

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2030



VISION STATEMENT

Sunway University aspires to become an esteemed benchmark for sustainability among higher education institutions in the Asia-Pacific region and the developing world. Through the Sunway Education Group's ongoing commitment to incorporating and championing sustainability in all of its operations and strategies, we align ourselves with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the 12th Malaysia Plan, Malaysia's Climate Action Plan, and Sunway Education Group's Climate Action Charter.

As we embrace our Climate Action Charter, we acknowledge the urgent need to address climate change and its impacts on planetary health. Consequently, we leverage our position as a top-tier educational institution in Malaysia to empower not only our students, faculty, and staff but also the wider community to prosper in a future that emphasises the need for



greater attention to planetary health, sustainability, and equity. This vision aligns seamlessly with Malaysia's climate action pledges under the Paris Agreement. Sunway University's commitment to planetary health and sustainable development is steered by our '8R' core values: Respect, Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Restore, Repurpose, and Revitalise. These tenets guide us in fostering responsible usage of nature's resources, preserving the planet's ecological balance, and enhancing overall planetary health.

Sunway University hosts the UN-SDSN's Asia chapter and the SDG Academy. Sunway University has also established the Sunway Centre for Planetary Health in 2022. These centres play a key enabling role in promoting the planetary health and sustainable agenda through world-class education, trailblazing research, and engagements with industry, government agencies, and local communities in the region.

Embracing Malaysia's Science, Technology, Innovation, and Economy (STIE) framework, outlined under the 12th Malaysia Plan, Sunway University uses state-of-the-art technology and knowledge systems to promote transparency and efficiency in the decision-making processes. These include adopting, developing, and promoting sustainable and planetary-friendly solutions across all of Sunway University's activities.

Among the notable initiatives is the Campus with a Conscience initiative, a grassroots flagship programme that nurtures a sense of responsibility and proactivity among students, staff, and external stakeholders in incorporating planetary health and sustainable best practices in all their activities on campus.

Sunway University is committed to the nation's net-zero initiatives, as articulated in its Sustainability Strategy 2030. This strategy is guided by key strategic goals and action plans.

GOALS TOWARDS 2030:

1. Achieve Net Zero Campus by 2030

Sunway University's Green Campus Initiative is the cornerstone of the sustainability strategy. It encompasses a comprehensive approach to reducing carbon footprint through energy efficiency improvements in buildings and facilities, investment in renewable energy sources, promotion of low-carbon transportation, adherence to green building standards, and enhancement of green spaces and biodiversity. Sustainable waste management and water conservation are also critical components. Sunway University is committed to setting clear, measurable targets for reducing carbon emissions, with the ultimate goal of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2030. This initiative not only demonstrates environmental stewardship but also involves Sunway University's community in the sustainability journey, serving as a living lab for sustainable practices in the region.



2. Cultivate a Culture of Sustainability

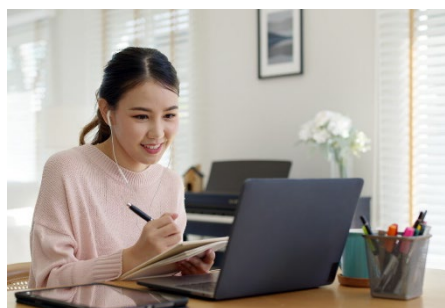
Sustainability is more than a set of practices—it is a culture. To embed this culture, Sunway University will integrate sustainability into every facet of Sunway University’s life. This includes embedding sustainability concepts into curricula, encouraging sustainable research and innovation, and promoting sustainable practices among students, faculty, and staff. By providing platforms for Sunway University community to engage with and contribute to sustainability initiatives, Sunway University aims to empower staff and students to take actionable steps towards a sustainable future. This goal also involves promoting individual commitments to sustainability, encouraging actions like waste reduction, energy conservation, and the use of sustainable transportation options.

3. Contribute to National and Global Sustainability

Sunway University aspires to be a leader in higher education that incorporates planetary health and sustainable best practices in all its activities and to be at the forefront of promoting innovative solutions to address the national and global challenges pertaining to climate change and sustainable development. Sunway University’s sustainability strategy is aligned with the national agenda. These include focusing on areas such as poverty, competitiveness of the Malaysian economy, circular economy, integrated water resources management, energy sustainability, and effective data management. Additionally, the establishment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN-SDSN) at Sunway University will enable Sunway University to contribute to the advancement of the SDGs at the regional and global scale.

