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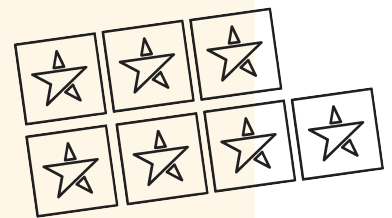
QS Stars Case Study: Palestine Polytechnic University



Palestine Polytechnic University (PPU) is a university located in Hebron, West Bank, Palestine. The school was founded in 1978 by the University Graduates Union, a non-profit organisation in Hebron.

Nowadays, PPU is a renowned university in Palestine that provides academic and vocational degrees in engineering, business and technology including associate programmes in addition to the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Engineering, Bachelor of Business, Master of Engineering, Bachelor of Sciences, and Master of Sciences and one PhD programme in Information Technology. These degrees are offered by the faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Technology, Applied Sciences, Administrative Sciences and Informatics, Information Technology and Computer Engineering, Applied Professions, Nursing, Dual Studies, and humanities.

The main goal of PPU is revealed by its vision of becoming an innovative global entrepreneurial university in science and technology. PPU seeks excellence in its academic, research, administrative, financial and all professional practices to accomplish its vision of becoming an entrepreneurial university.



What does it mean for your institution to be rewarded with a QS Stars rating, especially in your country?

The reputation of QS rankings and the level of scrutiny of QS Stars rating is well-known at the global and Arab Region levels. As an institution strives for excellence, we chose to be the first university in Palestine to participate in the QS Stars rating system.

QS Stars provides us a detailed audit of a broad range of activities that help to showcase our greatest competencies and pinpoint areas that need improving. It helps us to better convey our distinctiveness compared to other universities.

How has being rated highly in Social Responsibility, Academic Development and Inclusiveness helped your institution be recognised further in the area?

Being rated highly in social responsibility indicator aligns and certifies PPU's strategic purpose of "a university serving the community" and strengthens the university's commitment to doing so.

Additionally, the university's success in academic development indicator gives credibility to its mission that we have highly-qualified staff and continually work on improving their abilities. This would foster a desirable environment for improving various students' skills, scientific research and serving the community.

A high rating of Inclusiveness indicator demonstrates our dedication to including all student segments without prejudice, including fair treatment for low-income, minorities, marginalised, and students with disabilities.

What institutional objectives has QS Stars helped you to achieve as a public institution in Palestine?

QS Stars allows us to achieve the following objectives:

- Enhance our reputation and market our distinctiveness on the local and global scale.
- Increase the level of excellence and improve performance inside the university.
- Raise the spirit of looking forward among employees and students and encourage them to collaborate and do their best to enhance university performance.
- Encourage healthy competition among Palestinian universities, which would enhance the country's higher education system.

Does having a QS Stars rating help your institution better engage with prospective students? Do current students perceive PPU differently after being rated by QS Stars?

Prospective students can now compare us to other universities and make decisions based on actual performance data obtained from the world's top rating systems like QS Stars. Current students also are feeling more confident in their choice. They feel proud of the university's achievement and engage with the event effectively throughout social media platforms.



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Do the key market players in the industry perceive you differently since having QS Stars rating?

After announcing the result, the key market players such as our partners from the private sector and community serving institutions began to inquire about the result and what it means. After we responded to their inquiries, they commented what we achieved and appreciated our efforts, and they took into consideration the effect of the university's success.

As an exemplary institution with 3 Stars in your region, what is your advice for getting the most out of QS Stars for other institutions?

QS Stars provides clarity in assessing and raising institutional performance. For institutions who would like to be awarded higher Stars they need to work on multiple areas covered by QS Stars.

For some areas in the QS stars, collecting and shaping the data as an evidence was a challenge especially in cases where data is not documented, so, the documentation of all activities happening inside the institution with one department reference for each category will help and facilitate the process.



QS Stars explained

QS Stars is a globally-recognised rating system for higher education institutions. Ratings are achieved through an in-depth assessment across at least eight categories, resulting in an overall rating of 1 to 5+ Stars and a rating of 1 to 5 Stars for each category.

Following the assessment, QS provides a detailed report summarising the results in each category. This allows institutions to recognise their strengths, as well as weaker areas which may require attention and improvement.

The QS Stars package also includes a set of badges with the ratings achieved overall and in each category. Institutions may use these in their own marketing materials to show perspective students their strengths in areas that matter most, such as Teaching and Employability.

GOOD



Teaching



Academic Development



Facilities



Inclusiveness



Employability



Internationalisation



Social Responsibility



Computer Science
and Information Systems



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