquatic ecosystems across levels of biological organization.

COMMUNITY

The University is actively involved in developing a sustainable mindset within the academic community, under, among others, the framework of the: *“EcoCampus” flag*, awarded by the European Blue Flag Association (ABAE); Sustainable Universities; Charter of Commitment of Portuguese Universities to Sustainable Development.

Through the *UAlg+Healthy-Plastic* programme the university developed an Action Plan to reduce plastic waste in the campuses. Moreover, the UAlg is signatory of the Plastic Portuguese Pact, in which several companies are involved in changing practices and collaborating with the academia to protect the planet from plastic pollution.

GOVERNANCE

UAlg meets all requirements in the public procurement of services and goods, is guided by a policy of transparency, efficiency and effectiveness, and is oriented towards sustainability aspects. For example, when procuring services for the treatment of hazardous waste, the company is required to train its

employees in the handling, storage and processing of such waste to avoid risks to health and the environment.

UAlg has a policy to minimise the use of disposable items by students and staff. Moreover, in all public events organized/ hosted by UAlg recurring to disposable, single-use items are discouraged. The majority of UAlg waste is recycled. In particular, the canteen’s organic waste is collected, not the unserved meals and good quality foods that are given to the social NGO REFOOD and transported to experimental agricultural fields in Campus de Gambelas to be transformed into compost in the composting units. The university is in compliance with national regulations with regard to the discharge of its wastewater. All chemical and biological potentially harmful substances are separated and sent in special containers to a specialised company for treatment.

Waste metric tonnes (mt)	2021	2022
Amount of waste generated	139	144
Amount of waste recycled	44	50
Amount of waste sent to landfill	90	92

The amount of waste generated, recycled and sent to landfill has remained relatively stable during the last years.

GOAL

13

CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 13 and % of total: 355; 10%

Study programmes

UAlg has developed several educational programmes and initiatives to raise awareness of the local population's risks from climate change, as well as impacts, mitigation and adaptation measures. UAlg provides BSc and MSc level degrees discussing topics, e.g. *Coastal Hazards and Adaptation to Climate Change and Mitigation*.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output (No. paper): **203**
Field-Weighted (Citation Impact): **1.81**
Citation count: **4722**

Research events and initiatives

UAlg is actively involved in research,



events and practical activities with stakeholders to improve sensibility and education on sustainable use of water resources, such as “Action for Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change”; “*Climate-Fisheries: Adaptation of the Portuguese fisheries to climate change*”.

Climate change is a transversal and multisectoral problem and solving it implies understanding it in a multidisciplinary way. UAIG has a pole of a research centre exclusively dedicated to this theme: *CENSE – Centre for Research on the Environment and Sustainability*. Nevertheless several others research centres coordinated/

hosted by UAIG address this research especially CCMAR and CIMA by the relation with ocean studies, primarily to support and foster efforts to greatly to understand and expand and improve ocean observations worldwide to provide a basis for understanding ongoing natural and anthropogenic change and for planning mitigation and adaptation strategies, with a particular emphasis on building capacity in developing nations and on expanding coverage of under-observed regions.

COMMUNITY

Commitment to carbon neutral university within the region

UAIG via its research centres has contributed to the knowledge about the climate change impacts with diverse perspectives that expectedly support the decision-making and governance, working with regional organizations such as the Municipalities Association of Algarve (AMAL) as well as government bodies such as Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Changes. Also, the AMAL, the University of Lisbon and UAIG prepared an *Intermunicipal Climate Change Adaptation Plan for the Algarve region*. UAIG coordinates the Culatra 2030-Comunidade Energética Sustentável project that aims to make the island self-sustainable by 2030. The community together with UAIG, governmental institutions and private companies are building a sustainable energetic community in this small fishing island, having a detailed and strategic framework for measuring, planning, and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Since 2017, UAIG has made a strategically serious commitment to the sustainability of the actions of the entire University: it aims to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035. The plan is divided into tangible actions in 3 areas:

the responsible use of energy, water and other resources.

