



**UNIVERSIDAD
DON BOSCO**

CONTENTS

An Educational Project with Presence and Purpose.....	P. 1
Don Bosco University.....	P. 2
Commitment With Accreditation.....	P. 4
Pedagogical Model Based on the Competency Approach.....	P. 7
Research.....	P. 9
Social Outreach.....	P. 13
Creating Opportunities for Advancement and Professional Development.....	P. 16
Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation.....	P. 18
Salesian-Style Student Support.....	P. 20
Internationalization.....	P. 21
Graduates Driving Social Development.....	P. 23
Institutional Growth.....	P. 25
Innovation and Faculty Development.....	P. 28
Technology for Science, Research and Innovation.....	P. 30
Commitment to Sustainability.....	P. 32
UDB in Numbers.....	P. 34

1

An Educational Project *with Presence and Purpose*

Don Bosco University (UDB) is an institution that positions itself as a national and international benchmark thanks to its commitment to quality education, its innovative pedagogical model, and a holistic formation inspired by the Salesian charism. It has three campuses that broaden access to its academic offerings.

The Soyapango Campus, located in the Don Bosco Citadel, offers a broad academic portfolio and modern spaces that foster comprehensive education, professional practice, and human development. Its modern facilities include specialized laboratories, sports areas, and environments designed to encourage innovation and collaborative learning.

Meanwhile, the Antiguo Cuscatlán Campus, situated west of San Salvador, is an academic space that promotes advanced education by offering master's and doctoral programs, as well as undergraduate degrees.

Finally, the UDB Virtual Campus represents a commitment to distance education, allowing students from diverse regions and contexts to access undergraduate and postgraduate programs with the same academic quality that characterizes the institution. This modality is supported by a robust technological platform that facilitates interaction, guidance, and the development of professional competencies.

Each of these campuses responds to the evolving needs of students and society, guided by an educational model based on competencies and a close relationship with the productive sector, employers, and the alumni community. Throughout this dossier, the university's strategic priorities are presented—reinforcing its mission to educate ethical, well-rounded professionals committed to building a more just, compassionate, and sustainable society.

2

Don Bosco University

Inspired by the Salesian Charism

Founded in **1984**, and located in El Salvador, Don Bosco University (UDB) carries forward the educational and pedagogical legacy of Don Bosco, centered on the human person and the integral education of youth.

Its impact is grounded in the constant pursuit of truth through scientific rigor, the formation of individuals committed to justice and responsible participation in society, and a strong sense of transcendence and ethical action. *The university stands out for its commitment to holistic student formation, combining a solid academic foundation with ethical and social values.* Its educational approach emphasizes academic excellence, research, and innovation, preparing students to face and solve the challenges of the modern world.

◀ Don Rua International Philosophical Institute. One of the first UDB headquarters in the 1980s.



Since its beginnings, it has educated generations with a profound commitment to the social, economic, and cultural transformation of El Salvador and the region, through a solid foundation in principles and values and an academic offering focused on strategic and innovative areas.

UDB is a member of the Salesian *Institutions of Higher Education* (IUS), a global network of more than **94** institutions promoted by the Salesian Congregation across 22 countries on various continents.



We are UDB

3

Commitment to Accreditation

Educational Services of the Highest Quality



Quality is a permanent way of life and work at Don Bosco University. Its **Mission** and **Vision** drive ongoing self-assessment and continuous improvement processes aimed at meeting the expectations of its stakeholders.

As part of its strategic direction, the university's interest in accreditation processes is grounded in a strategic plan that guides it toward meeting regional and international educational standards. UDB began accrediting its programs in the late 1990s.

It was the first university in El Salvador accredited by the CdA in **2001**, and the first to renew its accreditation in subsequent processes in **2006**, **2011**, **2017**, and **2022**. This ongoing effort toward innovation and quality improvement has positioned UDB as **the Salvadoran university with the highest number of internationally accredited programs.**





Currently, it has two technical programs accredited by the **International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO)**, five engineering programs and one bachelor's degree accredited by the **Central American Accreditation Agency for Architecture and Engineering Programs (ACAAI)**, and one technical program certified by the **Civil Aviation Authority of El Salvador (AAC)**.

