



NAMANGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



SUSTAINABILITY/CLIMATE ACTION POLICY

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1.0 Short Title, Application and Commencement:

- 1.1** This Policy may be called Namangan State University Sustainability and climate action policy, 2023.
- 1.2** This Policy shall apply to all faculty members/scientists/staff and students at Namangan State University and its campuses. The policy recognizes the significance of Higher Education Institutions as catalysts of change and their role in contributing towards the implementation of UN SDGs. The HEIs contribute decisively to creating a mindset that facilitates the dissemination of SDG principles. Universities across the globe increasingly recognize the responsibility to prepare students and society to actively contribute to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, which demands that universities adopt and promote carbon-neutral practices by adopting low-carbon operational mechanisms. The university aligns its curricula and pedagogical approaches to educate students about the imperatives of climate change and adopt a strategy to reduce its carbon footprint. The university repositions itself dynamically to bridge the gap between generating direct action areas for carbon-neutral education and the creation and dissemination of critical knowledge about climate change that has the potential to proliferate across multiple sectors of the economy. Namangan State University as part of its commitment to climate change and sustainable development, engages in periodic energy, environmental and green audits as a continuous process to review and monitor its infrastructure, leading to a substantial reduction in its carbon footprint.

2.0 Objective: The objective of this Policy is appended as under.

- 2.1 Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Reduce “Carbon footprint” by aiming for net-zero emissions of institution-linked greenhouse gases across administrative, academic and residential, and recreational facilities, with emphasis on utilizing public transport.
- 2.2 Energy and Resource Efficiency:** Adopt low-carbon operational practices in all campus buildings and infrastructure to achieve carbon neutrality by investing in energy conservation by promoting renewable energy sources and optimizing resource consumption.
- 2.3 Water and Waste Management:** Adopt efficient water conservation and management practices, along with sustainable waste management practices on campus.

2.4 Societal action, Awareness and Education for sustainability:

Improve literacy and awareness of climate change through sustained, active learning activities, connected to local problem-solving and people's behavior. Enhance awareness and understanding of the adaptation and mitigation of climate risk and environmental issues among the staff, students, and stakeholders through effective teaching-learning processes and investing in community activities and projects through multiple co-curricular, extracurricular, and inter-collegiate activities.

2.5 Collaboration and Partnerships:

Foster collaborations across stakeholders, to leverage the expertise of environmental auditors, community organizers, industry professionals, and policymakers to support a more systematic and deeper inquiry on issues of climate change, low-carbon energy, carbon neutrality, and carbon sequestration. To create opportunities for students to interact with the leaders in the field of art, culture, science, technology, planning and environment through involvement with the community.

2.6 Review, Monitoring and Reporting:

Establish robust processes to review, track and monitor the performance of key indicators such as greenhouse gas emissions, carbon emission, energy consumption, water usage, and waste generation and management.

2.7 Adaptation and Resilience:

Adopting sustainable practices in design, construction, and management to create a built environment, and build resilience through green ways of lifestyle to cope with the local effects of climate change and develop a campus climate action plan for disaster risk reduction.

2.8 Integrate environmental education and sustainable practices in curricula and research:

Impart Climate Change Education (CCE) through advanced curriculum, imparted through formal, informal, and non-formal learning and teaching approaches, including field projects, international Case Studies, and higher-degree research. To develop credit and value-based courses and invest in thrust areas of climate change and sustainable development through multidisciplinary research.

2.9 Promote research aligned to SDGs:

To identify the environmental issues in local and neighborhood settings and carry out research and solution identification through intellect capital and capacity building. To pursue research on climate change and its impacts, with an emphasis on mitigation and adaptation.

3.0 Procedure/Practices:

One of the core values of Namangan State University (NamSU) is “Environmental Responsibility”. The University is acutely aware of its environmental responsibilities and embraces principle of sustainable development to ensure that any adverse environmental impact of its activities is minimized.

The procedures/ practices followed by the University is as under.