GOVERNANCE

Total energy used:
23369 GJ with a
reduction of -1%
compared to 2021

Total energy used from
low-carbon sources:
15190 GJ (65%) with an
increase of +4%
compared to 2021

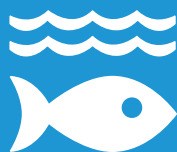
Within the framework of the Strategic Plan (2022–2025), UAIG underscores its dedication to achieving carbon neutrality. The university is actively enhancing the energy efficiency of its existing infrastructure through a series of ongoing projects, including the installation of photovoltaic power plants, the replacement of fluorescent light fixtures with LEDs, and measures to curtail water consumption. Recognizing the significant contribution of daily commuting to greenhouse gas emissions, UAIG has identified a pivotal need for a transformation in commuting behaviours. Responding to this, the institution has already implemented the *UAIG Eco Bike program*, a bike-sharing system. However, the overwhelming demand has surpassed the program’s capacity, underscoring a notable shift in the community’s mobility preferences. UAIG has also other programs as *sustainability pilot* in the Horizon project –SHEs concerning the Green Deal. In the pursuit of climate action, UAIG collaborates closely with AMAL as strategic partners, jointly advancing agendas focused on addressing climate changes.

GOAL

14

LIFE BELOW WATER

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



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No. of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 14 and % of total: 292; 8%

New Study programmes in Marine sciences in 2022

UAlg has several programmes targeting protection of life under sea at *bachelor/1st cycle level*, such as *Marine Biology*; at *master/2nd cycle level*, such in *Applied Ecohydrology* (Erasmus Mundus); *Coastal Hazards – Risks, Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation*; *Marine and Coastal Systems*; Aquaculture and Fisheries; Marine Biological Resources (Erasmus Mundus);

Marine Biology; Water and Coastal Management (Erasmus Mundus). At *PhD level*, programmes include eg. Marine, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Biotechnology. Nevertheless in 2022 UAlg opened a new educational programme the Master Marine, Biodiversity, Fisheries and Conservation targeting students in Europe and special in Africa – *Mar Africa Master* . Maar Africa target active professionals with 5 year experience in companies or institutes, involved on management of fisheries, aquacultures and marine biodiversity conservation to upskill and better answer the future challenges of marine ecosystem conservation and sustainable exploitable



UAlg freely organizes events and prepared in 2022 an open training platform for the community in *Blue* Route project after made available small open online courses within *Moodle Tutoria electronica 2022/2023* (access as guest) to fostering for blue growth involving PhD Students in the field of marine science and blue economy.

Protecting the Ocean starts Locally and in Land

The ocean is the largest living space on Earth and a fundamental part of our planetary climate system. But human activity, namely poor management of coastal and

catchment areas that adversely impact water quality, causing *eutrophication of water bodies, increase turbidity, produce anoxia, "plastification" of marine ecosystems*, interferes with the ocean's ability to support marine and terrestrial life, and hinders sustainable development worldwide. UAlg offers educational programmes that develop capacity to healthy manage fresh-water ecosystems and agriculture systems (water irrigation practices, water management/conservation) for local or national communities. There are bach programmes (Licenciaturas) and *open courses* (Cursos livres) on freshwater, ecosystems (water irrigation practices, water management/conservation) for local or national communities with several other educational master programmes on water irrigation practices, water management/conservation, namely Urban water cycle, water and coastal management, Applied ecohydrology, Sustainable Management of Rural Areas, Sustainable Tourism. UAlg organizes also open courses, and free events and develops research projects, open to the community in water management.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **651**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.47**
Citation count: **10311**

