

**SUSTAINABILITY  
CLIMATE ACTION POLICY**

## SUSTAINABILITY CLIMATE ACTION POLICY

Effat University

EU Policy #: SDG 0003

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Revised:

Effective Date: March 2024

Revised:

### POLICY STATEMENT

Effat University as an educational institution and a member of the global community is committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development goals (SDGs) through effective institutional resources management, innovative teaching and learning, research, national and international partnerships, continuous studies, and outreach. Effat University is also committed to net-zero carbon university by 2060.

All members of Effat University (faculty, staff members, scientists, research scholars and students) suppliers, partners, contractors, and tenants must adhere to the sustainability rules and regulations set in this policy.

#### Purpose:

- To provide a vision, mission, strategic goals, and a set of principles to guide the university's actions to support sustainability and improve the campus environmental performance.
- To enhance awareness and understanding of the adaptation and mitigation of climate risk and environmental issues among the staff, students, and stakeholders.
- To 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 general management.

**Scope:** All Faculty, staff members, scientists, research scholars and students, suppliers, partners, contractors, and tenants.

#### Responsible Party:

University Committee for Handling Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

#### Additional Authority:

University Council

### POLICY & PROCEDURES

Effat University is committed to minimizing its environmental impact on future generations. Thus, it has in place several rules and regulations to define measures for a balanced consumption of natural resources and minimizing environmental impact as follows.

1. **Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** By aiming for net-zero emissions of institution-linked greenhouse gases across administrative, academic, residential, and recreational facilities.
2. **Preserving Land and Green Areas to Reduce Footprint Effect:** Aiming to extend green areas on campus by planting more trees and grasslands and reducing the loss of green areas to new building areas.

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3. **Energy & Resource Efficiency:** Adopting low-carbon operational practices in all campus buildings and infrastructure to achieve carbon neutrality by investing in energy conservation and optimizing resource consumption in addition to promoting renewable energy sources.
4. **Water Conservation:** adopting efficient water conservation and management practices, for this purpose all newly installed plumbing fixtures have water-conservation systems, and water saver fixtures or devices.
5. **Waste Management:** adopting and implementing an environmentally friendly waste management and disposal program. Recycling all commonly used materials such as mixed papers, cardboard, plastic containers, metal cans, toners/cartridges and used oils.
6. **Awareness & Education for Sustainability:** Enhance awareness and understanding of the adaptation and mitigation of climate risk and environmental issues among staff, students and stakeholder through effective teaching and learning processes and investing in community activities through co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
7. **Collaborations & Partnerships:** Forster and expand collaborations with stakeholders to leverage the expertise of environmental auditors, community organizers, industry professionals and policy makers to support a more systematic inquiry on climate change issues.
8. **Reviewing, Monitoring & 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 to help sustain the campus environment.
9. **Adaptation & Resilience:** Adopting sustainable practices in design, construction, and management to create a built environment, and build resilience through green ways of lifestyles to cope with local demands.
10. **Integrate Environmental Education:** Impart Climate Change Education through formal, informal, and non-formal teaching & learning approaches such as field projects, cases studies and research.
11. **Promote Research Aligned to SDGs:** to identify the environmental issues in local and neighborhood settings and identify solutions. To pursue research on climate change and its impact with emphasis on mitigation and adaptation.
12. **Community Engagement and Outreach;** initiate community outreach and awareness programs involving students, faculty and staff through training sessions, and workshops.

### PROCEDURES

1. Develop an action plan and create a detailed roadmap based on strategic initiatives that will enable the university to achieve its mission and goals. Assign responsibilities, resources, and 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.
2. Set specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time bond smart objectives to be measured by specific KPIs and set their targets for achieving the university's goals and initiatives related to SGDs.

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3. Adopt sustainable practices in all operations at all levels of the university, including education, research, governance, transportation, thermal control, water conservation and waste management.
4. Invest in renewable energy, such as clean energy and SMART technologies to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.
5. Promote sustainable transportation by encouraging walking among staff and students on campus instead of using golfcarts.
6. Implement effective solid waste management strategies and technologies to reduce waste generation, and responsible disposal of hazardous and biochemical waste.
7. Water conservation and management and reducing water consumption by using low-flow fixtures. Installation of efficient fixtures to reduce water consumption and waste, water treatment for reuse in landscape.
8. Preserving the university ecosystem and supporting the movement to combat climate change by expanding green areas and planting indigenous plant species with high APTI index to reduce air pollution and plants that contribute to effective carbon sequestration.
9. Engage and collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to foster a culture of environmental responsibility and gather diverse perspectives and ideas.
10. Provide courses on sustainable development and climate change to be integrated into the curriculum to raise awareness and sensitivity.
11. Encourage undertaking research and consultancy projects in areas connected to sustainable development and climate risk reduction, alternative energy research and innovation on clean energy.
12. Initiate community outreach and awareness programs involving students, faculty and staff through training sessions, and workshops. Consultancy projects may be also undertaken in collaboration with government or private organizations to raise community awareness and engagement.
13. Regularly assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the university's initiatives, identify areas for improvement and adapt strategies through periodic audits to assess effectiveness of sustainability initiatives and compliance with established standards to achieve SDGs.

### **Reporting On Performance and Leading Improvement Plans**

The university will set a system for reporting on the achievements of the set goals and objectives related to sustainability and climate action to monitor its environmental performance as well as set plans for improvement accordingly. These semester/annual report will be part of the Standard Quality Reports (SQRs) of the concerned units. The Institutional Committee for handling Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will be responsible for reviewing their reports and leading the improvement plans for improving the university performance.