



# Aswan University Climate Action Plan

## Introduction

Aswan University is steadfast in its commitment to combat climate change and lead by example in sustainability practices. This unique and powerful Climate Action Plan outlines our specific goals, tailored strategies, and dedicated approach to address the region's challenges and make a lasting impact on climate action.

## Sustainability Vision

Our sustainability vision is to be recognized as a global leader in climate action and sustainability. We aspire to be ranked among the top 50 universities worldwide for our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to be the foremost African and Egyptian university in advancing sustainability initiatives.

## Sustainability Goals

Our climate action goals are clear and ambitious:

1. **Net-Zero Carbon Campus:** Reduce our carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 and achieve a carbon-neutral campus by 2050. We will invest in renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, and improve energy efficiency throughout our campus.
2. **Climate Resilience:** Adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as increased heat waves, droughts, and floods, by implementing sustainable water management practices and innovative technologies.
3. **Education and Empowerment:** Educate our community about climate change and the importance of taking action. By integrating climate education across disciplines, we empower students, staff, and the community to become climate champions.

## Unique Challenges

Aswan University faces distinct sustainability challenges including:

1. **Climate Vulnerability:** The region is already experiencing climate change impacts, such as heatwaves and water scarcity, which pose risks to our campus and community.



2. **Economic Constraints:** Economic challenges may hinder our ability to invest in large-scale sustainability initiatives, requiring innovative solutions to overcome financial barriers.
3. **Behavioral Change:** Encouraging behavior change and widespread adoption of sustainable practices among our campus community is essential for achieving our climate action goals.

## SDGs and Leadership

Aswan University is dedicated to actively participating in and implementing the entire SDGs in alignment with Egypt's Vision 2030. Our vision is to be a leading force in sustainability, ranking among the top 50 universities globally and being the top African and Egyptian university in SDGs achievement.

## Operational Focus

To achieve our climate action goals, we will focus on these key areas:

- **Renewable Energy Leadership:** We will harness the power of the sun by installing solar panels on all university buildings, reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and generating clean, renewable energy.
- **Water Stewardship:** Implementing a water conservation program will reduce our water usage by 15% by 2030, safeguarding this vital resource for future generations.
- **Sustainable Procurement:** We will develop a sustainable procurement policy that requires all university purchases to meet specific sustainability standards, ensuring that our investments align with our climate goals.

## Key Action Items

<b>Action Item 1:</b>	<b>Install Solar Panels on All University Buildings</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and generate clean, renewable energy.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Complete the installation of solar panels on all university buildings by 2030.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Track the amount of energy generated by solar panels and the amount of carbon emissions saved.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit



<b>Action Item 2:</b>	<b>Implement a Water Conservation Program</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Reduce water usage by 15% by 2030 to protect our water resources.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Gradually implement the water conservation program by 2030.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Monitor the amount of water saved and its impact on the university's water bill.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit

<b>Action Item 3</b>	<b>Develop a Sustainable Procurement Policy</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Ensure all university purchases align with sustainability standards.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Develop the policy by 2023 and implement it by 2025.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Track the number of sustainable purchases made and their impact on the university's environmental footprint.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	International Ranking Office, Sustainability Unit

<b>Action Item 4</b>	<b>Energy Efficiency Upgrades</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Reduce energy consumption and lower greenhouse gas emissions through targeted energy efficiency upgrades.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Conduct energy audit and implement energy efficiency upgrades by 2030.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Track the percentage reduction in energy consumption and associated carbon emissions.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit, Facilities Management Department

<b>Action Item 5</b>	<b>Green Transportation</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Promote sustainable transportation options to reduce carbon emissions from commuting.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Establish green transportation initiatives by 2025.