The ocean is both the largest living space on Earth and a fundamental part of our planetary climate system. But human activity, particularly in the form of greenhouse gas emissions that adversely impact the heat content, sea level, and acidity of the oceans, interferes with the ocean's ability to support marine and terrestrial life, and hinders sustainable development worldwide. UAlg through its researcher centres, researchers and the science produced contributed to the last years, as in 2022, contributed to practical solutions and with it to society may better understand and more fully mitigate the risks being posed by climate change to the ocean on which we all depend. Specific efforts of our research centres (*CIMA* and *CCMAR*) were contributions to:

- Implement robust, cooperative monitoring, reporting, and verification of new and emerging ocean-based carbon dioxide removal strategies to ensure measurable progress towards net-negative emissions while also protecting critical ocean ecosystems.
- Expand observing capabilities to measure the widest possible suite of essential climate and biological variables to better understand and address the impacts of climate change on the distribution of ocean life, marine ecosystem health, biomass, and biodiversity.
- Develop capacity among island nations and developing countries and refine methodologies to account for contributions by the ocean's natural functions and the blue economy to climate stabilization through nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans.

GOAL

14

Marine conservation and monitoring in UAIG

UAIG supports actions to promote the conservation of threatened marine species, such as sharks, and UAIG organizes open to the public national and international scientific meetings on the conservation of below water biodiversity and sustainable water management and utilization of the oceans, seas, lakes, rivers, and marine resources. The project *Blue Route* is fostering blue growth involving PhD Students in the field of marine science and blue economy. The *CCMAR-Ramalhete* marine station, which offers wet lab facilities with

tanks of various sizes and controlled environment enabling the carrying out of a variety of experiments by the community. *CIMA* R&D Unit conducts a number of research projects to reduce water pollution and discharges in order to protect aquatic ecosystems, wildlife, and human health. *CENSE-UAIG* pole also contributes to research in several water related environmental threats. The University oversees monitoring aquatic ecosystems in the context of research projects at a global scale. Researchers developed during 2022 *several research projects with measures of aquatic ecosystem health*, ranging

from omics to individual, population, and community indicators in a long time series database.

COMMUNITY

A sea of Blue Activities Outreach programs and actions directed at SDG 14 include, for example, within the *Sustainable Horizon* research projects the *Oceanic After Lunch talks* and continues in 2022 with the promotion of the *itinerary for Sea Horse conservation* aiming to reinvent ways to meet and share science and



knowledge with citizens. UAIG research centres CIMA and CCMAR address issues of coastal contamination from land-based activities and developed global campaign for Portuguese Speaking countries to reduce contamination by detritus. Several *open seminars* addressed these issues made available to all, eg. in Angola, Mozambique, São Tomé e Príncipe Universities. UAIG is also a founder partner of the Environmental programme of *Volunteers for water* in Algarve, together with the national Environmental Agency. The program "*Algae on Beach*" results

of the monitoring carried out since the summer of 2021 and was extended to 2022 by citizen during which more 100 records were submitted to the platform, allowed the identification of three distinct areas of algae accumulation on the southern coast of the Algarve: one dominated by invasive species originating from the seas of Korea/ Japan; another dominated the red algae an invasive species originating from Australia; and between where proliferated a native species the green algae. Along with the data obtained that allow us to identify the key environmental

conditions for the proliferation of algae, we define strategies to remove and use this biomass in biotechnological applications.

BlueZ C Institute – Association for Marine Conservation and Carbon Economy is a private, non-profit NGO whose creation in 2022 was inspired by the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030. It aims to contribute to preventing, halting and reversing the degradation of coastal marine ecosystems. Dedicated to Blue Biotechnology, it is a spinoff of the University of Algarve (UAIG) based on the knowledge developed by CCMAR – Centre for Marine Sciences.



GOVERNANCE

SEA-EU against War

The Governing Board of the Alliance "European University of the Seas" (SEA-EU) composed of the Universities of Cadiz (Spain), Western Brittany (Brest, France), Kiel (Germany), Gdansk (Poland), Split (Croatia), Malta, Parthenope-Naples (Italy), Algarve (Portugal) and Nord (Norway) signed in 2022 a MoU with Odessa University in the Black Sea in Ukrainian to support the development of marine studies and research and support a position against war.