At Don Bosco University, we are committed to achieving academic excellence through rigorous, continuous quality assurance and accreditation processes. We strive to meet the highest national and international standards to ensure the quality of our academic offerings. Through this commitment, we guarantee that our students will receive a comprehensive and relevant education that strengthens their competitiveness in the job market while responding to society's needs and expectations. For us, accreditation is a tool for continuous improvement and a reflection of our dedication to providing first-rate educational services.

◆ Institutional Reaccreditation, 2022

 **Accreditations**



4

Pedagogical Model Based on the Competency Approach

An Innovative Style of Education

Over its four decades of experience, Don Bosco University *has built and sustained an innovative educational offering and a competency-based pedagogical model that is relevant and flexible in response to the nation's demands and a rapidly changing environment.* This model ensures meaningful learning aligned with the institutional philosophy, educational model, and competency-based framework.



One of our main strategic pillars is **academic innovation**. From this pillar, UDB's pedagogical model is strengthened through the competency approach, which places students at the **center of the educational process**. It promotes their integral formation so they can act ethically and with proficiency when facing complex professional and life situations, pursuing personal fulfillment and contributing to social development in harmony with the environment.

This approach enables students to learn within real-world contexts, interact with other social actors, integrate knowledge, mobilize resources, develop and strengthen competencies, build new knowledge, and make decisions with creativity and entrepreneurship.

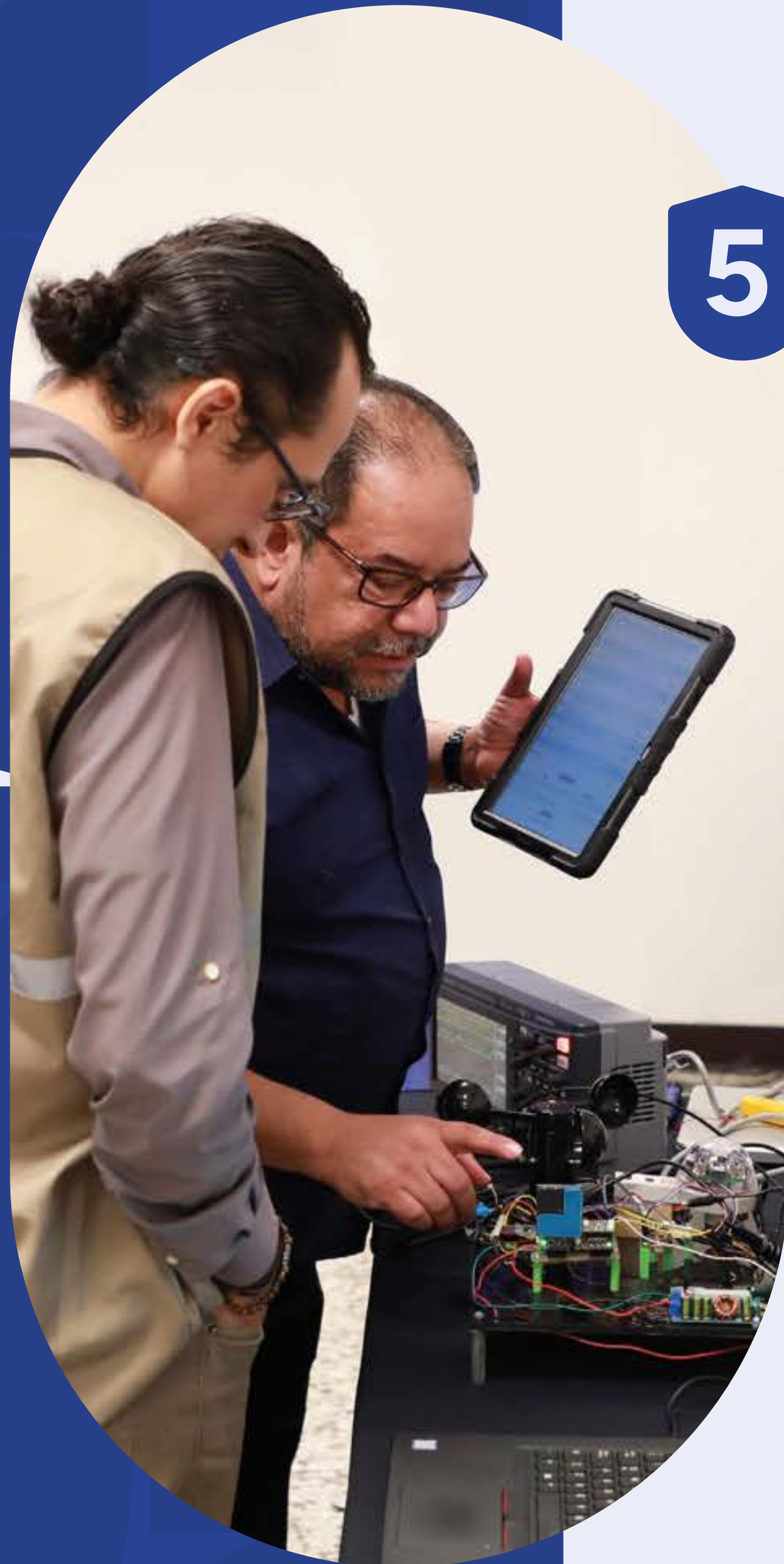
Therefore, Don Bosco University creates learning spaces across in-person, blended, and online modalities, where students engage in direct interaction and close guidance from faculty and peers. These experiences are oriented toward action, decision-making, and the use of innovative technological resources to develop solutions in complex scenarios.

