Partnerships for Sustainable Development Report

Monitoring Institutional Cooperation and Joint Activities in 2025 and 2026

2026

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Issue date: 3 November 2026

Reporting period: 2025 and 2026 up to the issue date

Executive Summary

Partnerships are central to Vertex University's efforts to expand educational opportunities, exchange expertise, and develop academic and professional capacity. This report documents progress in building a cooperation network comprising eight announced partnerships with four universities, a university college, a digital publishing company, a scientific events platform, and the Medical Education Without Borders platform, which operates under the Saudi institution Takamul Al-Aamal. It also presents joint activities and dialogue with governmental and diplomatic bodies to support continuity of education and community service.

Scope and Sources

The report covers partnerships and activities in 2025 and 2026 up to the issue date. It draws on the University's news articles and partnerships page, the announcement published by EventsGate, and institutional information provided by University management. It presents the scope of cooperation and implementation status of each partnership, distinguishing achieved results from announced programmes and future areas of work.

Unless otherwise stated, dates accompanying news articles are the dates on which the website content was last updated; they do not necessarily identify the date of signing an agreement or delivering an activity. Each activity retains its chronological context, allowing progress during the reporting period to be assessed without combining activities from different years.

Alignment with Sustainable Development

The report centres on SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, through institutional cooperation, knowledge exchange, and capacity building. Education and continuing learning relate to SDG 4; health training to SDG 3; professional skills to SDG 8; digital transformation and research to SDG 9; and educational opportunities for crisis-affected students to SDG 10. These connections describe the nature and areas of contribution; they do not, on their own, constitute a measure of long-term social impact.

University Partnerships in the Comoros and Sudan

University of the Comoros

Status: Partnership agreement signed and publicly announced. News last updated: 22 July 2026. [1]

The partnership establishes a framework for academic and research cooperation and the exchange of expertise. Its scope includes training, continuing education, digital transformation, and the development of educational systems. The partnerships page also describes cooperation relating to the university campus. [14]

Vertex University conducted a field visit to the University of the Comoros and undertook a joint preliminary needs assessment in preparation for a proposed project to improve campus facilities and technological infrastructure and introduce digital learning. This work enabled direct identification of educational environment needs and helped align project preparation with the partner university's priorities. The project is planned for joint implementation with the University of the Comoros; renovation and development work remains within the scope of the proposed project.

The current contribution consists of establishing the partnership, conducting the joint preliminary assessment, and identifying development directions. These steps support SDGs 4, 9, and 17 by connecting educational needs with digital infrastructure planning and knowledge exchange between the two institutions.

University of Bahri

Status: Partnership agreement signed and publicly announced. Agreement news last updated: 1 April 2026. [2]

The agreement was announced as having been signed during an institutional meeting in Türkiye attended by the presidents of both universities. The partnership addresses academic and research cooperation and the integration of the public university's expertise with Vertex University's digital education model.

Cooperation extended to the joint announcement of the "Automation and Management with Artificial Intelligence" programme, supervised by Dr. Mostafa Iraqi, in a news article updated on 16 August 2026. This announcement reflects a move towards designing a joint training activity connecting digital applications with administrative work needs. The programme is included in this report as an announced programme, without presenting attendance or completion results that were not available in the underlying information. [9]

The partnership supports SDGs 4, 8, 9, and 17 through education, professional skills development, and cooperation in digital applications. The announced programme provides a practical area for exchanging expertise and connecting learning with contemporary professional challenges.

University Partnerships in Sudan and Palestine

Al Zaeem Al Azhari University in Sudan

Status: Academic cooperation agreement signed and publicly announced. News last updated: 4 October 2025. [3]

The agreement was announced as having been signed in the presence of the presidents of both universities, within a framework of academic and research cooperation, expertise exchange, and joint programme development. The relationship provides a framework for linking digital education with cooperation among higher education institutions.

Documented progress during the reporting period consists of concluding the agreement and identifying areas of academic and research cooperation. These areas relate to SDGs 4, 9, and 17. The published material reviewed did not include quantitative data on completed joint programmes or beneficiary numbers; the account of results therefore remains limited to verified institutional progress.

