



# MUTAH UNIVERSITY

P.O.Box 7 Karak, Mu'tah, Jordan, 61710

## Sustainability and Climate Action Policy



### SUSTAINABILITY & CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2024

## Committee Members:

- **Prof. Salama Al-Naimat**, University President (Chair)
- **Prof. Mohammad Suleiman Al-Sarayrah**, Vice President for Administrative Affairs
- **Prof. Ameen Aql**, Vice President for Scientific Colleges Affairs
- **Prof. Mohammad Dawood Al-Majali**, Vice President for E-Learning and Quality
- **Prof. Osama Mahawesh**, Dean of Scientific Research and Innovation
- **Prof. Maher Mubaidin**, Dean of Student Affairs

## Working Team:

- **Prof. Osama Mahawesh**, Dean of Scientific Research and Innovation
- **Prof. Maher Mubaidin**, Dean of Student Affairs
- Director of the Sustainability and Environmental Office
- Assistant Dean of Scientific Research
- Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
- Director of Procurement Unit
- Director of Maintenance and Sustainability Unit
- Director of Alumni Affairs Office

## **Introduction**

The overall climate changes in the world have resulted in clear impacts on the ecosystem and, consequently, on humanity. These various impacts include food and water security, and health issues for humans and animals. Climate change impacts have been monitored easily because of development of the monitoring stations and satellites that provide accurate measurements of the earth's temperature, warm gases emission, and annual average rain rate over the globe in different areas. Jordan is among countries that implement additional steps to mitigate the side effects of climate change on people and ecosystem by reducing warm gases emission to the environment. Jordanian efforts are part of the global initiatives to put Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) in effect.

Mutah University recognizes the urgent need to address climate change and promote sustainability in alignment with national and global efforts, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As an institution of higher learning, the university acknowledges its responsibility in fostering environmental awareness, reducing its ecological footprint, and contributing to a more sustainable future through education, research, and community involvement.

This policy outlines the university's commitment to sustainability, climate action, and environmental stewardship through integrated strategies and responsible practices. It establishes a framework for embedding sustainability principles into academic curricula, research initiatives, operational procedures, and partnerships to create a long-term impact on both local and global scales. Additionally, it aims to foster a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, and staff, ensuring that environmental consciousness becomes an integral part of the university's identity and mission.

## **Principles of Sustainability**

Mutah University adopts the following principles to guide its sustainability efforts:

**Environmental Responsibility:** Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize waste, and promote renewable energy sources through innovative solutions and practical applications.

**Educational Commitment:** Integrate sustainability education into curricula and promote research in climate change mitigation, empowering students with knowledge and skills to address environmental challenges.

**Operational Efficiency:** Implement sustainable resource management in energy, water, and infrastructure, ensuring responsible consumption and conservation of natural resources.

**Community Engagement:** Collaborate with local and international organizations to advance climate action and foster a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, and staff.

**Innovation and Resilience:** Support technological and scientific advancements that contribute to sustainability goals while developing resilience against climate-related risks.

**Transparency and Accountability:** Establish clear governance structures, reporting mechanisms, and performance indicators to ensure effective sustainability practices.

**Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Encourage cross-sector partnerships between various academic disciplines to develop holistic and comprehensive sustainability solutions.

## Strategic Objectives and Actions

To fulfill its commitment to sustainability and climate action, Mutah University has developed a set of strategic objectives with concrete actions for effective implementation. These objectives are designed to align with national and global sustainability targets while ensuring tangible, measurable progress over time.



## **Objective 1: Carbon Footprint Reduction**

- Shift to photovoltaic (PV) solar energy to power university facilities, reducing dependence on fossil fuels.
- Decrease the use of fossil fuels by adopting energy-efficient technologies in buildings, labs, and transportation.
- Promote electric transportation within the university campus, including electric buses and charging stations.
- Enhance insulation efficiency in university buildings to reduce energy consumption and minimize heat loss.
- Implement smart energy management systems to optimize energy use and track progress toward carbon neutrality.
- Explore carbon offset initiatives such as tree planting, carbon sequestration research, and sustainable landscaping projects.

## **Objective 2: Sustainable Resource Management**

- Implement comprehensive waste reduction and recycling programs across campus.
- Reduce clean water consumption through the installation of water-saving devices, rainwater harvesting systems, and wastewater treatment initiatives.
- Promote green spaces by increasing tree plantations, establishing botanical gardens, and maintaining biodiversity-friendly landscaping on campus.
- Replace conventional lighting with LED technology for enhanced energy efficiency and long-term sustainability.
- Develop eco-friendly procurement policies that prioritize sustainable materials, biodegradable products, and ethically sourced goods.
- Reduce plastic use on campus by promoting reusable alternatives and encouraging a zero-waste mindset among students and staff.
- Encourage sustainable food systems by integrating locally sourced and organic food options in campus dining facilities.

### **Objective 3: Research and Innovation in Sustainability**

- Fund research projects focused on climate change solutions, renewable energy, circular economy models, and sustainable development.
- Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration in environmental studies, bringing together experts from various fields to tackle sustainability challenges.
- Establish innovation hubs and incubation centers for sustainable technologies, entrepreneurship, and green business initiatives.
- Support data collection and climate monitoring projects to provide empirical evidence for policy development and decision-making.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange through conferences, symposiums, and scholarly publications on sustainability topics.
- Develop climate resilience research programs to assess the long-term impact of climate change on local and regional ecosystems.
- Partner with industries and governmental bodies to drive applied sustainability research and practical solutions for pressing environmental issues.

