

Swami Rama Himalayan University

Climate Action Plan (2022–2030)

Towards a Climate-Resilient, Low-Carbon and Sustainable University

Swami Ram Nagar, Jolly Grant, Dehradun – 248016, Uttarakhand, India

Year of Climate Action Plan: 2022

1. Preamble

Swami Rama Himalayan University (SRHU) recognizes climate change as a significant environmental, social and developmental challenge requiring coordinated action by educational institutions, government agencies, communities and other stakeholders. As a University located in the Himalayan region, SRHU acknowledges its responsibility to reduce its environmental footprint, strengthen climate resilience, promote sustainable resource management and contribute to climate awareness and action in the surrounding community. SRHU has integrated sustainability and climate responsibility into its institutional policies, academic activities, research, campus operations and community engagement. The University has established institutional mechanisms including the SDG Cell and the Centre of Excellence for Sustainability to coordinate sustainability-related initiatives across the University.

The University's Policy for Climate Action for Sustainability ([Click Here](#)) provides an institutional framework for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions, improving energy efficiency, promoting renewable energy, conserving water and biodiversity, reducing waste, encouraging sustainable transportation, integrating climate action into education and research, and engaging with government and local communities.

Accordingly, this Climate Action Plan 2022–2030 provides a consolidated action framework for translating SRHU's institutional commitment into measurable activities and stakeholder collaboration. The Plan also recognizes that responsible consumption and production are integral to climate responsibility, particularly through resource conservation, waste minimization, reuse, recycling, recovery and responsible procurement.

2. Vision

To develop Swami Rama Himalayan University as a climate-resilient, low-carbon and environmentally responsible University that contributes to climate mitigation, adaptation, environmental education and sustainable development in the Himalayan region.

3. Objectives

- 3.1. Reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and progressively reduce the University's carbon footprint.

- 3.2. Increase the use of renewable and clean energy and improve energy efficiency.
- 3.3. Promote sustainable water use, wastewater treatment, rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge.
- 3.4. Minimize waste generation and promote segregation, recycling, reuse and circular-resource practices.
- 3.5. Promote responsible consumption of materials and encourage resource-efficient institutional practices.
- 3.6. Protect and enhance campus biodiversity, tree cover and green spaces.
- 3.7. Promote sustainable transportation, walking, cycling and low-emission mobility.
- 3.8. Integrate climate change, sustainability and SDGs into teaching, research and student activities.
- 3.9. Strengthen climate awareness and capacity building among students, faculty, staff and surrounding communities.
- 3.10. Strengthen collaboration with local government agencies, community groups, NGOs and other stakeholders on climate-related initiatives.
- 3.11. Monitor, document and publicly report progress through audits, sustainability reports and institutional disclosures.

4. Strategic Climate Action Areas

4.1 Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

SRHU will continue to improve energy efficiency and increase the contribution of renewable energy to campus electricity requirements.

- 4.1.1. Expand and maintain rooftop solar photovoltaic systems wherever technically and financially feasible.
- 4.1.2. Promote energy-efficient lighting, HVAC systems, appliances and laboratory equipment.
- 4.1.3. Promote smart controls, sensors and energy monitoring systems.
- 4.1.4. Conduct periodic energy audits and monitor energy consumption.
- 4.1.5. Promote energy conservation behaviour among students, faculty and staff.
- 4.1.6. Explore additional clean-energy technologies appropriate to the campus.
- 4.1.7. Promote research and innovation in renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies.
- 4.1.8. Encourage efficient use of electricity and other energy resources as part of responsible consumption practices.

4.2 Carbon Management and Emission Reduction

SRHU will establish a systematic approach to measuring, monitoring and reducing greenhouse-gas emissions associated with campus operations.

- 4.2.1.** Continue periodic carbon-footprint assessment.
- 4.2.2.** Monitor emissions associated with electricity, fuel, transportation and other significant sources.
- 4.2.3.** Identify major emission sources and implement reduction measures.
- 4.2.4.** Promote renewable energy to reduce dependence on conventional electricity.
- 4.2.5.** Reduce unnecessary fuel consumption.
- 4.2.6.** Promote digital systems and virtual meetings wherever appropriate.
- 4.2.7.** Encourage sustainable procurement and life-cycle consideration in purchasing decisions.
- 4.2.8.** Review carbon-performance indicators annually.