Less energy consumed and paid, better marine ecosystem

We are committed to change behaviors with low consumption to reduce impacts, change behaviors and reduce energy and water consumption and also impacts on natural ecosystems and species. This commitment is presented in the "UAIG Plano de Eficiência ECO.AP 2030" that follows: [CCDR ALGARVE aprovou Plano de Eficiência ECO.AP 2030 para o triénio 2022-2024 | CCDR Algarve \(ccdr-alg.pt\)](#).

GOAL

15

LIFE ON LAND

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



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

No of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 15 and % of total: **216; 6%**

Study programmes

Our university offers several educational programs on terrestrial ecosystems, targeting native flora and fauna, namely the bachelor's in environmental sciences and *Agronomy* and *Biology*. At master level the offer includes *Geographic Information Systems*; *Horticulture*; *Landscape Architecture*; *Sustainable Management of Rural Areas*; and *Urban Water Cycle*. PhD courses include *Agricultural and Environmental Science*; and *Marine, Earth and Environmental Sciences*. The university organizes several educational programs, open do

the community such as the thematic nature walks to raise awareness for preserving nature, regarding wild flora in Algarve and the ecosystem services.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus, up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output (No. paper): **185**
Field-Weighted (Citation Impact): **1.38**
Citation count: **2592**



Sustainable energy use

UALg is dedicated to the advancement of sustainable development, which contributes to the preservation of life on Earth. Examples of projects along these lines include *Biotrans*, which implements coordinated actions between Portugal and Spain to protect and conserve ecosystems and threatened species through scientific studies, direct habitat improvements, and information, training, and awareness-raising activities for specific sectors and the general public; and *Sustainolive*, which studies novel approaches to promoting the sustainability of olive groves in the Mediterranean; the *TerraNova* is developing an unprecedented digital atlas of

Europe that combine human population patterns in the past, plants and disturbances, animal development, and climate change; the *Relict* is improving the conservation status of Arborescent matorral with *Laurus nobilis*, listed as a priority habitat for conservation of the Habitats Directive, in Natura 2000 sites; and *BigSeed* investigates the value of carob byproducts in new hydrogels for sustainable agriculture.

COMMUNITY

UALg works directly to protect wild land and forest through research and collaboration with local and international authorities. We have several projects in related issues, such as protecting wildlife in wild land, mitigating anthropogenic action in forests, such as fires, through participation and promotion in re-forestation of areas in Algarve through volunteering, or capacity building in wild land protection, including dunes. We support the preservation of ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly those under threat, such as the barrier islands threatened by rising sea levels.

UALg is a member of several Competency Centres coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,

and Rural Development. These centres aim to promote research and development (R&D), namely *MEDUALg* and technology transfer on conservation and sustainable land use, including forests and wild land.

GOVERNANCE

UALg ensures the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.

The university organizes educational and volunteering programs open to the community, such as thematic nature walks with specialists who raise awareness of the importance of preserving nature; the preservation of *autochthonous species* through plantation of hundreds of new plants in the *campuses*; the identification and elimination of invasive species; and identifying the species and their climate vulnerability in botanical plates.

The university complies with national regulations regarding the discharge of its effluents. Wastewater is discharged in the municipal wastewater drainage system, which converges to water treatment plants. All chemical and biological potential harmful wastes are separated in the UALg labs before being delivered to a specialized company to be correctly handled.

GOAL

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.



TEACHING & LEARNING

2022/23

N° of Curricular Units taught registered for SDG 16 and % of total: 210; 6%

Study programmes, Outreach, Upskilling and Capacity-building

UAlg has a *diverse educational offer* that prepares students to foster fair and robust institutions through enhanced professional skills, ethical values, and a commitment to justice. Examples of this include all courses (bachelor /1st cycle, master /2nd cycle and doctoral level) in the areas of Management, Business

Administration, Human Resource Management, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Marketing and Social, Occupational and Organisational Psychology.