Sudan Open University

Status: Academic partnership and cooperation agreement signed and publicly announced. News last updated: 22 January 2026. [4]

The agreement aims to strengthen academic and scientific cooperation and support integration between online education and open education, serving students and the academic community. The news article records the attendance of leaders and representatives from both institutions.

The agreement establishes a pathway for cooperation supporting SDGs 4 and 17, with a focus on flexible access to education and the exchange of institutional expertise. According to the University's institutional information, cooperation with Sudanese public universities followed understandings with the relevant ministry to support continuity of education for students affected by war. This purpose is presented as a direction for cooperation, while the results of each project remain linked to what has actually been achieved.

Al-Zaytoonah University College in Palestine

Status: Cooperation and partnership agreement signed and publicly announced. News last updated: 20 September 2025. [5]

Cooperation focuses on exchanging expertise and developing joint educational programmes, particularly in online and digital education. It establishes a framework for academic integration and expanded cooperation between the two institutions.

Signing the agreement represents an institutional step towards broader educational cooperation and opportunities for joint academic work. Its areas align with SDGs 4, 9, and 17, while the joint

programmes within its scope remain areas of cooperation until they are implemented and their results documented.

Publishing Events and Health Education Partnerships

Kezana and the Al Manhal Platform

Status: Cooperation agreement signed and publicly announced. News last updated: 8 January 2026. [6]

The agreement concerns supplying the Al Manhal platform with the University's scholarly output for digital publication, including books, peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, and academic theses within the agreement's scope. Kezana is recorded as the contracting party and Al Manhal as the publishing platform within a single relationship.

The agreement helps establish a digital publishing channel and broaden the circulation of scholarly knowledge, relating to SDGs 4, 9, and 17. This report presents the scope of the agreement; books, journals, and theses within that scope are not counted as actual publishing outputs unless information confirming their availability on the platform is available.

EventsGate

Status: Scientific and academic partnership publicly announced by both parties. University news last updated: 24 January 2026. Partner announcement dated: 22 January 2026. [7, 15]

Areas of cooperation include organising scientific activities, developing research capacity, exchanging expertise, and serving researchers and postgraduate students. The partner's own announcement further substantiates the institutional relationship.

The partnership supports SDGs 4 and 17 by providing a framework for expertise exchange, scientific activities, and research capacity development. Documented progress consists of the announcement of the institutional relationship by both parties and the identification of areas for joint work.

Takamul Al-Aamal in Saudi Arabia and Medical Education Without Borders

Status: Cooperation agreement publicly announced in the platform's name. News last updated: 4 February 2026. [8]

The Medical Education Without Borders platform operates under the Saudi institution Takamul Al-Aamal, the partner's parent institution, according to institutional information confirmed by Vertex University. Cooperation was announced on the University's website in the platform's name, drawing on both parties' academic and training expertise.

Cooperation focuses on health education, continuing professional development, expertise exchange, and training initiatives. The hospital management course provides an example of putting this

cooperation into practice through joint content preparation, training delivery, and access through digital channels. These areas align with SDGs 3, 4, 8, and 17.

Joint Activities and Institutional Dialogue

Hospital Management and Sustainable Development Course

The University's news article describes a three-day, nine-hour programme on Hospital Management and Sustainable Development of Healthcare Services, mentioning cooperation with the Saudi Military Medical Association and the Medical Education Without Borders platform. News last updated: 21 April 2026. [10]

According to implementation information held by University management, the University delivered the course with lecturers from both parties, jointly prepared the topics, and made the broadcast available free of charge through both parties' channels. The course addressed healthcare management, service quality, patient safety, resource management, and crisis management. Its direct contribution consists of providing specialised professional learning for students and others and expanding access to health knowledge. The report does not estimate beneficiary numbers or equate broadcast views with unique participants.