Students participate in professional practices, internships, integrative projects, problem-solving activities, research, case studies, and cooperative learning. These are complemented by academic mobility and international exchange opportunities, as well as artistic, cultural, pastoral, and sports activities that foster personal and community growth. Additional support programs include psycho-pedagogical assistance, women's empowerment in science, entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives, career guidance, job placement, and Salesian university associations.



Educational Model

5



Research

A Commitment to Generating and Transferring Knowledge

One of UDB's major institutional priorities is the generation and transfer of knowledge through the implementation of **Research, Development, and Innovation (R&D&I)**. This is a core function of the university's mission to transform human reality, especially that of young people, who serve as a driving force for change.

Our research focuses on producing new scientific, technological, and humanistic knowledge; developing human talent; and disseminating scientific and technological production nationally and internationally, all with the aim of enhancing societal competitiveness.

Research projects are proposed, managed, and supported by **Academic Units**, and **Research Institutes** and **Centers**, whose research agenda focuses on seven major areas:



1 Education



2 Humanities



3 Technology



4 Social and Natural Sciences



5 Arts and Architecture



6 Health



7 Environment

These projects are submitted for presentations at national and international conferences, helping to build networks with other researchers and broaden the dissemination of research results. The accumulated experience of our researchers also enables active participation in organizing national and international conferences alongside other higher education institutions.

After 40 years, the Research Office has established a Research Model and an Agenda, an R&D&I Policy, a Research Council, and it produces more than 40 publications per year, with incentives for indexed research in prestigious global databases. From 2020 to 2023, 61% of all Scopus-indexed publications were produced, demonstrating significant growth and a solid commitment to scientific research.



Research





LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN 2025

QS Recognition Award

NEW ENTRANTS

Universidad de Don Bosco

October 2024

Date

Ben Sowter
Senior Vice-President
QS Quacquarelli Symonds

The inclusion of Don Bosco University in the 2024 QS Ranking for the first time is a milestone that reflects its commitment to academic excellence and research. This achievement opens doors to new opportunities for collaboration and funding, further strengthening the university's capacity to innovate and contribute to regional social and economic development.

Currently, UDB has more than 150 Scopus-indexed publications, positioning it as the **second-highest publishing institution in El Salvador**, and the one with the most indexed scientific output in major databases.



Scopus

6

Social Outreach *A Social Commitment to the Community*









Social commitment is one of our strategic pillars and permeates every area of the University. Our educational community embraces social outreach as part of our identity as educators. This commitment is closely interwoven with **Research**, **Teaching**, and **Management**.

We approach **Social Outreach** with deep responsibility, engaging every member of the Educational Community in actively seeking the common good through project development, social initiatives, and community-oriented activities aimed at building a more just and supportive society.



