



Grand Asian University, Sialkot

Sustainability Policy

(2025)

ALIGNED WITH UNITED NATIONS
Sustainable Development Goals 2030



SDG 12

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND
PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY	3
1.1 PURPOSE	3
1.2 SCOPE	3
1.3 DEFINITIONS	3
1.4 KEY POLICY STATEMENTS	4
1.5 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES	5
1.6 CONDUCT PROCEDURE	6
1.7 RIGHT OF APPEAL	6
1.8 IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES	6
1.9 MONITORING & COMPLIANCE	7
1.10 IMPLEMENTATION	7
1.11 REVIEW & AMENDMENT	7



SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

The Sustainability Policy shall come into force with immediate effect for all programmes of the Grand Asian University Sialkot (GAUS) and shall be applicable to all faculty members, staff, students, and associated vendors and contractors.

1.1 PURPOSE

To embed environmental responsibility, resource efficiency, and sustainable development into all academic, administrative, and operational activities of Grand Asian University Sialkot (GAUS), in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (particularly SDG 4, 11, 12, and 13) and HEC Green Campus Initiative

1.2 SCOPE

This Policy applies to all members of the GAUS community engaged in campus-based or university-affiliated activities, including:

- i. All full-time, part-time, visiting, and contractual faculty members;
- ii. All administrative, support, and technical staff;
- iii. Students enrolled in any degree, diploma, or certificate programme;
- iv. Vendors, contractors, partners, and agents acting on behalf of the University;
- v. Members of governing and advisory bodies.

The Policy covers all aspects of university operations including energy use, water management, waste handling, procurement, transport, construction, academic programmes, and community engagement.

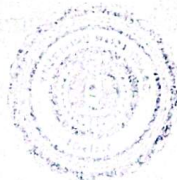
1.3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

- i. "Sustainability" means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, encompassing environmental, social, and economic dimensions.
- ii. "SDGs" means the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030, a universal framework for sustainable development adopted by all member states.
- iii. "Green Campus" means a campus environment designed and managed to minimise ecological impact, promote biodiversity, and foster sustainable practices.
- iv. "Carbon Footprint" means the total amount of greenhouse gases produced directly or indirectly by university operations, expressed in equivalent tonnes of CO₂.
- v. "Circular Economy" means an economic model aimed at eliminating waste through the continual reuse, repair, refurbishment, and recycling of materials.
- vi. "Green Procurement" means the practice of purchasing goods and services that have a reduced environmental impact over their lifecycle.

1.4 KEY POLICY STATEMENTS

The following key statements shall govern sustainability practices at GAUS:



Energy Efficiency:

- i. All non-essential lighting and electrical equipment shall be switched off at the end of each working day; departmental checklists shall be maintained by designated room monitors.
- ii. Energy-efficient LED lighting shall be the standard for all new installations and replacements across campus.
- iii. Air-conditioning use shall be regulated through departmental guidelines; natural ventilation shall be used where feasible.
- iv. The university shall progressively explore installation of solar panels on rooftops and suitable structures, subject to availability of funding.

Water Conservation:

- v. All water taps, faucets, and fittings shall be maintained in good repair; leaks must be reported to the Facilities Management Office within 24 hours of discovery.
- vi. Ablution areas shall be equipped with low-flow fittings and awareness signage promoting Sunnah-compliant minimal water use.
- vii. Rainwater harvesting systems shall be explored for landscaping and campus maintenance purposes.
- viii. Water meters shall be installed in key areas to track consumption and identify reduction opportunities.

Waste Management:

- ix. A minimum three-bin segregation system (general waste, recyclables, and organic/food waste) shall be installed and maintained in all common areas, canteens, and laboratories.
- x. Single-use plastics are strongly discouraged across campus; the university canteen shall progressively transition to biodegradable or reusable packaging.
- xi. All hazardous waste generated in laboratories shall be handled, stored, and disposed of in compliance with Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (PEPA) regulations.
- xii. An annual campus-wide clean-up drive shall be organised, engaging students, staff, and the local community.

Green Procurement:

- xiii. Sustainability criteria including energy efficiency ratings, recyclability, and local sourcing preference shall be incorporated into all procurement evaluation processes.
- xiv. Vendors and contractors shall be required to demonstrate compliance with environmental regulations and, where possible, evidence of sustainable practices.
- xv. The university shall give preference to locally sourced products and services to reduce transport-related emissions.

Academic Integration:

- xvi. Sustainability themes aligned with the SDGs shall be integrated into relevant courses across all disciplines where appropriate.
- xvii. Student research, project work, and community service activities addressing local environmental challenges shall be actively encouraged and recognised.
- xviii. An annual Sustainability Week shall be organised to raise campus-wide awareness through exhibitions, seminars, and student-led initiatives.



