



# WOMEN UNIVERSITY

OF AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR, BAGH. Website: [www.wuajk.edu.pk](http://www.wuajk.edu.pk)

## CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY

### **1. Introduction**

The Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (WUAJ&K) Bagh is leading efforts to combat climate change by implementing sustainable practices, reducing carbon usage, and promoting climate education, all to ensure a healthy and conducive learning environment. In Pakistan, climate change presents a significant challenge to social, environmental, and economic development. The country's most urgent priority is to prepare for and adapt to its impacts.

### **2. Scope**

Higher education institutions globally are actively working to address climate change by minimizing their carbon footprint, educating future leaders, and providing critical research and expertise. Advancing environmental sustainability plays a key role in achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs) and promoting overall health.

### **3. Policy Guidelines**

The main objectives of Climate Change Policy include:

- a) To advance the university's transition towards cleaner and less carbon-intensive growth.
- b) To minimize the risks arising from the potential increase in frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.
- c) To develop climate-resilient agriculture and food systems for all agroecological zones in the region.
- d) To integrate climate change policy with other interrelated organizations.
- e) To reduce energy consumption, we need an eco-friendly environment that conserves natural resources such as water, energy, and raw materials and focuses on producing organic food.
- f) To focus on tree planting as it is considered one of the most effective tools for combating climate change and restoring biodiversity.
- g) To track the impact of climate change on the water, food, and energy security of the country and to implement remedial plans to support water, energy, and food policies

- h) To pursue sustained economic growth by appropriately addressing the challenges of climate change.

#### **4. Strategy**

Natural disasters are challenging to handle and can cause considerable damage. The Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (WUAJ&K) has outlined several short-term measures to address climate change impacts. Long-term strategies will be aligned with the National Policy of the Azad Jammu & Kashmir Government. The strategies of WUAJ&K are as follows:

- a) **Sustainable Environment:** The university is committed to promoting sustainable practices and minimizing environmental impact.
- b) **Waste Management:** Efforts are underway to educate students and faculty on waste management and disposal through seminars and fieldwork, such as cleanliness campaigns.
- c) **Reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** The university aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from its activities and operations by encouraging energy-saving practices across the campus.
- d) **Water Conservation:** WUAJ&K implements water-saving techniques and educational programs, including seminars and rainwater harvesting techniques, to promote water conservation and reduce water usage.
- e) **Sustainable Transportation:** The university provides intercampus transportation for students, employees, and visitors to encourage environmentally friendly mobility options. This includes offering university transportation and promoting reduced use of private vehicles.
- f) **Awareness and Education for the Community:** The university is critical in raising community awareness about sustainability and climate action through student-led initiatives. This includes integrating sustainability lessons into the curriculum and organizing workshops and campaigns on kitchen gardening, cleanliness, and plantation.
- g) **Partnerships and Collaboration:** The university collaborates with NGOs and governmental organizations and will seek further partnerships with external NGOs, research centers, and organizations focused on sustainability and climate action.

#### **5. Report on Violation**

All members of the WUAJ&K community are encouraged to report any incidents suggesting a potential policy violation to the appropriate authorities without fear. Such violations may warrant disciplinary action.

#### **6. Revision of Policy**

This policy will be updated as needed, and the revised document will incorporate climate change requirements.