



# CLIMATE ACTION CHARTER

## INTRODUCTION

Sunway University stands at the forefront of academic excellence in Malaysia, fully recognizing the critical nature of climate change and its impacts on our world. Aligned with the nation's commitments under the Paris Agreement, we commit ourselves to not only enlighten but also empower our community — encompassing students, faculty, staff, and communities — to spearhead a sustainable and equitable future. This Charter outlines our dedication to transforming our campus into a beacon of resilience, justice, and carbon neutrality, guided by our Values-Based Development Philosophy. Embodying the '8R' core values: Respect, Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Restore, Repurpose, and Revitalise, we aim to foster responsible stewardship of natural resources and ensure the wellbeing of our planet's ecosystems.

## **GUIDING ACTIONS AND PRINCIPLES**

1. **RESPECT:** Our foremost priority is the safeguarding of the rights and diversity of life on our planet, advocating for its health and well-being. This principle shapes our educational programs and climate actions, ensuring the welfare of all communities and addressing the impact of climate change on vulnerable groups.
2. **RETHINK:** We challenge the status quo of resource utilization, seeking innovative strategies to benefit society. This underpins our research and academic efforts, positioning us as leaders in climate action.
3. **REDUCE:** Our conscious efforts aim to minimize the ecological footprint of our activities and practices, promoting mindful consumption and responsible behavior within our teaching and operational frameworks. We are dedicated to advancing carbon neutrality, resilience, zero waste, and sustainable food systems.
4. **REUSE:** We are committed to extending the life cycle of resources, fostering a culture of reuse across university operations and campus management, to support responsible consumption.

5. **RECYCLE:** Recycling is a key pillar of our strategy, aimed at optimizing the use of resources. This principle is integral to our community engagement, raising awareness and driving action both within and beyond the university.
6. **RESTORE:** We invest in the restoration of our ecosystem's resources through technology and innovation, focusing on sustainable land use, water management, and biodiversity conservation to bolster resilience.
7. **REPURPOSE:** By embracing multifunctionality, we aim to enhance the value and utility of resources, guiding our initiatives towards zero waste, green buildings, and sustainable procurement. This principle also enriches our academic and research endeavors, spurring innovation and creative solutions.
8. **REVITALISE:** Our commitment to revitalizing natural resources ensures their sustainability for present and future generations. This commitment is mirrored in our research, education, and practices focused on carbon neutrality, resilience, sustainable transport, and climate research.

## **BEYOND THE FOUNDATION**

As we lay down these principles, our vision extends beyond the foundational aspects of respect, reduction, and restoration.

Recognizing the complexity and interconnectedness of the challenges we face, we are poised to expand our commitment through a holistic approach that encompasses education, innovation, community engagement, and collaborative governance. This expanded vision seeks not only to mitigate the impacts of climate change but also to foster a sustainable ecosystem within and around our university community. The following sections delineate our broader commitment to creating a sustainable future, emphasizing the synergy between our actions and the global effort to combat climate change.

## **OUR EXPANDED COMMITMENT:**

### **1. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION**

Understanding the collective nature of climate action, we seek to establish and strengthen partnerships across various sectors. Our collaborative efforts aim to foster knowledge exchange, innovation, and impactful sustainability practices.

### **2. INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

Embracing cutting-edge technology and innovation, we commit to advancing sustainable solutions and renewable energy, preparing our students to be leaders in environmental stewardship.

### **3. EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY**

Our curriculum will deeply integrate sustainability and climate education, equipping students with the necessary skills to contribute meaningfully to a sustainable future, across all fields of study.

### **4. SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS OPERATIONS**

We pledge to continually enhance our campus sustainability, setting ambitious targets for energy efficiency, waste reduction, and water conservation, and openly sharing our progress.

## **5. ENGAGEMENT AND AWARENESS**

Through dynamic engagement and awareness initiatives, we aim to inspire our community and beyond towards sustainable practices and a deeper understanding of environmental responsibility.

## **6. COMMITMENT TO NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY**

Dedicated to enhancing biodiversity, we will nurture green spaces and ecosystems within and surrounding our campus, contributing to ecological health and resilience.

## **7. POLICY AND GOVERNANCE**

A dedicated Sustainability Office will oversee the Charter's implementation, ensuring that our commitment to sustainability is woven into the fabric of university governance and operations.

## **CONCLUSION**

Sunway University, as a leading higher education institution in Malaysia, is resolved to take decisive action on climate change. We are committed to aligning with Malaysia's climate goals, using our resources and knowledge to educate and empower others to contribute. We acknowledge the challenges and complexities of this process, but we are unwavering in our determination to significantly contribute to Malaysia's national and global efforts to confront this urgent crisis. Our '8R' core values guide our actions in nurturing next generation leaders; and shaping our contributions towards a thriving, vibrant world for generations to come.