We prepare students to become agents of social change, with a special sensitivity to the situation of young people, particularly the most vulnerable, promoting understanding of their circumstances and seeking opportunities to support their education, personal development, and professional growth, as well as that of their families.

Responding to national challenges, we identify and prioritize social needs to which we can contribute. Our efforts aim to promote the integral development of individuals and communities, integrating diverse actors and social sectors across the following areas:

- 
1 Education
- 
2 Youth and Family
- 
3 Gender Equality
- 
4 Economic Growth
- 
5 Environment
- 
6 Health
- 
7 Culture
- 
8 Technology



Our social commitment is guided by the ***Social Commitment Policy and the Social Outreach Agenda***, documents that direct the implementation and development of outreach efforts within the University.

Their purpose is to ensure that the initiatives we lead respond to the institutional challenge of becoming a nationally and internationally recognized educational institution for its presence and contributions to innovation in the social sphere.



Social Outreach

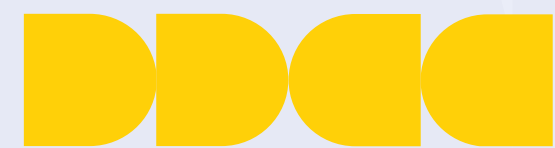


7

Creating Opportunities for Advancement and Professional Development

UDB Scholarship Program

Each year, UDB welcomes students with strong academic potential and a desire for self-improvement, who face economic challenges that limit their access to higher education. In response, and in alignment with our social commitment to Salvadoran youth, we manage and administer funds that enable these students to complete their studies through academic scholarships.





Our **Scholarship Programs** are made possible thanks to institutional funds and the support of philanthropists, companies, and foundations—both national and international—who join the effort to provide educational opportunities for young people across the country. Through these programs, we impact the lives of Salvadoran families, considering that a significant percentage of our scholarship recipients are the first generation to access higher education. Thanks to these scholarships, they can strengthen their professional profile, increase their chances of obtaining employment nationally and internationally, and improve their own living conditions as well as those of their families.

Currently, we offer more than **40 scholarship programs**, benefiting over **700** students across UDB's various academic programs.



Scholarships

8

Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation

The *Directorate of Entrepreneurship and Innovation (DEI)* is an institutional initiative designed to promote technology-based entrepreneurship and the creation of sustainable, scalable, and innovative businesses within the student community, as well as among key actors in the national ecosystem, including entrepreneurs at both national and regional levels.

Its objectives include incubating dynamic ventures through advisory services, mentoring, and coaching; accelerating businesses already in operation; facilitating access to pre-seed and seed capital and other funding alternatives; and seeking partnerships with national and international institutions.





The DEI encompasses the following areas:

- **Coworking:** A space for exchanging business ideas and experiences among entrepreneurs.
- **Incubation:** Provides training, advisory services, mentoring, and access to funding opportunities.
- **CDMYPE-UDB:** Offers comprehensive support to entrepreneurs or business owners to accelerate their development cycle.



**Office of
Entrepreneurship
and Innovation**

9

Salesian-Style Student Support Accompaniment

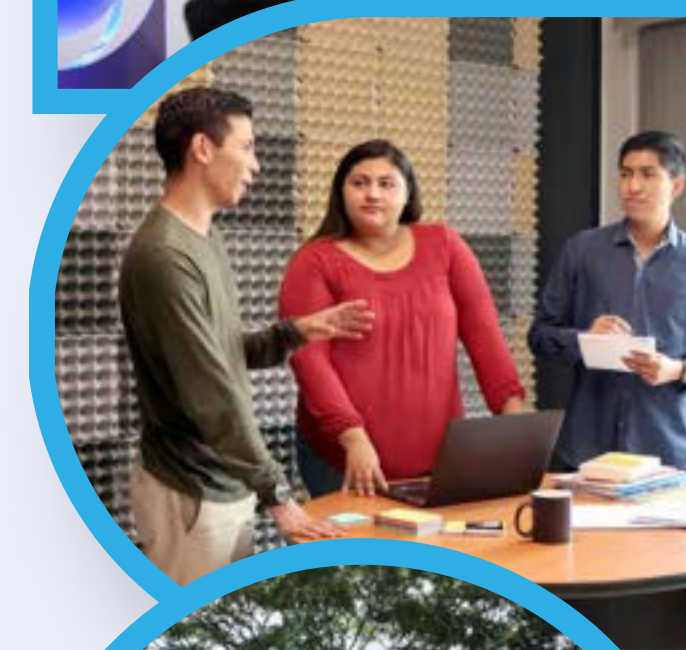
UDB's *student support and holistic development* model is designed to offer young people a university experience shaped by Salesian charisma. It brings to life a series of strategic support programs for their personal and professional growth.

