**University of Gujrat**

**Sustainability and Climate action Policy**

Draft

1. **Background**

Pakistan has faced numerous natural disasters in the form of floods, droughts, and earthquakes in recent years resulting in huge loss of life, displaced thousands of people, destroyed livelihoods, and damaged infrastructure. Climate change indicators are now very obvious and expected to be intense and frequent in every coming year. University of Gujrat has raised this prospect at appropriate level that these natural hazards will increase in frequency and severity in the coming decades and Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable country being and to be effected by the climate change. The University of Gujrat aim to implement policies focusing on immediate energy efficiency improvements, promoting sustainable transportation, and reducing waste, while also incorporating and enhancing climate change education into curricula.

1. **Purpose**

The purpose of this document is to provide awarness and guidelines to the policymakers, project developers, employees and students of the university regarding the effects of climate change and actions that can help to prevent or adapt to those challenges.

# Preventive and Adaptive Measures

To reduce or prevent the losses in education sector, resulting from the climate change, following measures have been recognised and suggested by University of Gujrat.

3.1. Energy Audits and Retrofitting: Energy audits of buildings will be conducted to identify areas for improvement and implement energy-efficient measures in the buildings, such as LED lighting, improved insulation, and smart building controls.

3.2. Promotion of Energy Conservation: Programs to encourage energy conservation will be implemented among students, faculty, and staff, such as turning off lights and computers when not in use, and using energy-efficient appliances.

3.3. Transition to Renewable Energy: Opportunities are being explored for transition to renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, for power generation at the campus.

3.4. Commitment to Sustainability: Promoting sustainable practises and minimising its environmental impact are priorities of the University. This entails applying sustainability concepts to all the institution's operations, academic programmes, and decision-making procedures.

3.5. Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction: The university has planned to cut the amount of Greenhouse Gases (GHG) it produces through its activities and operations. This entails putting in place energy-efficient technology, recycling of waste, relying on renewable energy sources, and promoting energy-saving practises across the university.

3.6. Promotion of Cycling and Walking: Efforts are being made to improve bike infrastructure, including bike racks and secure storage, and promote walking by creating pedestrian-friendly routes.

3.7. Modern and weather proof shelters are built and further planned for parking of vehicles to reduce the damage due to extreme temperatures and effects of hail storms, heavy rains.

3.8. Encouragement of Public Transportation: University public transport is used for students and employees and it is being strengthend further.

3.9. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Instalation of electric vehicle charging stations will encourage the use of electric vehicles.

3.10. Reduce Single-Use Plastics: Ban or reduce the use of single-use plastics, such as plastic bottles and bags, and provide reusable alternatives.

3.11. Waste Management and Recycling: The emphasis on ethical waste management methods at University of Gujrat supports recycling initiatives. The university shall support waste reduction programmes among students, faculty, and staff and provide suitable recycling facilities. Composting programs for food scraps and yard waste has also been planned.

3.12. Water Conservation: Through the adoption of water-saving fixtures, wise irrigation techniques, and educational programmes to promote water conservation among campus residents, the university aims to reduce water usage. The wastewater produced by the univrsity is recycled for agricultral activities.

3.13. Rainwater management and harvesting: Rain water absorption and drainage system are being managed to absorb more water and drain it to the main water streams to avoid flooding inside the university. Rain water storage tanks are also being planned to store a reasonable amount of water for horticulture which will be used during dry spells of weather to keep areas green to reduce the heat effects of climate change.

3.14. Education and Awareness: The community at Gujrat University is to be informed about sustainability and climate action. This entails incorporating sustainability-related lessons into the curriculum as well as planning environmental-related workshops, seminars, and campaigns.

3.15. Integration of Climate Change into Curricula: The university is incorporating climate change education into relevant courses and has planned to launch new relevant programs.

3.16. Host Climate Change Workshops and Events: Organization of workshops, lectures, and events to raise awareness about climate change and promote sustainable practices.

3.17. Support Climate Change Research: University strongly encourage and support research on climate change and its impacts.

3.18. Sustainable Procurement: The institution pledges to give preference to sustainable and environmentally friendly goods and services in its procurement procedures. This involves taking into account how purchased goods and services will affect the environment.

3.19. Partnerships and Collaboration: The university will actively look for collaborations with outside NGOs, research centres, and organisations focused on sustainability and climate action. The difficulties of the global environment will be addressed through cooperative efforts.

3.20 Monitoring and Reporting: Systems for tracking and evaluating Gujrat University's progress towards sustainability objectives will be put in place. The campus community and pertinent stakeholders will regularly receive reports on sustainability activities and results..

# Summary

Prevention and adaptation regarding Climate change needs very elaborative and methodical attention at the National level and increased awareness to the students and emplyoees to deal with this issue in the times to come. The university's sustainability/climate action policy will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis depending on new technologies, industry best practises, and increasing environmental concerns.