<b>Action Item 5</b>	<b>Green Transportation</b>
<b>Metrics:</b>	Monitor the increase in the use of sustainable transportation methods and the reduction in single-occupancy vehicle use.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Transportation Administration

<b>Action Item 6</b>	<b>Waste Reduction and Recycling</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Minimize waste sent to landfills and increase recycling rates on campus.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Implement waste reduction and recycling program by 2023.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Measure the reduction in waste sent to landfills and track recycling rates.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Waste Management Team

<b>Action Item 7</b>	<b>Biodiversity and Green Spaces</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Enhance campus biodiversity and create green spaces for environmental conservation.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Develop a campus biodiversity plan and green space initiative by 2025.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Monitor the increase in native flora and fauna populations and the expansion of green spaces.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Campus Greening administration.

<b>Action Item 8</b>	<b>Climate Resilience Infrastructure</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Strengthen campus infrastructure to withstand extreme weather events and changing climate conditions.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Implement climate-resilient infrastructure projects by 2030.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Assess the resilience of campus infrastructure and track the number of resilience measures implemented.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Facilities Management Department.



<b>Action Item 9</b>	<b>Climate Literacy and Education</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Foster climate literacy and awareness among the university community.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Integrate climate change and sustainability topics into the curriculum by 2022.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Evaluate the number of climate-related courses offered and the participation in climate education programs.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Academic Affairs Department
<b>Action Item 10</b>	<b>Zero Waste Events</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Minimize waste generation and promote sustainable practices during campus events.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Implement zero waste practices for all events starting in 2022.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Monitor the waste diversion rate and the reduction of single-use plastic during events.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Event Management Team
<b>Action Item 11</b>	<b>Renewable Energy Certificates</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Offset carbon emissions by purchasing credible renewable energy certificates.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Procure renewable energy certificates by 2025.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Track the amount of carbon emissions offset through renewable energy certificates.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with Finance Department
<b>Action Item 12</b>	<b>Sustainable Food Initiatives</b>
<b>Goal:</b>	Support sustainable and locally sourced food options on campus.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Collaborate with local farmers and vendors to offer sustainable food choices by 2022.



**Action Item 12 Sustainable Food Initiatives**

<b>Metrics:</b>	Assess the percentage of sustainable food options available on campus.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Food Services Department in collaboration with Sustainability Unit.

**Action Item 13 Carbon Offsetting**

<b>Goal:</b>	Compensate for unavoidable emissions through credible carbon offset projects.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Initiate carbon offset initiatives by 2023.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Monitor the number of carbon offset projects implemented and their impact on emissions.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit

**Action Item 14 Green Building Standards**

<b>Goal:</b>	Incorporate green building standards in all new construction and major renovations.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Implement green building standards for new projects starting in 2021.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Evaluate the number of green building certifications achieved.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Facilities Management Department in collaboration with Sustainability Unit and Construction & Design Team

**Action Item 15 E-Waste Recycling**

<b>Goal:</b>	Establish an e-waste recycling program for responsible electronic waste disposal.
<b>Timeline:</b>	Implement e-waste recycling program by 2024.
<b>Metrics:</b>	Measure the amount of e-waste recycled and diverted from landfill.
<b>Responsible Party:</b>	Sustainability Unit in collaboration with IT Services and Waste Management Team



## Stakeholder Engagement

Our climate action plan is founded on active stakeholder engagement. We involve faculty, staff, students, local communities, and external partners in decision-making processes, fostering shared ownership and collective impact.

## Monitoring, Evaluation, and Continuous Improvement

We will establish a robust monitoring and evaluation system, tracking key metrics such as greenhouse gas emissions, energy and water consumption, waste generation, poverty levels, and inequality levels. Regular evaluations will inform data-driven decisions and ensure continuous improvement.

## Conclusion

Aswan University's Climate Action Plan is a testament to our unwavering commitment to a sustainable future. By taking bold actions, integrating climate education, and addressing unique challenges, we forge a path towards a resilient and carbon-neutral campus. As a beacon of climate action, we inspire others to join us in creating a more sustainable world for future generations.