1.5 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- i. Sustainability Committee (chaired by a Dean or Senior Faculty): Develop and oversee the annual Sustainability Action Plan, monitor progress against targets, and report outcomes to the Vice Chancellor.
- ii. Facilities Management Office: Implement energy, water, and waste management protocols, conduct regular maintenance inspections, and prepare quarterly consumption reports.
- iii. Finance & Procurement Office: Incorporate green procurement criteria into all purchasing processes and track expenditure on sustainability-related initiatives.
- iv. Faculty: Integrate sustainability content into relevant curricula, engage students in sustainability research and community projects, and model responsible resource use.
- v. Students: Participate in sustainability initiatives, report environmental concerns to the Sustainability Committee, and serve as environmental ambassadors in their communities.
- vi. All Staff: Comply with sustainability guidelines in daily operations, participate in awareness activities, and promptly report any environmental hazards or breaches.
- vii. Vice Chancellor: Provide institutional leadership on sustainability, approve the annual Sustainability Action Plan, and ensure alignment with HEC and national environmental standards.

1.6 CONDUCT PROCEDURE

The following procedure shall be observed upon detection or reporting of a suspected violation:

Reporting:

- i. Any member of the GAUS community may report a suspected violation to the Sustainability Committee or Registrar's Office or via the anonymous physical drop-box maintained by the Registrar's Office.
- ii. Reports shall be acknowledged within 48 working hours and assigned a case reference number by the Registrar's Office.

Investigation:

- iii. Upon receipt of a complaint, the relevant Committee shall convene within ten (10) working days.
- iv. The Committee shall have authority to interview relevant parties and access all documentation pertaining to the case.
- v. The Committee shall be permissible to conduct one or more than one session to investigate and probe the matter.
- vi. Investigations shall be completed within thirty (30) working days from the first sitting; extensions may be granted by the Vice Chancellor.
- vii. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be a minimum of three members.
- viii. In the event all members disagree among themselves, the case shall be referred to the Vice Chancellor for decision.

Decision & Notification:

- ix. The recommendations and report of the Committee shall be submitted to the Vice Chancellor, who shall have power to accept, reject, or modify the recommendations.
- x. The final notification of each case shall be published by the Registrar's Office and communicated to all concerned parties.



1.7 RIGHT OF APPEAL

The affected party shall have the right to submit an appeal against the first decision to the Appellant Committee within fifteen (15) days of publication of notification, failing which the first decision shall be considered as the final decision.

1.8 IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES

The following penalties may be imposed regarding sustainability policy violations, singly or in combination:

- i. Formal written warning recorded in the personal file;
- ii. Mandatory sustainability awareness training;
- iii. Financial recovery for damages caused to university environmental infrastructure;
- iv. Suspension from campus facilities for a defined period;
- v. Suspension from duties or academic activities;
- vi. Termination of employment, expulsion from the University, or contract termination for vendors;
- vii. Referral to the Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency (PEPA) or other competent authority where applicable;
- viii. Any other penalty as deemed appropriate by the Vice Chancellor in light of the circumstances of the case.

1.9 MONITORING & COMPLIANCE

- i. The Sustainability Committee shall prepare and submit an Annual Sustainability Report to the Vice Chancellor and Academic Council, benchmarked against SDG indicators.
- ii. Energy and water consumption data shall be collected and reviewed quarterly by the Facilities Management Office.
- iii. Campus waste generation and recycling rates shall be tracked and reported biannually.
- iv. Progress against the HEC Green Campus Initiative criteria shall be assessed annually.
- v. Non-compliance with this Policy shall be addressed through the GAUS disciplinary process.

1.10 IMPLEMENTATION

- i. Existing induction programmes for staff and students shall incorporate a sustainability module covering campus environmental practices at zero additional cost.
- ii. Sustainability posters, notices, and awareness materials shall be displayed in all academic buildings, common areas, canteens, and ablution facilities.
- iii. Free tools including HEC sustainability templates, UN SDG Action resources, and UNDP Pakistan environmental toolkits shall be used for planning and reporting.
- iv. A Student Green Team shall be established on a voluntary basis, with participants recognised through co-curricular activity credits and university certificates.

1.11 REVIEW & AMENDMENT

- i. This Policy shall be reviewed annually by the the Sustainability Committee, Registrar's Office, and Facilities Management Office.



- ii. All amendments shall be aligned with current HEC guidelines and applicable national legislation.
- iii. Proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Vice Chancellor for approval before coming into effect.
- iv. The revised Policy shall be communicated to all stakeholders and updated on the GAUS official website within fifteen (15) days of approval.

Prepared By: Registrar's Office, GAUS

Signature: _____

Date: _____



Approved By: Vice Chancellor, GAUS

Signature: _____

Date: _____