## **Objective 4: Education and Awareness**

- Incorporate sustainability topics into academic programs across disciplines, ensuring students understand the ecological and social dimensions of sustainability.
- Organize workshops, training sessions, and awareness campaigns on climate change, energy conservation, and environmental stewardship.
- Engage students and faculty in sustainability initiatives, encouraging active participation in green projects, research collaborations, and advocacy efforts.
- Develop sustainability-focused courses, degree programs, and professional certification programs that align with industry needs and global best practices.
- Promote environmental literacy among university stakeholders by integrating sustainability principles into campus life and decision-making processes.
- Provide incentives and recognition programs for students and faculty actively involved in sustainability efforts.
- Develop partnerships with schools and local institutions to extend sustainability education beyond the university community.

## **Objective 5: Governance and Collaboration**

- Strengthen institutional policies to support sustainability objectives and ensure compliance with environmental regulations.
- Foster partnerships with governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations to advance climate action and leverage resources for impactful initiatives.
- Monitor and report on sustainability progress through key performance indicators (KPIs), annual sustainability reports, and stakeholder engagement meetings.
- Develop a transparent governance structure for sustainability efforts, ensuring accountability and continuous improvement in achieving sustainability goals.
- Advocate for sustainability policies at the national and regional levels, contributing to broader climate action frameworks.
- Establish a sustainability leadership team responsible for coordinating sustainability programs and engaging key stakeholders in decision-making processes.
- Engage in international collaborations to exchange best practices, knowledge, and research on sustainability and climate resilience.

## **Implementation and Monitoring**

To ensure the effective execution of this policy, Mutah University established a dedicated **Sustainability Committee** responsible for overseeing policy implementation, ensuring adherence to sustainability goals, and evaluating progress through annual sustainability reports. This committee will work closely with university departments, student organizations, and external stakeholders to ensure that sustainability is integrated into all aspects of university operations.

Regular assessments and stakeholder consultations will guide continuous improvements, helping the university stay responsive to emerging sustainability challenges and opportunities. Key performance indicators (KPIs) will be developed to measure progress in reducing carbon emissions, conserving resources, and fostering a culture of sustainability on campus. Additionally, an annual sustainability summit will be organized to review progress, share achievements, and identify areas for future enhancement.

Table 1: Goal No 2 of Mutah university strategic plan 2021-2025, develop scientific research capabilities, scholarships, and creativity following national, regional, and global scientific research priorities. Subgoal A: Enhance the scientific research to mitigate the climate changes consequences

Strategy	Action	Responsible	Funding Source	Time	KPI	Notes
Promoting the role of scientific research to support the community's needs	2.1 Promote the research in subjects related to the UN sustainability development goals SDG13, SDG12, SDG11, SDG7	Deanship of scientific research	Annual research fund plan (100 000) JOD	2021-2025	Number of publications at each SDG per year	
Spreading awareness	2.2 Spreading the awareness of climate change consequences	Deanship of scientific research	1000 JOD	2021-2025	One workshop per semester for public (50 attendees at least )	

Table 2: Goal No 2: Mutah University Strategic Plan 2021-2025, Develop the efficiency and effectiveness of the University's human, financial and material resources in line with global best practices. Subgoal A: Reduce the use of fossil fuels

Strategy	Action	Responsible	Funding source	Time	KPI	Notes
Promoting the sustainability resources (University executive plan 2021-2025)	1.1 Use of Solar energy as a source of electricity	University President University dean council	The project is a gift from the European and UAE partners	Strategic plan 2021-2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Megawatt production per year</li> <li>• Contribution % to university consumption</li> </ul>	Mutah has launched the first stage of its solar energy project to produce 5 MWe satisfying 80% of its electricity needs.
Reduction of the use of diesel in for the buildings	- Vice-president for Administrative affairs -The Maintenance Department	University budget	Strategic plan 2021-2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liters of diesel consumed per the square meter of buildings</li> </ul>	
1.3 Shift to use of electricity derived cars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-president for Administrative affairs</li> <li>• The transportation department</li> </ul>	400000 JOD	Strategic plan 2021-2025		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of buses operated by electricity</li> </ul>	

Strategy	Action	Responsible	Funding source	Time	KPI	Notes
Promoting the sustainability resources (University executive plan 2021-2025)						
1.4 Increase the efficiency of isolation in building		• Maintenance department	• 400000 JOD	Strategic Plan 2021-2025	• Number of renovated isolated buildings	
1.5 Increase the green blankets on the university campus	• Department of Horticulture • Faculty of agriculture	20000 JOD	2021 2025	• New trees planted within the campus		
1.6 Reduction of clean water consumption	• Department of Maintenance	10000 JOD	2021 2025	• Rate of consumption per capita per year		

1.7 Reduction of the elasticity consumption	• All University deanships • Department of Maintenance	5000 JOD	2021 2023	• Number of installed electricity meters for old buildings
in offices (campus)			• Annular electricity consumption report	
1.8 Replacement of the conventional lamps with LED lamps	• Department of Maintenance	10000 JOD	2021 2025	• Number of replaced lamps at the campus

By adopting this Sustainability and Climate Action Policy, Mutah University commits to being a leader in environmental responsibility, fostering innovation in sustainability, and preparing future generations to address global climate challenges. Through strategic planning, research, education, and community engagement, the university aims to create a sustainable future that aligns with international climate goals and strengthens its role as an institution dedicated to environmental and social well-being.

This policy serves as a roadmap for Mutah University's sustainability journey, ensuring that sustainability remains a core value that guides institutional growth, development, and impact for years to come. The university reaffirms its commitment to proactive climate action, continuous improvement, and the empowerment of future generations to become champions of sustainability and environmental stewardship.



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