Since 2021, the *Skills4All* institutional project has been developing several programmes to support the professional conversion and upskilling, reskilling, and capacity building of adults through lifelong learning (*Impulso Adultos PRR Programme*).

UAlg Promotes Inclusive Education

A *support office for students with special educational needs* (GAENEE) is established at UAlg since early-2010s.



Its aim is to welcome and support students with specific educational needs. UAlg has implemented several specific conditions, based on the institution's recognition of the right to difference, to meet the principles of an inclusive school where no one is left out. We strive to provide all students with an equal, high-quality education that respects their needs and characteristics, assisting in their transition into active life as members of the society to which they are legally entitled, with the greatest degree of autonomy and independence possible.

RESEARCH

Publications 2018–2022

(Data source: Scopus,
up to 25th October 2023)

Scholarly output
(No. paper): **48**
Field-Weighted
(Citation Impact): **1.25**
Citation count: **654**

UAlg has a *statutory policy* on supporting academic freedom, founded on principles of democracy and participation, based upon respect for the identity. The institution encourages the free expression of ideas and opinions and promotes the freedom of scientific, cultural, and technological creation. UAlg supports open access to science and knowledge and has signed the *DORA agreement* in 2018 and in 2022 started the Sustainable Horizon EU Project with, among others, aiming to promote open science policy.

We conduct a variety of focused research projects in collaboration with national and regional government agencies, primarily through our *research centres*. UAlg also plays an important role in the *Competencies Centres*, under the coordination of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development).

COMMUNITY

UAlg V+ Volunteering Group was founded to promote social justice and peace. This group establishes partnerships with organizations and services to carry out volunteering initiatives in the social, educational, scientific, sporting, cultural, environmental and leisure contexts. Furthermore, it encourages specific

cooperation activities with groups, associations, and local entities in order to provide positive and stimulating experiences, especially to vulnerable groups.

Both our Strategic Plan and *Quality Manual* stress the significance of external stakeholders to the University's mission. UAlg is committed to promoting sustainability by innovating and engaging in education and research in close collaboration with the community.

GOVERNANCE

UAlg has three bodies that ensure the institution is efficient and transparent: the *General Council*, the *Students' Union*, and the *Academic Senate*. These bodies play crucial roles in developing the institution and monitoring its activities. Since 2010, UAlg has a *Risk Management Plan for Corruption and Related Offences*. In the preparation of this Plan and in the identification of prevention measures, the Services most susceptible to the risks of committing related offences have been involved, namely the Human Resources, Financial and Asset Services, Technical Services, Academic Services and Property Support Office Intellectual. The report for 2015–2019 was published in 2020. UAlg has also a *Code of Ethics* and a *Code of Conduct*.

GOAL

17

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

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



TEACHING & LEARNING

Through teaching, UAIG supports and promotes efforts to significantly increase the understanding of ongoing natural and anthropogenic changes, and to plan mitigation and adaptation strategies, with a particular focus on capacity building in the Algarve region, but also in developing countries.

UAIG is an institution of higher education committed, individually and through the partnership's contribution, to the SDGs, thus affirming the University of the Algarve as an institution committed to social responsibility and sustainable development.

The educational offer at UAIG is diverse, ranging from short-term open courses and lifelong training initiatives to university degrees, which have become increasingly conscious of the

need to accommodate pedagogical innovation and improve the quality and inclusiveness of teaching and learning processes.

In 2022 UAIG has been approved as a full member of the *European University of the Seas*, a challenging initiative of the EU, SEA-EU For All, targeting sustainable development of coastal regions based on innovative education with solid ambitions of making bridges in Atlantic and Mediterranean- strong partnerships to SDG -global challenges. In SEA-EU UAIG has effective regional partners: Algarve Regional Coordination and Development Commission; Algarve Intermunicipal Community; Docapesca-Ports; Portuguese Institute of Sea and Atmosphere, Association for a Sustainable and Intelligent Aquaculture; Algarve Science Center, NGO - SCIAENA, Águas do Algarve; and Algarve Tourism



SDG Relative Activity Index



Region. At the national level in 2022 with two other HEIs, NOVA University and University of Evora, UAlg creates a legal national association for a more sustainable South in 2022, *Campus Sul*.

