

# BUKHARA STATE UNIVERSITY

## NET-ZERO PLAN

### Introduction

Bukhara State University is committed to leading the way towards a sustainable future by implementing a comprehensive net-zero plan. This plan outlines the actions and interim targets the university will undertake to achieve carbon neutrality and significantly reduce its environmental impact.

### Vision

By 2040, Bukhara State University will strive for Net Zero Carbon (NZC) for Scope 1 and 2 emissions, with a reduction in Scope 3 emissions, and envisions itself as a carbon-neutral institution, where all emissions are balanced by equivalent carbon removal, energy efficiency and sustainable practices. The university will be recognized as a sustainability leader within the higher education community, inspiring students, staff, and the broader community to become environmentally conscious global citizens.

### Actions and Interim Targets

#### 1. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy:

Interim Target 1 (2026): Install solar panels on university buildings to generate 50% of the total energy demand on campus.

Interim Target 2 (2028): Increase energy efficiency by 20% through building retrofitting and technology upgrades.

Interim Target 3 (2030): Implement smart energy management systems to optimize energy consumption and reduce wastage.

#### 2. Sustainable Transportation:

Interim Target 1 (2026): Increase the use of electric and hybrid vehicles in the university's transport fleet to 20%.

Interim Target 2 (2026): Encourage the use of bicycles and promote public transportation among students and staff, aiming to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips by 30%.

#### 3. Waste Reduction and Recycling:

Interim Target 1 (2026): Implement a comprehensive waste management system that diverts 30% of waste from landfills through recycling and composting initiatives.

Interim Target 2 (2026): Promote the use of reusable water bottles, containers, and other sustainable practices to reduce single-use plastic consumption by 50%.

Interim Target 3 (2025): Establish partnerships with local recycling facilities and organizations to maximize recycling efficiency and explore innovative waste reduction technologies.

#### **4. Carbon Offset and Removal:**

Interim Target 1 (2030): Invest in verified carbon offset projects to offset 10% of the university's remaining emissions that cannot be reduced internally.

Interim Target 2 (2028): Implement afforestation and reforestation projects on campus and in nearby areas to sequester CO<sub>2</sub>.

Interim Target 3 (2030): Collaborate with research departments to explore and support cutting-edge carbon removal technologies.

#### **5. Curriculum Integration and Awareness:**

Interim Target 1 (2026): Integrate sustainability and climate change topics into 20% of the university's academic programs across disciplines.

Interim Target 2 (2025): Organize sustainability workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to engage students, staff, and the local community in sustainable practices.

Interim Target 3 (2025): Establish a sustainability center to promote research, innovation, and outreach in environmental sustainability.

#### **6. Engagement:**

Interim Target 1 (2024): Engage with faculty, staff, students, and the local community to gather feedback and ideas for sustainable initiatives.

Interim Target 2 (2025): Establish a sustainability committee comprising representatives from different departments to guide and oversee sustainability efforts.

Interim Target 3 (2026): Partner with local businesses, government agencies, and NGOs to leverage resources and expertise for sustainability projects.

Monitoring and Reporting: The university will regularly monitor progress towards achieving interim targets and the net-zero goal. Annual sustainability reports will be published to transparently communicate results, challenges, and future action plans.

By following this net-zero plan with clear actions and interim targets, Bukhara State University aims to lead by example and contribute significantly to the global efforts in combating climate change and securing a sustainable future for all.