4.3 Water Conservation and Climate Resilience

Climate change can affect water availability, quality and reliability. SRHU will therefore strengthen water conservation and climate-resilient water management.

- 4.3.1.** Promote rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharge.
- 4.3.2.** Reduce water consumption through efficient fixtures and monitoring.
- 4.3.3.** Reuse treated wastewater wherever technically appropriate.
- 4.3.4.** Promote water-efficient landscaping and irrigation.
- 4.3.5.** Strengthen wastewater treatment and monitoring.
- 4.3.6.** Conduct awareness programmes on responsible water use.
- 4.3.7.** Promote research and community programmes related to water conservation and water quality.

5. Waste Management and Circular Practices

- 5.1** SRHU will promote a resource-efficient campus based on the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recover and Recycle. These practices support responsible consumption and production by reducing unnecessary material use, extending the useful life of resources and ensuring appropriate handling of different waste streams.

- 5.1.1.** Minimize single-use and disposable materials.
- 5.1.2.** Promote segregation of waste at source.
- 5.1.3.** Strengthen recycling and recovery systems.
- 5.1.4.** Promote composting and treatment of biodegradable waste.

- 5.1.5. Ensure appropriate management of biomedical, hazardous and electronic waste.
- 5.1.6. Promote reuse of materials wherever feasible.
- 5.1.7. Encourage responsible procurement and reduction of material consumption.
- 5.1.8. Encourage the use of durable, reusable and resource-efficient materials wherever feasible and consistent with institutional requirements.
- 5.1.9. Conduct awareness programmes on responsible consumption and zero-waste practices.
- 5.1.10. Maintain appropriate records of waste generation, collection, recycling, recovery and treatment, wherever such records are available.

5.2 Responsible Consumption and Production

Responsible consumption and production are addressed through resource conservation, waste minimization, reuse, recycling, recovery and responsible procurement. SRHU will promote the efficient use of materials and resources across campus operations while maintaining the requirements of academic, administrative, residential and healthcare activities.

- 5.2.1. Promote the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recover and Recycle in institutional operations.
- 5.2.2. Reduce avoidable consumption of paper, plastics, disposable materials, energy and water.
- 5.2.3. Encourage the reuse of materials and equipment wherever feasible and appropriate.
- 5.2.4. Strengthen segregation, recycling, recovery and environmentally responsible treatment of waste.
- 5.2.5. Promote composting and the productive use of biodegradable waste wherever facilities and operational arrangements permit.
- 5.2.6. Ensure appropriate management of biomedical, hazardous and electronic waste through applicable procedures and authorized channels.
- 5.2.7. Encourage responsible procurement and consideration of life-cycle impacts in purchasing decisions, wherever feasible.
- 5.2.8. Promote awareness among students, faculty and staff regarding responsible consumption, material conservation and waste minimization.
- 5.2.9. Document relevant activities through institutional records, audit reports, photographs, activity reports and other available evidence.

6. Biodiversity, Green Campus and Nature-Based Climate Action

SRHU will conserve and enhance its green infrastructure as an important component of climate mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity conservation.

- 6.1.** Protect existing mature trees and green areas.
- 6.2.** Promote plantation of suitable native species.
- 6.3.** Develop biodiversity-friendly landscapes.
- 6.4.** Maintain green corridors and ecological spaces.
- 6.5.** Promote tree plantation and environmental awareness programmes.
- 6.6.** Encourage students and community members to participate in plantation and biodiversity activities.
- 6.7.** Incorporate nature-based solutions into campus planning.

7. Sustainable Transportation and Green Mobility

SRHU will promote low-carbon and sustainable mobility within and around the University.

- 7.1.** Promote walking and cycling for short-distance campus travel.
- 7.2.** Encourage shared transportation and carpooling.
- 7.3.** Promote low-emission and electric mobility where feasible.
- 7.4.** Reduce unnecessary internal vehicle movement.
- 7.5.** Encourage awareness programmes on sustainable transportation.
- 7.6.** Improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.