4. Incorporate Sustainability into Curriculum

Education is a powerful tool to address climate change and promote sustainable development. By incorporating sustainability principles into the academic curriculum across all faculties, students will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to address future sustainability challenges. Sunway University also encourages and supports student research in sustainability-related fields, fostering a culture of innovation that contributes to global sustainability efforts. Sunway University’s goal is to be a regional leader in sustainability education, preparing the next generation of leaders to make informed decisions and take action on sustainability issues.



5. Foster Research and Innovation in Sustainability

Sunway University recognises the role of research and innovation in addressing sustainability challenges. Sunway University is committed to fostering an enriching research ecosystem, which focuses on promoting rigorous investigation into sustainability challenges that impact the global community. Sunway University has invested and will continue to invest in R&D and developing innovative solutions that address these challenges for Malaysia, regional economies, and the global community. Sunway University will invest in key strategic research areas and partnerships that encourage cross-disciplinary collaborations, translational and transnational efforts that collectively address sustainability challenges. These include supporting student and early-career research, partnering with industry and government, and initiating a sustainability innovation fund that nurtures next-generation leaders and the discovery of innovative solutions that impact the grand challenges facing the global community.

6. Engage in Partnerships for Sustainability

Collaboration and partnerships are key to achieving sustainability goals. Sunway University will actively engage with local communities, industry partners, and international organisations to share knowledge, exchange best practices, and collaborate on sustainability projects. Participation in sustainability forums, workshops, and events will further strengthen collaboration and amplify the collective efforts of Sunway University and its partners in addressing the sustainability challenges that impact the global community.



7. Commitment towards Community Development and Nurturing Values-Driven Mindset

Sunway University is committed to contributing to the sustainable development of local and global communities, building the resilience of these communities to economic volatilities, climate change, health pandemics, and other external shocks to their way of life. This includes developing community-focused programs that leverage Sunway University's resources and expertise to address local sustainability challenges. Strong Sunway University-community partnerships will enrich Sunway University's academic and research programs, nurturing next-generation leaders who are sensitive to challenges faced by communities in a developing country environment. Community partnerships and participatory approaches will also result in the development of community-driven innovative solutions that meet the needs of the relevant stakeholders in the local ecosystem. Sunway University's commitment extends to enhancing education, promoting social inclusion, and contributing to economic development through the development of sustainability initiatives, jointly with key players in the communities. Sunway University also provides a platform for industry, government agencies, and community organisations to work together in creating lasting, positive impacts on society and the environment.

8. Monitor and Report on Sustainability Performance

Accountability and transparency are fundamental to Sunway University's sustainability strategy. Sunway University has established a comprehensive system for monitoring, tracking, and reporting on Sunway University's sustainability performance. Sunway University will continue to improve its tracking of key performance indicators (KPIs) for the various sustainability targets. A sustainability data tracking dashboard will be developed in 2024 to track the sustainability KPIs. This systematic tracking of the sustainability KPIs will enable Sunway University to assess its performance on an annual basis and identify areas for improvement.

9. Prioritize Health and Well-being

Sunway University's commitment to sustainability extends to the health and well-being of our students, staff, and the wider community. Initiatives to promote mental health awareness, access to healthy food options, and spaces that encourage physical activity and relaxation are integral to Sunway University's strategy. By aligning health and sustainability, Sunway University aims to create a campus environment that supports the holistic well-being of Sunway University community and the broader society.

CONCLUSION

Sunway University's Sustainability Strategy 2030 provides a framework for nurturing the next-generation leadership that will contribute to planetary health and the sustainable development of communities in Malaysia, the region, and the developing world. These include aligning Sunway University's operations, investment strategy, academic endeavours, and external engagement agenda towards achieving a Net Zero campus by 2030. The strategic goals reflect a holistic approach to sustainability, emphasising the importance of education, research, and external engagement that promote a more sustainable, equitable, and inclusive development agenda. All of which are important for future-proofing society against climate change and other grand challenges that impact the global community.

GLOBAL
MISSION

