

LAHORE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN UNIVERSITY, LAHORE

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

Lahore College for Women University aims to manage its actions, to promote environmental sustainability, to conserve and enhance natural resources and to prevent environmental pollution to bring about a continual reduction in carbon footprint.

The University will comply fully with environmental legislation and officially approved codes of practices, and will make continued efforts to reduce its environmental impact through the implementation of an environmental plan which is aimed at carbon management.



Carbon Management

“Carbon Management” entails effective management of an individual and resultantly an organization’s carbon footprint. Carbon footprint of an organization, LCWU in this case, correspond to the total amount of greenhouse gasses (GHG) produced by the activities of individuals, events and services and is expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent. An urgent, collaborative and systematic effort for reducing the carbon footprint of the university and its associated individuals is necessitated for several reasons:

- Pakistan has ratified the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (COP 21/CMP 11) where the world leaders have agreed to limit the global temperature rise to well below 2°C above that of pre-industrial times.
- It is obliged by sustainable development goals:
 - SDG 13: Climate Action
 - SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
 - SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
 - SDG 14: Life Below Water
 - SDG 15: Life on Land
- It is in-line with Pakistan’s national policy on climate change given Pakistan’s vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change
- LCWU can serve as a living laboratory for climate change mitigation and demonstrate its campus operations as a leverage agent to accelerate transition to a low-carbon economy.
- LCWU can serve as a change-maker and role-model for other HEI’s in carbon management.

This report presents findings/recommendations of carbon committee for embedding carbon management in the university. To meet the University’s carbon reduction target, a series of specific carbon saving actions have been identified, and classified as short-term and long-term initiatives.

Short-Term Initiatives

Awareness and Activism

- Development of an e-brochure and short awareness film aimed at promoting and conveying the information given in, but not limited to, Table 1.



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Jail Road, Lahore – Pakistan. Tel: 042-9203072, 9203089, 9201950 Fax: 042-9203077

Energy Conservation	Switch off lights when not in use Use sunlight to the maximum Unplug electronic devices when not in use Operate electronics at low brightness level Dress warmly, avoid heaters Avoid air-conditioners, if required then set at 26°C Don't set your fridge and freezer temperatures lower than necessary.
Paper Conservation	Avoid unnecessary printing and photocopying When printing is necessary, print double sided Use recycled paper
Water Conservation	Turn off the water when brushing/shaving Take shorter baths/showers Check toilets/taps/pipes for leakages Use water stringently when washing dishes, clothes and cars
Food Conservation	Eat less meat Eat seasonal and locally produced food Reduce food wastage
Transportation	Prefer walking, cycling, car pooling or using public transport When driving, avoid unnecessary braking and acceleration Ensure proper maintenance of cars/vehicles Avoid air travel, if necessary fly economy class
3R's: Reduce, Refuse & Recycle	Carry your own reusable bag Buy less stuff, when possible buy used or recycled items
Carbon offset	Go green: Plants trees/plants Invest/support projects that work to reduce carbon footprint Practice and preach Eco-friendly lifestyle and behavior

Table 1: Steps for reducing carbon footprint

- Series of events on LCWU web TV and LCWU social media
- Formation of Eco-Clubs/Societies at University Level and Department Level with each having a well-defined calendar of activities and an associated teacher as in charge who will also serve as departmental focal person for climate change.
- Initiation of Ted Circle with the theme of climate change/climate crisis

Paper Conservation

- Size of answer booklet for examination should be reduced and reassessed faculty wise. It can be reduced from 32 pages to 16 pages for Faculties of Sciences and Engineering and can remain the same for Faculties of Humanities, Social Sciences and Languages.
- Examination branch should share date sheets with the departments electronically (via email) instead of in printed form.



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- Internal departmental notices should be increasingly shared electronically (via email) instead of printed form.
- Printing of multiple copies of BS/MS thesis/project should be disbanded and thesis/projects should be received/retained only in electronic form. If a hard copy is still necessary, then printing should be double sided.
- Meeting agendas (such as Syndicate, Academic Council, Board of Studies, Faculty Boards, Advisory Boards, Finance and Planning etc) should be shared electronically.
- Identification of wasteful paper practices via systematic waste audits.
- Encourage the use of lecture taking/notes taking on Laptops, mobiles, tablets etc.
- Brochures and catalogs printing should be limited to only when its highly necessary and should be done in limited quantity.

Transport

- Regular maintenance should be ensured.
- Drivers should be trained to adopt environmental friendly practices.
- Older vehicles should be utilized less.

Energy Conservation

- Use of air conditioners only be allowed after 11:00 am and at 26°C.
- Entitlement of air conditioners (grade-wise) be assessed and implemented. Air conditioner should be withdrawn from any staff member/officer who does not have the entitlement as per the rule. (i.e. Below BS-19).
- Use of electric heaters be prohibited or if necessary, a limited use should be allowed.

Others

- All departments should sign the Environment Declaration to signify their commitment to environmental sustainability. This declaration could be used as a framework or reference for updating the University's Environmental Policy.
- All departments should undertake environmental initiatives and communicate them between departments.



- Efforts should be made to involve students to assist faculty led environmental endeavors. These efforts and opportunities should be published and made available to the entire student body.

Long-Term Initiatives

Energy Efficiency

- Fluorescent tube lights and incandescent bulbs be replaced with LED lights
- Existing fans be replaced with fans with Pakistan Energy Label
- Conventional air conditioners be replaced with DC inverter air conditioners.
- Systematic energy audits should be undertaken.

Others

- Plantation drives to be made a regular feature.
- More indoor plantation be encouraged.
- Faculty and students be encouraged to undertake research and innovation in the sub-fields of climate change

The Environmental Policy should be officially updated to reflect present day issues and needs to establish binding mechanisms to ensure the policy is being adhered to and that the policy and its indicators are reviewed regularly.