RESEARCH

The Relative Activity Index (RAI) of UAlg for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

On 2022, UAlg published at least one paper with researchers within institutions from 106 nationalities, and with researchers affiliated within 15 countries, including Europe, America, Asia and Africa. The Relative Activity Index (RAI) of UAlg by SDG was calculated by looking at the total publications

of UAlg (2018–2022) had for an SDG, divided by the total publications for UAlg, to create a percentage. The same calculations are done for each SDG for World Affiliations. The index for the entity is calculated by dividing the UAlg's percentage by that of the World. Similar calculations were done within Portugal Affiliations. It is possible to conclude that UAlg is having a trend to be more active on the contribution to the SDG 14 more 12 x than que world average, but also on SDG 12, 13 and 4, UAlg is highlighting the contribution in more 2–3 x than the world average. Moreover, in the Portugal SDG RAI (in red in the RAI Plot) for the same period results show the same trends on SDG 12 – RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION, SDG 13 – CLIMATE ACTION, SDG 14 – LIFE BELOW WATER, SDG 15 – LIFE ON LAND

- University of Algarve
- Portugal
- - World

The figure is RAI for SDGs 1–16 (Scopus does not map research keywords against SDG 17). UAlg Relative Activity Index (RAI) is defined as the share of an entity's publications in a subject area, relative to the global share of publications in the same subject. A value of 1.0 indicates that the entity's research activity in a field corresponds exactly with the global activity in that field; a value higher than 1.0 implies a greater emphasis; and a value lower than 1.0 suggests a lesser focus.

2018 to 2022. Data source: Scopus, up to 21 Nov 2023

GOAL

17

Publications by SDG

2018 to 2022. Data source: Scopus,
up to 21 Nov 2023

SDG	Scholarly Output	Citation Impact	Citation Count
SDG 1: No Poverty	8	0.69	61
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	100	1.27	1,304
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	470	1.42	8,04
SDG 4: Quality Education	83	1.22	799
SDG 5: Gender Equality	17	1.06	163
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	154	1.38	2,394
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	125	1.32	1,506
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	190	1.33	2,219
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	157	1.37	2,189
SDG 10: Reduced Inequality	47	1.08	333
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	166	1.05	1,85
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	226	1.31	3,034
SDG 13: Climate Action	203	1.81	4,722
SDG 14: Life Below Water	651	1.47	10,311
SDG 15: Life on Land	185	1.38	2,592
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	48	1.25	654

COMMUNITY

National Voluntary Report SDG

In the *National Voluntary Report SDG 2017–2022* there are several references to the University of the Algarve (UAlg) in terms of efforts in partnership in Europe or Africa, *Leaving No One Behind*, LNOB, principle. UAlg has supported the co-production of sustainable knowledge with local communities, both with local fishing communities in small islands in the South of Portugal (Culatra 2030 project), or with academic communities of PALOP countries – Consortium of Schools of Marine Sciences – CEMAR, in the framework of the UNESCO-

Portuguese Language Science Centre (LP) for Africa, to promote in situ the development of capacities to solve local sustainability problems of their own countries.

In the National Voluntary Report SDG 2017–2022, there were several references to the University of the Algarve (UAlg) in terms of efforts in partnership in Europe or Africa, Leaving No One Behind, LNOB, principle.

