UMT Climate Action Plan

Message from the President

With Climate Action at its core, Sustainability is a strategic priority for the University of Management and Technology. We are committed to our goal, not only to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions on all our campuses but also to build resilience against a wide array of climate change impacts. As one of the largest, and top-ranked higher education institutions in the country, our experiences shall be an example for informing energy transitions and climate resilience across communities in Pakistan and the region.

Message from the Rector

In wake of climate change and its devastating impact on nature Universities are realizing their increasing responsibility to create awareness, prepare students and society at large to combat against the harmful environment. Undoubtedly it is one of the most serious problems that not only affect the environment and ecosystem but also threatening to all living forms on earth. Universities must come up with certain climate action plan and strategy to control climate change including greenhouse gases (GHG) and transport emissions, increase the proportion of renewable electricity, sustainable green infrastructure etc. Now Universities through curricula and pedagogical approaches on how to better manage climate change mitigation and adaptation can also be instrumental to bring awareness among the students and faculty. UMT is committed to chalk out a holistic roadmap for the future for taking decisive measures to halve its own carbon footprint and emissions and other climate plaguing factors.

Executive Summary

The Climate Action Plan of the University of Management and Technology (UMT) provides the framework for achieving the climate action goal. UMT's goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and increase its resilience against hazardous impacts of climate change. The Climate Action Plan embeds sustainability goals into education, as well as into campus management and other activities. Climate Action Plan committee with the representation of management, faculty, staff, and students establishes the time frame and action items associated with the ambitious goals of carbon neutrality, environmental friendly, and sustainable educational initiatives. The UMT's Climate Action Plan is divided into the following key areas focusing on the plans, strategies, and implementation works to reduce the carbon footprint:

1. Administrative policies framing and implementation
2. Infrastructure Development within the campus and nearby areas
3. Use of Renewable Energy in the campus
4. Transitioning to clean and sustainable modes of transportation
5. Reducing waste and improving safe waste disposal
6. Promoting climate action and sustainability in curriculum, and through awareness campaigns

UMT Climate Goals 2030

1. UMT Cool Greens

The UMT's goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and become a green and environmentall~~y~~ friendly campus on renewable energy. Under the UMT Cool Green goal we shall take the following key initiatives:

- To strive for achieving 13th Sustainable Development Goals i.e Climate Action.
- To setup UMT Center for Climate Resilience and Sustainability for creating awareness among the stakeholders and society about climate change.
- To carry out research on climate resilience
- To introduce Climate change/environment courses
- To collaborate with international research and academic institutions on climate action initiatives

2. Setting and Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure: UMT aims to increase Green Infrastructure on campus to maximize their many environmental benefits and offset its carbon footprint. UMT plans to increase Green Infrastructure and permeable spaces to at least ***60%*** of the total campus area by ***2030***.

Tree plantation and afforestation: Presently, UMT has allocated large areas as open green spaces, and tree plantation drives are held periodically. Furthermore, UMT plans to plant 80% more trees by 2030 through periodic tree plantation drives, to be organized with the support of students, faculty and staff.

3. Energy

Greenhouse gasses (GHG) inventory: A high priority target for UMT is to prepare a GHG emissions inventory and audit it on an annual basis. Achieving this target would help identify GHG risks, opportunities and help in the preparation of emission reduction strategies.

Renewable Energy (RE) Transition: Currently 98% of UMT's energy is sourced from the national grid, which contains35% share of Renewable Energy and 65% other fossil fuels.. Our goal is to develop on-site Renewable Energy generation to meet at least ***30%*** of our energy needs by ***2030***.

Energy Efficiency and GHG emission reduction: The indoor and outdoor lighting has already been transitioned to high efficiency LED and SMD lighting. The current on-campus energy efficiency policy already ensures that space heating and cooling has transitioned to high energy efficiency standards (following either NEECA or EC Energy Efficiency standards). There are however many opportunities for further improvements in energy efficiency through infrastructure retrofits to improve insulation, Green Building initiatives, use of appliance timers where applicable, and improving environmental awareness among university students and staff for energy conservation.

Based on efforts to improve energy efficiency and RE transition, UMT pledges to reduce its GHG emissions per campus population by at least ***50%*** by ***2030***.

4. Waste

Waste Management: UMT promotes a campus-wide waste reduction and recycling policy. Trash collection is segregated across campus for recycling waste. All chemical waste, including hazardous and toxic waste from the laboratories, shall be safely disposed of in compliance with national and international guidelines and regulations by 2030.

Paperless work environment: UMT has already progressed in transitioning its administrative and office management to a digital, paperless environment through the adoption of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system and CRM software modules. The use of paper in academic affairs has also been reduced significantly through the use of Learning Management Systems (LMS) developed by UMT-Connected.

5. Water and Climate Adaptation

Drinking Water: UMT offers free, safe drinking water through water dispensers across its campuses to encourage students and staff to opt for reusable water bottles. This provides a simple yet effective measure not only to reduce our environmental impact but also to boost community resilience towards the increasingly common urban heat-wave hazard.

Water conservation and water recycling: Currently several measures for sustainable water management and conservation are deployed in UMT. Storm water drainage from the roads and parking areas is collected and used to provide water for irrigation in UMT Greens. Expansion of water conservation measures is planned to harvest storm water from Grey Infrastructure across campus and divert it towards Green Infrastructure for irrigation and groundwater recharge, covering at least ***30%*** of Grey surfaces by ***2030***.

Planned water conservation and recycling initiatives include the water recycling project collecting ablution water from the mosque in a tank for recycling it for irrigation to be completed by ***2025***.

Increasing Water efficiency: Increasing water efficiency is one of the key aims for sustainability and for climate adaptation. UMT plans to introduce water-efficient taps and sanitary appliances across the campus to help conserve water.

6. Transportation

Shuttle service: In order to reduce its carbon footprint, UMT encourages students and staff to adopt cleaner modes of transportation. UMT operates a shuttle service for students and staff to discourage individual use of motor vehicles. For those using individual motor vehicles, the university encourages carpooling through an in-house developed mobile application.

Parking areas for motor vehicles: Parking areas for motor vehicles are to be scaled back and converted into Green Infrastructure, and pedestrian-friendly spaces by **2030.**

Bicycle and Pedestrian friendly infrastructure: UMT has a Bicycle and Pedestrian Friendly Policy with the goal to establish some of the means by which the university will accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists on campus and as a result, encourage sustainable and accessible modes of transport. The policy aims to connect all campus buildings with dedicated bicycle and pedestrian tracks and sidewalks by ***2025***, with adequate bicycle parking facilities available across the campus.

7. Education

UMT aims to integrate sustainability and climate action into higher education to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). To achieve this, UMT plans to integrate SDGs and climate action as a part of all relevant undergraduate and graduate programs by ***2030.***

In addition, the university plans to initiate campus-wide engagement and awareness on Climate action and sustainability through events for students and staff.

Way forward

The University polices are being regularly reviewed to truly become a sustainable University for efficiently undertaking challenges emerging from climate change and setting out a plan to mitigate its reparations. UMT's Cool Green action plan is the guiding document to achieve intended goals. The management understands the importance of climate change and is committed to employing its resources and intellectual capabilities to make the Campus environment safe from any possible hazards as well as free from greenhouse gases.

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