

Sustainability policy

Preamble

As a higher education institution, Bukhara State University recognizes its duty to tackle global challenges, including ecological degradation, climate change, and growing socio-economic inequality. Bukhara State University is well positioned to lead by providing opportunities for its communities to contribute to efforts advancing sustainability in institutional operations, teaching, and research.

Acknowledging the Definition of Sustainability

Bukhara State University recognizes the Brundtland Commission's (1987) definition of sustainability, emphasising the importance of meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The university endeavours to balance economic, environmental, and social impacts in its decision-making processes, aiming to maximise positive contributions while minimising negative impacts.

Incorporating Sustainability Principles

The university understands that sustainability involves addressing root causes of inequality and acknowledges its significance in policy development, strategic planning, and initiatives promoting principles of planetary rights, decolonization, equity, diversity, and inclusion. All faculty and staff are expected to promote and support the objectives outlined in this policy.

Purpose

This Sustainability Policy provides a framework for embedding sustainable practice at Bukhara State University across four key areas: teaching and learning, research, facilities, and operations, as well as partnerships and engagement based on the United Nation's Sustainable Development goals.

Scope

The Sustainability Policy applies to all staff, and students, both full-time and part-time affiliates, and visitors associated with the university.

Our Focus

Focus Areas

The university's activities impact the economy, environment, and society at local, national, and global levels. Key focus areas include:

1. Net Zero Carbon (NZC) by 2040 for Scope 1 and 2 emissions, with a reduction in Scope 3 emissions.
2. Transitioning to a complete renewable energy supply.
3. Pollution prevention measures to control emissions and discharges.
4. Waste reduction and resource reuse initiatives.
5. Water conservation through efficient practices and technologies.
6. Minimising the impact of transportation through sustainable alternatives.
7. Adopting sustainable principles in building design, construction, and operations.
8. Protecting and enhancing biodiversity on campuses.
9. Embedding sustainability considerations in procurement decisions.
10. Promoting sustainable behaviours within the community and supporting volunteering efforts.
11. Prioritising the wellbeing of staff and students.
12. Adapting campuses to climate change challenges.

Policy

The University will:

- develop a University Sustainability Strategy to achieve Net-Zero on Scope 1 and 2 emissions at Bukhara State University and to reduce Scope 3 emissions before

2040; consistent with global best practices to foster positive ecological, social, and economic outcomes.

- develop and maintain a framework to shape and drive sustainability initiatives across the University community in its operations, and build capacity and awareness across the Bukhara State University community, locally and globally.
- develop and implement a process to track, measure, evaluate, and report to the Rector on progress toward achieving the goals established under the University Sustainability Strategy, including milestones and implementation plans underpinned by conservation, decarbonization, and innovation, applied to Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Rector will be responsible for the implementation of this policy and has the authority to develop procedures to that effect, namely regarding but not limited to:

- Establish sustainability standards across various domains such as transportation, energy, procurement, waste management, biodiversity protection, and land use planning.
- Develop mechanisms for implementing the University Sustainability Strategy.
- Define processes for tracking, measuring, evaluating, and reporting progress to the Rector.

Review

The policy will undergo review every four years to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. During the review, the policy will remain in full force and effect.

Rector

March 1, 2024
Pr. Obidjon Khamidov