



Green Campus and Plastic-Free Campus Policy Gujarat University



Introduction

Gujarat University is committed to fostering a sustainable and environmentally friendly campus. This policy document outlines the university's commitment to creating a green and plastic-free campus. The initiative aims to reduce the environmental impact of campus operations, promote sustainable practices, and cultivate an environmentally conscious community among students, faculty, and staff. Gujarat University is committed to leading by example in sustainability and environmental stewardship. By implementing the Green Campus and Plastic-Free Campus policies, the university aims to create a healthier and more sustainable environment for current and future generations. This initiative will contribute to the well-being of the campus community and the broader global effort to combat environmental challenges. This policy document can be adapted and expanded based on specific institutional goals, resources, and stakeholder input. By adopting such a comprehensive approach, Gujarat University can position itself as a leader in sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Objectives

- **Reduce Carbon Footprint:** Minimize greenhouse gas emissions from campus activities.
- **Promote Sustainable Transportation:** Encourage the use of bicycles, battery-powered vehicles, and pedestrian pathways.
- **Eliminate Single-Use Plastics:** Implement a comprehensive ban on single-use plastics across the campus.
- **Enhance Biodiversity:** Improve campus landscaping with native trees and plants.
- **Increase Environmental Awareness:** Educate the campus community about sustainable practices and their benefits.

Policy Framework

1. Restricted Entry of Automobiles

Objectives	Actions
Reduce vehicular emissions and promote cleaner air on campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement a permit system for essential vehicles only.• Designate parking areas at the campus perimeter.• Provide incentives for carpooling and use of electric vehicles.• Develop a campus-wide traffic management plan to minimize congestion.

2. Sustainable Transportation

Objectives	Actions
Encourage eco-friendly modes of transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish a bicycle-sharing program with sufficient bike racks and repair stations.• Introduce electric shuttles for intra-campus transportation.• Develop and maintain pedestrian-friendly pathways with proper lighting and signage.• Organize workshops and campaigns to promote cycling and walking.

3. Ban on Single-Use Plastics

Objectives	Actions
Eliminate plastic waste and promote sustainable alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prohibit the sale and distribution of single-use plastics in campus stores, cafeterias, and events.• Promote the use of reusable containers, bottles, and bags.• Collaborate with vendors to provide eco-friendly alternatives.• Conduct awareness campaigns highlighting the impact of plastic pollution.

4. Landscaping and Biodiversity

Objectives	Actions
Enhance the campus environment and support local biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement a campus-wide tree-planting program focusing on native species.• Establish community gardens and green spaces for educational and recreational purposes.• Incorporate sustainable landscaping practices, such as rainwater harvesting and composting.• Develop partnerships with environmental organizations for technical support and resources.

5. Waste Management and Recycling

Objectives	Actions
Minimize waste generation and promote recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implement a comprehensive waste segregation and recycling program.• Install recycling bins at strategic locations across the campus.• Conduct training sessions for staff and students on proper waste disposal techniques.• Collaborate with local waste management authorities for efficient waste disposal.

6. Energy and Water Conservation

Objectives	Actions
Reduce energy and water consumption on campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install energy-efficient lighting and appliances in all campus buildings.• Implement water-saving technologies such as low-flow fixtures and rainwater harvesting systems.• Conduct regular energy and water audits to identify areas for improvement.• Promote awareness campaigns on energy and water conservation practices.

7. Education and Community Engagement

Objectives	Actions
Foster a culture of sustainability and environmental responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate environmental education into the curriculum across various disciplines. • Organize workshops, seminars, and events focused on sustainability topics. • Establish a Green Campus Committee to oversee policy implementation and progress. • Encourage student-led initiatives and projects that promote sustainability.

Implementation and Monitoring

➤ Green Campus Committee:

Name of the Committee Members	Designation
Mr. Chandrshekhar Jha	Estate Engineer, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.
Dr. V. K. Chavda	Deputy Director, Department of Youth Welfare, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.
Dr. Kapilkumar	Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry & Forensic Science
Dr. Natubhai Verma	Co-Ordinator, NSS, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.
Dr. Chetna Bujad	Assistant Professor, School of Law, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad.

The above committee will ensure green campus initiatives are properly implemented and a robust monitoring and evaluation system to track progress, identify challenges, and make necessary adjustments. Regular

audits and assessments will be conducted to measure the impact of the initiatives. The committee will provide regular updates and reports to the campus community on the progress and achievements of the Green Campus Initiative. Transparency will be maintained to encourage participation and accountability.