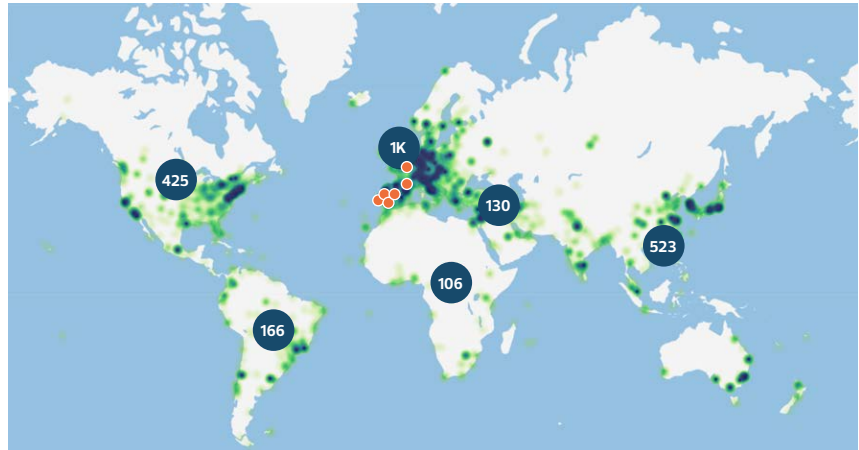
Sustainable Horizons– SHE

UAlg coordinated since 2022 an Horizon Europe Project that was funded by the European Commission entitled

“*Sustainable Horizons*” one of the main goals it is to produce metrics within sustainability sciences PhD programmes to measure progress on SDG, even when data are partially missing with more 5 HEI from Europe and bridging with associated partners in Africa, South America and Asia (Link 1). Moreover, by its research centers, UAlg collaborates internationally on gathering and measuring data for the SDGs in research as *CINTURS*. The collected data are used to develop relevant fundamental and applied research projects and are made available to the Society.

Map 1
Scientific publications co-authorships with all international partners (2018–2022).

2,532 collaborating Institutions
 3,434 co-authored publications



Map 2
Scientific publications co-authorships with corporate partners (2018–2022).

52 collaborating Institutions
 70 co-authored publications



● Number of collaborating Institutions LOW HIGH
 ● Top 10 Institutions worldwide by co-authored publications Co-authored publications

GOVERNANCE

The UAIG achievements in the previous SDGs 1–16 were supported by an extensive and diversified scientific production achieved with global partnerships in all continents, in 2022 we signed more than 20 MoUs mainly with other HEIs, but also with non-academic institutions. Mapping in terms of scientific publications co-authorships with all international partners, SCOPUS-based (Map 1) and corporate only (Map 2), allows us to map from 2018–2022 diversified relationships across all continents.

