## **SDG 2 PROGRESS REPORT - ZERO HUNGER**

#### Introduction

Covenant University is committed to addressing issues related to hunger for members within and outside her community as the university conducts programmes to identify students or members of the community who cannot afford the minimum regular meals on daily basis. This is so as to monitor the improvements made by the university in this regard since the programme began, as well as ensure equal access to food by all. On annual basis, records of students whose feeding expenses on campus were catered to by this scheme are documented for record purpose in order to monitor the success of the programme while taking into consideration areas needing improvement.

The scheme was implemented as a means of ensuring zero hunger on campus wherein students or members of the CU community help in gathering waste materials into several vessels that are weighed to ensure that the weight meets the desired minimum that qualifies for the issuance of meal tickets.

The food ticket reward for PET waste collection and sorting link <a href="https://ueind.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/">https://ueind.covenantuniversity.edu.ng/</a>

#### Affordable Food

At Covenant University, there are several food spots including Cafeteria (1, 2 & 3), the Postgraduate Cafeteria, the butcheries and the Covenant University (CU) Guest House, where highly affordable food and snacks are provided.

#### **Ticketing and Hunger Management**

In the year 2023, the number of persons within campus that were aided by this scheme via the issuance of meal tickets was about 30 students. In 2022, the number of persons that were issued these tickets rose by 53.3% owing to the increase in the number of persons who fell within the category for the year. In the year 2023, up until December when this report was submitted, the number of persons in the zero hunger category had risen further by 68.4% and 7.02% over the data reported for the years 2021 and 2022 respectively. These are confirmations that the scheme has known a tremendous growth and is indeed affective. In addition, efforts are in place to take cognizance of the responses received from the beneficiaries of this scheme, however, such names are kept confidential owing to the fact that the university would not condone or allow room for any form of stigmatization of such persons.

#### **Food-waste Data**

Covenant University sees the need to cater to animals living on campus and efforts are in place to carefully contain food-wastes that include majorly food remains of proteins, vegetables and carbohydrates in neat bags so that they can serve as foods for domestic animals such as dogs, goats, pigs etc. that are domestically nurtured outside the CU community. This is all aimed at addressing issues related to animal nutrition and feeding towards attaining zero hunger. A sensitization scheme is also projected on semester-basis to inform the CU community on the need to address issues related to hunger and food waste; please see slides 5 and 6 for reports of food waste received from the Guest House, University hostels Cafeteria and Suites, via the attached link for the power point presentation on the aforementioned subject for details. Furthermore, a breakdown of the food wastes received in 2021 from January - December is 8,390.78 kg, for 2022, the data gathered was 13,275.06 kg, which is an increase of about 58.21% over the preceding year, while for the year 2023, the data gathered as at December 2023, was 10,323.52 kg which is a drop of about 22.23% over the preceding year (see uploaded link "WASTE TO WEALTH DATA FOR TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION RANKING FOOD WASTES 2022 - 2023.pdf - Google Drive" for details).

**Notable Achievements** 

Some agricultural projects such as those of the West African Virus Epidemiology (WAVE) and the RCE-Ogun which are targeted at improving cassava, yam and potato as well as fish yields are sure ways of boosting cassava and fish production for the production of local meals such as fufu, garri and abacha (a local meal) and tasty soups for consumption. Please see the link below for details:

### RCE OGUN ON CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION.mp4 - Google Drive

Covenant University also has a palm plantation where palm trees for producing palm kennels from which palm oil is obtained are grown. The palm kennels are harvested as raw materials and beaten off the bunches. Thereafter the raw material undergoes digestion (to remove sludge), sterilization with steam, and then mechanical pressing where the oil is finally obtained and purified for storage and packaging. After packaging, the refined palm oil is then sent to all the cafeterias in the university for food production. This in turn helps to reduce the cost of food such that it is relatively affordable by all (students/staff/visitors) of low, middle and high income groups compared to situations where the oil is purchased from a local vendor. Table 1 consists of some properties of the produced palm oil from the Covenant University farm.

## Table 1: Properties of palm oil produced at Covenant University Farm

Characteristics	Value and units	
Density	0.88 (at 50°C)	
Refractive index	1.44	
Quantity of solid fat	At 10 (55%), 20 (28%), 30 (11%), 40°C (6%), 50°C	
	(0%)	
Slip melting point	33-40°C	
Fatty acids	Saturated fatty acids (50.1) monounsaturated fatty	
	acids (35.7), polyunsaturated fatty acids	
	C12:0 (0.4%).C14:0 (1.5%). C16:0 (0.5%). C16:1	
	(46.8%), C18:0 (3.8%), C18:1 (38%), C18:2	
	(8.0%), C20:0 (1)	
Mono-, di- and Tri-	95%, 2.7%, 2.3% respectively	
acylglycerols		
Carotene content and	0.15% which reduces to 0.05 after refining	
crude palm oil colour		
Iodine value	50.0-55.0 gram iodine/100 gram oil	The
Saponification value	190–209 mg KOH/gram oil	University
		also

encourages research publications that address issues related to hunger. Some publications arising from Covenant University in relation to zero hunger can be found using the links provided below:

Year: 2023 Scholarly output: 101 Field weighted citation: 1.53 Citation count: 41 Views count: 3213 International collaboration: 719

# 2019-2022 THE Data



# 2023 in View