Programs include:

- › Job Placement and Career Integration Program **Incorpórate**.
- › Career Guidance Program (**POC**).
- › Internationalization.
- › University Pastoral Ministry.
- › Salesian University Associations.
- › Alumni Outreach Program.
- › Sports.
- › Arts and Culture.
- › Women's Empowerment Program **Promueve**.
- › Pedagogical Assistance.
- › Student Tutoring.



Activities



10

Internationalization

The internationalization of students, faculty, and administrative staff is an essential component of UDB's institutional vision. It is also reflected in the 2017–2026 Institutional Plan under the axes of Academic Innovation and Talent Management.

This approach drives us to promote mobility programs and to strengthen participation in international networks, enabling researchers to connect with experts in their field, share results, receive feedback, and access innovative knowledge.





Academic mobility can take place through international stays or student exchanges that allow credit recognition at any of the more than 90 foreign universities with which UDB maintains cooperation agreements. These initiatives foster the academic and human development of our students, encouraging an international and intercultural dimension for the globalization of knowledge.

UDB is part of important consortia and international networks, including those grouping higher education institutions with Salesian or Catholic inspiration, as well as major professional networks for cooperation, research, development, and innovation. This allows the development of joint projects and offers a wide range of student, faculty, and staff mobility opportunities.



**Professional
Development**



11

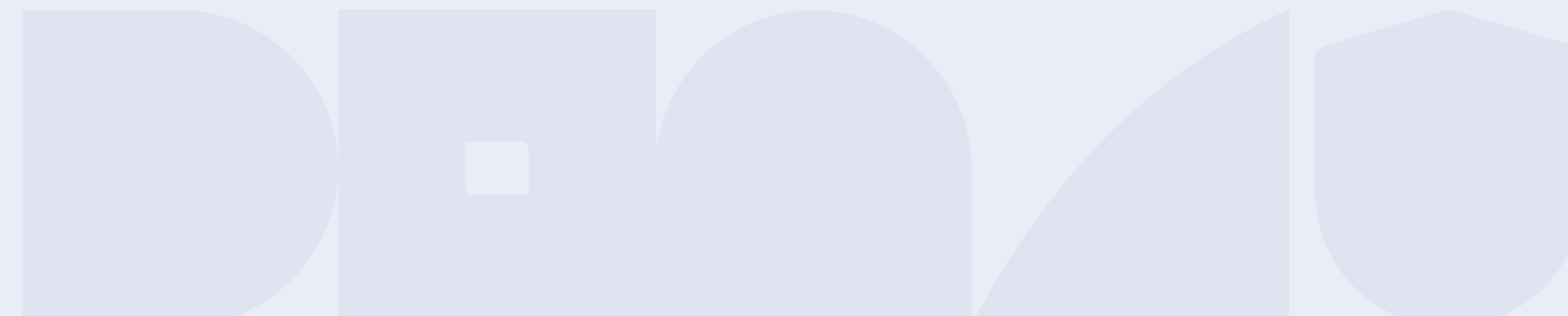
Graduates Driving Social Development

Our commitment is to ensure that UDB professionals acquire the personal, cognitive, and productive competencies necessary to build a strong identity grounded in ethics and responsibility, an openness to the pursuit of truth and lifelong learning, and the technical and human skills required for life.

Since our founding, Salvadoran society has welcomed nearly 20,000 UDB graduates, who lead transformations within their professional fields in response to the demands of the environment.



Graduate outcomes are essential, as they reflect the quality and relevance of the education provided. Their performance enhances the institution's reputation and contributes positively to society and the labor market. Moreover, their success attracts future students and fosters strategic partnerships with companies and organizations, generating a virtuous cycle of growth and development for both the university and its educational community.



