

Policy Subject: Climate Action Policy	Policy number: 31/A. A/2018	Date of last revision: 1/1/2022
Implementing body: Administrative Affairs	Implementing start date: 1/9/2018	Policy reference: Administrative Affairs

Policy Overview:

Recognizing the urgent need to combat climate change and its impacts, Palestine Ahliya University commits to leading by example through implementing sustainable practices across all facets of our institution. This Climate Action Policy outlines our dedication to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving resources, and fostering a culture of sustainability within our community.

Objectives:

The objectives of this policy are:

1. **Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Implement strategies to reduce carbon emissions from university operations, aiming for a Net-Zero Target reduction by 2030.
2. **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy:** Increase energy efficiency across campus buildings and transition to renewable energy sources.
3. **Sustainable Transportation:** Promote and facilitate low-carbon transportation options for students, faculty, and staff.
4. **Waste Reduction and Recycling:** Achieve zero waste by reducing consumption, enhancing recycling programs, and minimizing food waste.
5. **Water Conservation:** Implement water-saving measures across campus to significantly reduce water usage.
6. **Sustainable Procurement:** Prioritize the purchase of environmentally friendly and sustainably sourced products.
7. **Community Engagement and Education:** Engage the university community in sustainability initiatives and incorporate sustainability into the curriculum.
8. **Research and Innovation:** Support and promote research in sustainable technologies and practices.
9. **Partnerships for Sustainability:** Collaborate with local, national, and global partners to advance sustainability goals.

Scope:

This policy applies to all individuals and entities associated with Palestine Ahliya University, including but not limited to employees, officers, trustees, students, volunteers, contractors, suppliers, agents, and representatives. It encompasses all university activities, operations, transactions, and relationships, both domestic and international.

Policy Statements:

1. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction
 - Conduct a comprehensive carbon footprint analysis.
 - Invest in energy-efficient technologies and infrastructure upgrades.
 - Implement a carbon offset program for unavoidable emissions.
2. Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
 - Perform energy audits and retrofit buildings with energy-efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems.
 - Install on-site renewable energy sources, such as solar panels and wind turbines.
 - Purchase renewable energy certificates to support off-campus renewable energy projects.
3. Sustainable Transportation
 - Expand bike-sharing programs and improve cycling infrastructure.
 - Provide incentives for carpooling and the use of public transportation.
 - Transition university vehicle fleets to electric or hybrid models.
4. Waste Reduction and Recycling
 - Enhance recycling facilities and programs for paper, plastics, electronics, and other materials.
 - Implement composting programs for organic waste.
 - Organize waste reduction campaigns and workshops.
5. Water Conservation
 - Install water-efficient fixtures and appliances.
 - Implement rainwater harvesting systems for irrigation.
 - Conduct regular water usage audits and address leaks promptly.
6. Sustainable Procurement

- Develop and enforce a green purchasing policy.
 - Train procurement staff on sustainability criteria.
 - Monitor and report on the environmental impact of purchased goods and services.
7. Community Engagement and Education
- Offer sustainability workshops and events for students, faculty, and staff.
 - Incorporate sustainability into academic programs and research opportunities.
 - Foster a culture of sustainability through campus-wide initiatives and campaigns.
8. Research and Innovation
- Provide grants and support for sustainability related research projects.
 - Encourage interdisciplinary collaborations on sustainability challenges.
 - Showcase and apply sustainable innovations on campus.
9. Partnerships for Sustainability
- Partner with local communities and organizations on sustainability projects.
 - Share best practices and learn from others in the field of sustainability.
10. sustainability office responsible for implementing and tracking progress of this policy.
11. Publish annual sustainability reports detailing achievements, challenges, and future goals.
12. Regularly review and update the Climate Action Policy to reflect new technologies, practices, and scientific findings.