- 3.1 **Set specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) targets:** Develop targets aligned with the University’s 7 - Sustainable plans for expanding social, environmental, and economic viability.
- 3.2 **Develop an action plan:** Create a detailed roadmap outlining strategic initiatives that will enable the University to achieve its targets. Assign responsibilities, allocate resources, and establish timelines for implementation for effective utilization of resources and invest in effective monitoring and feedback processes with available benchmarks, and set feasible goals for the future.
- 3.3 **Integrate sustainability into operations:** Embed sustainability considerations into the University’s policies, procedures, and decision-making processes. Adopt sustainable practices in all the operations at all levels of the university, including education, transportation, thermal control, water conservation and management, waste management, etc.
- 3.4 **Invest in renewable energy:** Invest in renewable energy sources, such as clean energy, and SMART technologies, to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3.5 **Promote sustainable transportation:** Encourage Provide infrastructure and incentives to support sustainable transportation options and establish realistic and measurable targets to reduce the carbon footprint. Provide infrastructure and incentives to support sustainable transportation options.
- 3.6 **Implement waste reduction and recycling programs:** Implement effective solid waste management and liquid waste (Black and Grey water) management, strategies, and technologies to reduce waste generation, collect, segregate, recycle, and generate energy from waste. Responsible disposal of hazardous and bio-medical waste.

- 3.7 Water Conservation and management:** Implement water conservation strategies to maintain a zero-discharge campus by replenishing the groundwater and reducing water consumption by using low-flow fixtures and reuse of black and grey water by deploying efficient sludge-free technologies. Installation of efficient fixtures to reduce water consumption and wastage, rainwater harvesting pits to collect surface discharge, water treatment for reuse in the landscape, use of indigenous plant species with high APTI index to reduce air pollution and plant species which contribute to effective carbon sequestration.
- 3.8 Continuous monitoring and improvement:** Regularly assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the University's initiatives, identify areas for improvement, and adapt strategies through periodic audits to assess the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives and compliance with established standards to achieve the SDGs.
- 3.9 Stakeholder engagement:** Engage and collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to foster a culture of environmental responsibility and gather diverse perspectives and ideas.
- 3.10 Curriculum Design and Research Projects:** Courses on sustainable development and climate change to be integrated into the curriculum from the initial years to raise awareness and sensitivity. Further research may be encouraged and undertaken to engage in research and consultancy projects in areas connected to sustainable development and climate risk reduction, alternative energy research and innovation on clean energy and alternative energy sources.
- 3.11 Community Engagement and Outreach:** The university can adopt a stewardship role to engage with local communities, state govt agencies, and central govt agencies to contribute towards national mission programs to support social, economic, and environmental sustainability initiatives. The university can also initiate community outreach and awareness programs involving students, faculty, and staff. Knowledge sessions, training sessions, and workshops may be organized, and Consultancy projects may be undertaken in collaboration with government or private organizations to raise community awareness and engagement.

4.0 Resources and Responsibilities:

- 4.1** Allocate adequate resources, including financial, technological, and human resources, to support the implementation of the policy and strategy.

- 4.2** Designate committee responsible for overseeing the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of sustainability initiatives. The committee constitution for the Policy is appended as under.

Nominated by the Vice Rector Namangan State University	Chair person
Three Deans	Member
Two Head of Departments	Member
Two Professors	Member
Two Representative from students	Member

- 4.3** Foster staff and student engagement by providing training for sustainable practices.

5.0 Communication and Reporting:

- 5.1** Develop a transparent and comprehensive communication plan to inform stakeholders about the University's climate and environmental impact mitigation efforts.
- 5.2** Regularly report on progress, achievements, and challenges in meeting the University's targets and commitments to ensure accountability and transparency.

6.0 Approving authority: The Vice Rector Namangan State University shall be the approving authority for implementing actions related to environmental sustainability at campus.

7.0 Review of policy: The policy shall be reviewed periodically to ascertain the effectiveness of the implementation of sustainability practices.

By implementing this Climate and Environmental Impact Mitigation Policy and Strategy, Namangan State University aims to play an active role in mitigating climate change, protecting the environment, and contributing to a sustainable future. The University recognize that collective action is essential, and it will actively collaborate with stakeholders to achieve its sustainability goals. Through continuous improvement and innovation, the University will strive to minimize its environmental footprint and relay a positive message to the community.