8. Climate Education, Research and Student Engagement

Climate action requires knowledge, behavioural change and innovation. SRHU will therefore integrate climate action across education, research and student engagement.

- 8.1.** Strengthen climate-change and sustainability content in academic programmes.
- 8.2.** Continue Environmental Studies education for undergraduate students.
- 8.3.** Encourage interdisciplinary research on climate mitigation and adaptation.
- 8.4.** Promote student projects addressing energy, water, waste, biodiversity and climate resilience.
- 8.5.** Organize workshops, seminars, awareness campaigns and competitions.
- 8.6.** Encourage climate-focused student clubs and societies.
- 8.7.** Promote experiential learning through field visits and campus sustainability projects.

9. Climate Action with Local Government and Community Groups

9.1 Stakeholder Engagement

SRHU recognizes that effective climate action requires cooperation beyond the University campus. Accordingly, this Climate Action Plan shall be shared with relevant local government authorities and local community groups for information, consultation, collaboration and coordinated action.

The University will engage, as appropriate, with:

- 9.1.1.** District and local administration
- 9.1.2.** Relevant municipal/local government bodies
- 9.1.3.** Uttarakhand government departments and agencies dealing with environment, energy, water and disaster management
- 9.1.4.** Pollution-control and environmental regulatory agencies
- 9.1.5.** Local schools and educational institutions
- 9.1.6.** Resident and community groups in the surrounding area
- 9.1.7.** NGOs and civil-society organizations
- 9.1.8.** Community-based organizations and local stakeholders
- 9.1.9.** Relevant industry and professional organizations

9.2 Areas of Collaborative Action

- 9.2.1.** Climate-awareness programmes
- 9.2.2.** Tree plantation and biodiversity conservation
- 9.2.3.** Water conservation and rainwater harvesting
- 9.2.4.** Waste reduction and cleanliness initiatives
- 9.2.5.** Climate-resilient community development
- 9.2.6.** Environmental education
- 9.2.7.** Disaster-risk awareness and preparedness
- 9.2.8.** Sustainable transportation
- 9.2.9.** Renewable-energy awareness
- 9.2.10.** Air-quality and environmental monitoring
- 9.2.11.** Student and community volunteering

10. Implementation and Monitoring Framework

The SDG Cell shall coordinate implementation of this Climate Action Plan in consultation with relevant University departments and stakeholders.

Action Area	Key Indicator	Monitoring
Renewable Energy	Renewable energy capacity and generation	Annual
Energy Efficiency	Energy consumption and savings	Annual
Carbon Management	Carbon footprint/emissions	Annual
Water	Consumption, reuse and recharge	Annual
Waste and Responsible disposal	Waste generated, recycled, recovered and treated; material-reduction and reuse initiatives, where documented	Annual
Sustainable Procurement	Relevant procurement initiatives and life-cycle considerations, where documented	Annual
Biodiversity	Tree cover, plantation and green area	Annual
Transport	Sustainable mobility initiatives	Annual
Education	Climate programmes and participants	Annual
Research	Climate/sustainability research projects	Annual
Community Engagement	Programmes with communities/government	Annual
Public Disclosure	Sustainability/Climate reports published	Annual

Progress will be documented through institutional records, audit reports, photographs, activity reports, meeting records, stakeholder communications and annual sustainability/SDG reporting.

11. Public Disclosure and Sharing of the Climate Action Plan

To ensure transparency and stakeholder accessibility, SRHU shall make this Climate Action Plan publicly accessible through the University's official website.

12. Review and Continuous Improvement

The Climate Action Plan shall be reviewed periodically by the designated University sustainability mechanism. Progress, audit findings, technological developments, regulatory requirements, stakeholder feedback and emerging climate risks shall be considered during the review.

The Plan may be revised to establish new targets and strengthen climate mitigation, adaptation, resilience, responsible resource use and community engagement measures. Any future targets or commitments shall be introduced only after institutional review and confirmation of their feasibility.

13. Institutional Commitment

Swami Rama Himalayan University is committed to advancing climate action through responsible campus operations, renewable energy, resource conservation, biodiversity protection, climate education, research, innovation and meaningful engagement with government and local communities.