Participation in the Safwat Al-Ma'rifa Initiative

According to a news article updated on 18 March 2026, the University participated in the Safwat Al-Ma'rifa initiative by supporting a digital learning experience involving lectures and courses, providing certificates to participants, and making content available in playlists. This work is included as delivered knowledge cooperation contributing to continuing learning and knowledge dissemination, relating to SDGs 4 and 17. [11]

Dialogue with the Palestinian Consulate in Istanbul

According to a news article updated on 9 May 2026, the University's senior management held an official meeting with the Palestinian Consul General in Istanbul to discuss support for Palestinian students, continuity of study, and flexible educational opportunities. The University provides scholarships to Palestinian students as part of its efforts to reduce barriers to education under difficult circumstances. The meeting is presented as institutional dialogue supporting this purpose, without attributing all scholarships awarded to its outcomes. This area relates to SDGs 4, 10, and 17. [12]

Coordination with Government Bodies in Sudan and the Comoros

According to a news article updated on 12 July 2026, the University held meetings with officials at Sudan's Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research concerning cooperation, higher education affairs, and regulatory procedures. Follow-up included receiving registration forms. This work is included as institutional communication and coordination at the stage described in the news article. [13]

In the Comoros, the University engaged with government bodies concerned with education and sustainable development to discuss cooperation and the proposed educational project. Cooperation with the Ministry of Interior also included discussing training for police personnel in cybersecurity and artificial intelligence. This area is presented as coordination for capacity building; police training courses are not counted among the activities delivered in this report.

Monitoring Progress and Results

Progress during the reporting period follows three connected pathways: establishing cooperation through announced agreements; putting cooperation into practice through learning and training activities; and expanding dialogue with governmental and diplomatic bodies on educational needs. These pathways have enabled the University to bring academic partners, specialised platforms, and community bodies together in shared areas of work.

Scope of the Partnership Network

The total comprises eight announced partnerships: four universities, a university college, a digital publishing company, a scientific events platform, and a medical education platform operating under the Saudi institution Takamul Al-Aamal. Alongside these, the University documents its participation in Safwat Al-Ma'rifa and its dialogue with governmental and diplomatic bodies. This count describes the scope of partnerships included in the report; it does not represent the number of completed projects or beneficiaries.

Direct Results and Implementation Status

The direct results presented comprise concluding cooperation agreements, jointly delivering the hospital management course, participating in Safwat Al-Ma'rifa, conducting a joint preliminary assessment with the University of the Comoros, and announcing a training programme with the University of Bahri. Implementation stages vary: delivered activities are presented with their available results, while announced programmes and proposed projects are presented according to their current status.

Priorities for Partnership Development

Development priorities include translating the areas covered by agreements into activity plans that can be monitored, continuing preparation of the University of the Comoros project, expanding joint training and learning opportunities, and strengthening links between scholarly publishing and knowledge partnerships. They also include improving the standardisation of monitoring data to allow more regular tracking of activity delivery, beneficiary numbers, outputs, and evaluation results. These priorities are presented as future directions, not as completed results.

Approach to Reporting Results

The report presents results supported by the available sources and institutional information. It does not infer a quantitative impact on educational quality, employment, or healthcare services solely from the existence of an agreement or the delivery of training. A consolidated beneficiary dataset and a comparison of impact over time were not available for this review. These limitations clarify the scope of monitoring and identify areas where measurement can be developed in subsequent reports.

Sources and Supporting Evidence

The following public sources document the partnerships and activities included in this report. Numbers in square brackets in the text refer to these links. Access date: 3 November 2026. Institutional information provided by University management supports the descriptions of course delivery, the field visit, the medical platform's institutional affiliation, and government cooperation.

[1] University of the Comoros partnership agreement

[2] University of Bahri partnership agreement

[3] Al Zaeem Al Azhari University partnership agreement

[4] Sudan Open University partnership agreement

[5] Al-Zaytoonah University College partnership agreement

[6] Kezana agreement for publishing through Al Manhal

[7] EventsGate partnership

[8] Medical Education Without Borders cooperation agreement

[9] Automation and Management with AI programme with Bahri

[10] Hospital Management and Sustainable Development course

[11] Participation in the Safwat Al-Ma'rifa initiative

[12] Meeting at the Palestinian Consulate in Istanbul

[13] Official meetings with higher education bodies in Sudan

[14] University accreditations and partnerships page

[15] Agreement announcement on the EventsGate website

This report is made available to promote transparency regarding partnership areas and progress, while protecting personal privacy and the confidentiality of contractual provisions not intended for

publication. Original documents and activity records remain the reference for institutional verification of details.