Sustainability Action Policy

Year 2025

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Section-1: Definitions

In this Policy Document, unless otherwise specified, or anything repugnant to the Statutes of National University of Modern Languages, the following expressions shall have the meanings as follows:

1.1 ***Campus*** - all physical spaces over which the University has operational and/or financial control.

1.2 ***Campus Community*** - includes all enrolled students, faculty members from all academic departments, employees in administrative and support roles, all members of the university's governing bodies, all separately incorporated organizations that operate on campus, all students and faculty members who visit or use university facilities, and anyone living on campus.

1.3 ***Sustainability*** *at NUML* - is a mindset and a process that leads to reducing our ecological footprint and enhancing social well-being while maintaining economic viability both on and off campus. This process of sustainability is developed through a governance system based on shared vision and responsibility that fulfills NUML's current needs without compromising the needs of future generations. To be sustainable in our decisions and activities is to take a long-term perspective, recognize resource capacities and balance the interconnected nature of our environment, society and economy.

Section-2: Policy

1 Purpose:

The National University of Modern Languages (NUML) promotes creativity, interdisciplinary, and cross-departmental sustainability projects with a focus on fostering a shared knowledge of sustainability. This policy acts as a framework for NUML's commitment to sustainability. By adopting environmentally friendly practices, minimizing our ecological impact, and encouraging a culture of sustainability among workers, partners, and stakeholders, we hope to create good change.

This policy is being presented as a part of NUML's Climate Action Strategic Plan.

2 Scope:

The policy applies to the whole University including its regional campuses.

3 Policy Statement:

The University will make sustainability a core value through its strategic planning, commitments, activities, and communications.

4 The Policy:

The policy is based on following eight parameters:

4.1 Curriculum and Research

4.1.1 Sustainable Education: Integrate sustainability concepts into a range of curricula to provide students the knowledge and abilities they need to take on global citizenship.

4.1.2 Sustainability Literacy Assessment

The University shall periodically measure the sustainability literacy of students to assess their understanding of sustainability concepts, awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and ability to apply sustainability knowledge in academic and practical contexts.

The assessment shall be conducted through appropriate surveys, questionnaires, curriculum-based assessments, or other suitable methods. The results shall be analyzed to identify learning gaps, inform curriculum development, improve sustainability education, and monitor progress in promoting sustainability literacy among students. The University shall maintain records of the assessments and their results for monitoring, reporting, and continuous improvement.

4.2 Research Initiatives

4.2.1 Projects that address environmental issues and advance sustainable solutions will be encouraged and supported.

4.3 Community Engagement

4.3.1 Collaborations: Form alliances with local businesses, organizations, and governmental entities to advance sustainable practices off campus.

4.3.2 Outreach and Awareness: To educate people about sustainability challenges and motivate them to take action, organize workshops, seminars, and campaigns.

4.4 Environmental Impact Reduction

4.4.1 Renewable Energy: To power University buildings and operations, NUML will make investments in and promote the use of renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and geothermal.

4.4.2 Energy Efficiency: On the campuses, energy-saving measures will be put into place, such as the use of LED lighting, HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system optimization, and adoption of smart energy management techniques.

4.4.3 Waste Minimization: Create activities for composting, trash reduction, and recycling, and spread awareness of proper waste disposal methods across the university.

4.4.4 Water Conservation: Utilize water-saving devices, encourage sensible water use, and raise campus community knowledge of water conservation efforts.

4.5 Sustainable Building Practices

4.5.1 Energy-efficient Facilities: Upgrade windows and doors in existing buildings to increase energy efficiency and improve insulation.

4.5.2 Green Building Certification: For new construction and significant renovations, make an effort to secure green building certifications to ensure the use of sustainable design and materials.

4.5.3 Indoor Air Quality: To ensure healthy indoor air quality, give priority to usage of non-toxic materials during building and maintenance.

4.6 Procurement and Supply Chain

4.6.1 Waste Reduction in Procurement: Prioritize products made of recyclable or biodegradable materials and reduce packaging waste.

4.6.2 Ethical and Sustainable Purchasing: Give priority while buying goods and availing services from suppliers who care about the environment and the community.

4.6.3 Public Procurement Regulations: For procurement, the University follows sustainable procurement guidelines as given by the government under the rules of Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA), Government of Pakistan.

4.7 Sustainable Transportation

4.7.1 Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure: Install EV charging stations all across campus to encourage faculty, staff, and students to drive electric vehicles.

4.7.2 Public Transport and Cycling: By providing bike racks, promoting bike-sharing programs, and providing public transportation subsidies, incentivize students, staff, and visitors to use public transportation or bicycles.

4.7.3 Carpooling and Rideshare: Establish a platform for carpooling to encourage ridesharing among students, faculty and staff members.

4.8 Monitoring and Reporting

4.8.1 Transparency: To keep all stakeholders informed about accomplishments, obstacles, and future goals, publish frequent sustainability reports.

4.8.2 Sustainability Metrics: Establish quantifiable sustainability goals and monitor the progress towards reaching them on a regular basis.