UAIG has established as one of its

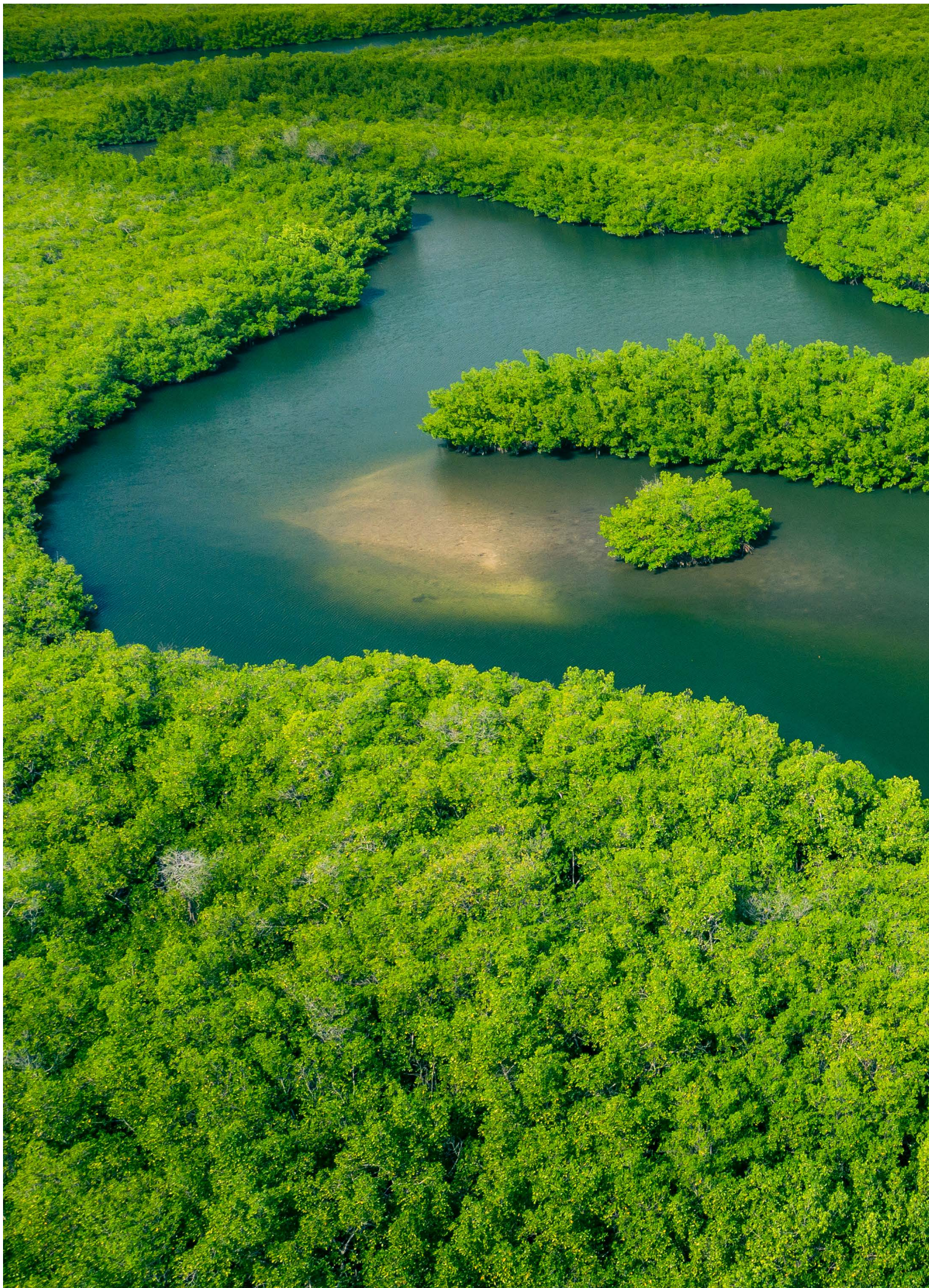
strategic priorities to make partnerships to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. In order to achieve this priority, UAIG supports and encourages its staff and organizational units to implement:

- Outreach and social engagements activities developed by its *Research Centres*;
- Collaborations with *NGOs*
- Consultancy for *regional*, national, and international stakeholders
- *Volunteering* actions with local institutions
- Gathering several institutional

certifications related to the SDG, such as the FISU "*HEALTHY CAMPUS*"

The outputs of these partnerships are published periodically in open access *reports*.

Formal partnerships with industry were also created in 2022, with UAIG participation in one more Collaborative laboratory with several companies, researcher centres, and state laboratories and other HEI's, namely the in ABC COLAB (Algarve Biomedical Center Collaborative Laboratory) focus on Ageing and Rejuvenation applied research)



ABBREVIATIONS

AMAL – Algarve Municipalities Association

AULP – Association of Universities of Portuguese Speaking Countries

CCMAR – Centre of Marine Sciences

CEAD – Centre of Adult education and communitarian Intervention

CENSE-UAAlg – Pole of Environmental and Sustainability Centre

CIMA – Centre of Marine and Environmental Sciences

CINTURS – Centre for Research in Tourism, Sustainability and Well Being

EU – European Union

HEI – Higher Educations Institutions

NGO – Non-Governmental organization

MED-UAAlg – Pole of the Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development

R&D U – Research and Development Units

SDG – Sustainable development Goals

UAAlg – University of Algarve

UN – United Nations

November 2023

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