12

Institutional Growth

In recent years, Universidad Don Bosco has experienced significant growth across various areas. Student enrollment has increased notably, reflecting trust in the institution's educational quality.

Additionally, the academic offering has expanded with new undergraduate and postgraduate programs, adapting to labor market demands and societal needs. For this reason, UDB maintains three strategic campus locations: **Soyapango**, **Antiguo Cuscatlán**, and **UDB Virtual**—the latter for consolidating virtual academic offerings.





Soyapango

Antiguo Cuscatlán

UDB Virtual

Universidad Don Bosco offers more than 55 academic programs distributed across its 3 campuses

Doctoral • Master's • Engineering • Bachelor's • Technical • Teacher

 **View academic offerings**

UDB has demonstrated a strong commitment to innovation and continuous improvement. Its 2022–2026 Master Plan highlights several strategic axes for institutional growth, including the development of social-impact projects, scholarship fund management, and innovative academic offerings in face-to-face, blended, and virtual modalities.

The university also prioritizes the ongoing transformation of academic and administrative processes, the strengthening of virtual education, and the sustainability of its physical and technological infrastructure. These efforts respond to the needs of a rapidly changing society and aim to position UDB as a leading reference in education, science, and culture.

Master Plan Axes:



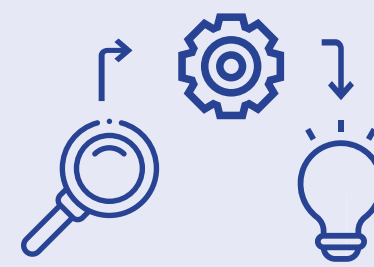
Social
Commitment



Academic
Innovation



Institutional
Sustainability



Knowledge Generation and
Transfer (R&D&I)



Talent
Management



Management of Physical and
Technological Infrastructure



**Institucional
Planning**



13

Innovation and Faculty Development

UDB faculty are professionals with expertise in their areas of specialization, pedagogical and Salesian training, and experience as researchers centered around one's holistic development.

Throughout the learning process and within the competencies established in each course, students connect academic training with the economic and social realities of their profession, integrating theory and practice.

Faculty design face-to-face, blended, and online learning environments grounded in holistic education, promoting competent performance through the articulation of resources and ethical considerations. These environments help students build their professional identity and develop knowledge and solutions for real or simulated problems.

Professors promote active learning experiences such as **integrative projects, problem solving, research, case studies, and more** —experiences that unleash students' strategic abilities, creativity, and autonomy while fostering interaction and collaboration.

As reflective professionals, UDB faculty participate in self-evaluation processes and review assessment results provided by others, considering the challenges of their role, their competencies, and their impact on others. This guides their decisions regarding continuous improvement goals and professional development.



14

Technology for Science, Research and Innovation

Technology plays a crucial role at UDB by facilitating access to educational resources, improving research efficiency, and fostering innovation. It enables students and faculty to reach a vast array of information and learning tools (physical or online), enriching the educational process.

Laboratories, practice workshops, and technological platforms optimize the management of scientific data for academic purposes, making learning meaningful and impactful. Technology drives research and development, keeping the institution at the forefront of knowledge and innovation.

The university has made significant investments in facilities and equipment, boosting both teaching and research. Social outreach has also been a key pillar, with numerous projects benefiting the community and strengthening ties between the university and society.



15

Commitment to Sustainability

UDB strives to be a university with modern technological capabilities and a physical infrastructure that is safe, ergonomic, and environmentally friendly. This supports efficient academic, administrative, research, and technological innovation activities.

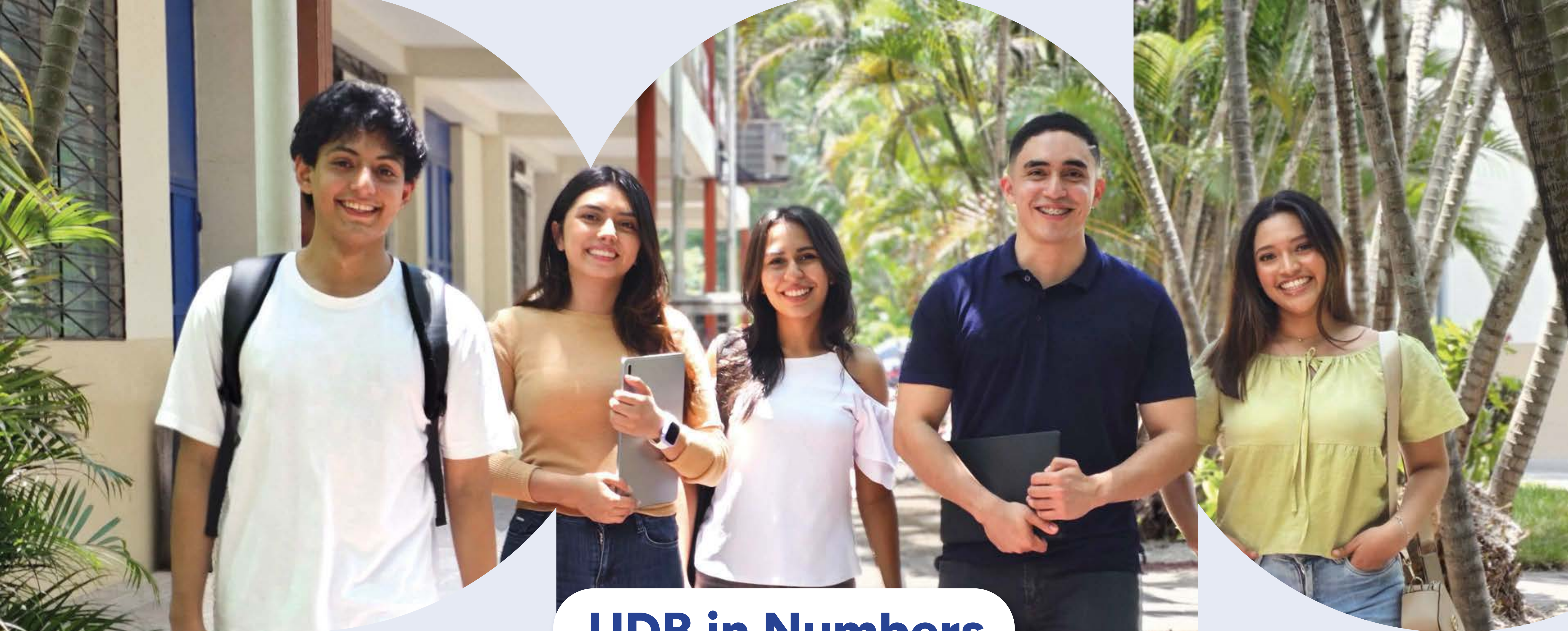
For this reason, the university has begun building modern and sustainable facilities, such as the Annex Building of the School of Rehabilitation Sciences. Its construction incorporates bioclimatic architecture and sustainable design principles, including LEED standards—reflecting UDB’s institutional commitment to becoming a sustainable campus and to preparing future professionals who integrate environmental, social, and professional responsibility.

Beginning in 2025, a new academic building will be added to the Antiguo Cuscatlán campus. This construction aligns with the institutional axis of Physical and Technological Infrastructure Management, aiming to ensure the technological and physical resources necessary for effective academic, administrative, and technological development activities.

The goal is to establish UDB as a higher education institution with modern and innovative technological capabilities, and physical spaces designed and built under sustainability criteria.

UDB is committed to incorporating best practices in all new constructions and renovations. Sustainability not only prepares professionals to confront present and future environmental challenges but also fosters a culture of responsibility and global awareness among faculty, staff, and stakeholders.





UDB in Numbers

 [View Full Data](#)



**UNIVERSIDAD
DON BOSCO**



www.udb.edu.sv



UDBelsalvador

Soyapango Campus

Calle a Plan del Pino Km 11½. Ciudadela Don Bosco,
Soyapango, San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Postal Code: 1874.

Antiguo Cuscatlán Campus

Final Avenida Albert Einstein No. 233 Colonia Jardines
de Guadalupe, La Libertad, El Salvador.