



## Local education programmes on climate

Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (WUAJK) recognizes the importance of education in addressing climate change and building community resilience. In 2023–24, the University organized multiple **educational programs and capacity-building workshops** to raise awareness on climate-smart practices, promote sustainable livelihoods, and empower local communities through low-carbon and eco-friendly initiatives. **Green Students Club** Formed in 2022 to involve students in awareness drives, plantation campaigns, and energy-saving practices.

These programs were designed:

- Build **awareness on climate change** impact
- Promote **climate-resilient agriculture and entrepreneurship**
- Provide practical skills for **sustainable income generation**
- Encourage **youth and women participation** in climate action.

## Educational Programs and Workshops

### 1. Kitchen Gardening practices in the university

**Date:** August 30, 2024

**Theme:** Climate-Smart Organic Kitchen Gardening for Food Security

**Objective:** To empower local communities with sustainable gardening skills using **organic methods, seasonal planting, and water-efficient practices**.

**Climate Relevance:** Reduced dependence on market supply chains → lowers transport-related carbon emissions. This initiative promotes **local food resilience** against climate impacts.

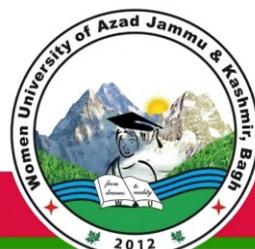
**Impact:** 70 participants trained; several households reported successful home gardens by the end of 2024.

**Evidence:** [Annex I](#)

### 2. Sericulture Workshop

**Date:** March 11, 2024

**Theme:** Establishment of Climate-Resilient Sericulture Unit from 2023





**Objective:** Promote climate-smart practices through mulberry tree plantation for future sericulture development.

**Climate Relevance:** Mulberry plantation contributes to carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, and provides the primary host plant for silkworm rearing.

**Impact:** Expanded mulberry plantation on campus in 2024. An informative lecture was also delivered by **Dr. Mubashir, Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences**, to the women of the community, highlighting the potential of sericulture as a small-scale business for livelihood generation.

**Evidence:** [Annex II](#)

### 3. Planting in university premises

**Date:** January and April 2024

**Theme:** Climate-Friendly Planting

**Objective:** Teach participants tree planting techniques and promote a sustainable, green environment across campuses.

**Climate Relevance:** Encouraged large-scale urban greening and enhanced campus biodiversity.

**Impact:** Extensive tree plantation was carried out across all campuses, with active participation from students, teachers, and administrative staff. This collective effort fostered a sense of shared responsibility, strengthened environmental stewardship, and created greener, climate-resilient campuses.

**Evidence:** [Annex III](#)

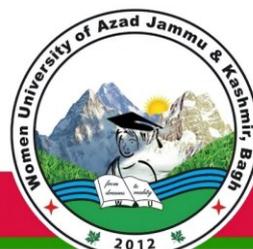
### 4. Water Resource Management

**Date:** March 21, 2023

**Theme:** Sustainable Water Use under Changing Climate

**Objective:** Provide **rainwater harvesting, drip irrigation, and efficient water storage to the university.**

**Climate Relevance:** Climate change affects rainfall patterns and water availability, which has improved **the adaptive capacity of the university.**





**Impact:** 25 participants; pilot rainwater collection systems set up in the second campus.

**Evidence:** [Annex IV](#)

## 5. Counseling Session on Climate Action and Sustainable Living

In collaboration with the Department of Environmental Science and Biotechnology, the Department of Botany at the Women's University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Bagh, conducted a **Counseling Session for the students of the Allied School System, Bagh, in December 2024.**

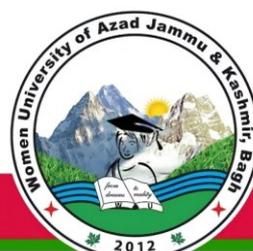
The session primarily focused on raising awareness about **kitchen gardening** and encouraging students to adopt **sustainable habits** within their households. Faculty members highlighted the importance of growing vegetables at home, reducing reliance on chemical products, and promoting eco-friendly practices for a healthier lifestyle. [Annex V](#)

### Outcomes and Achievements

- Over **200 community members** (majority women) directly trained in climate-relevant skills.
- Increase in **sustainable household practices** (gardening, water-saving, organic cultivation).
- Strengthened linkages between **university expertise and local community development.**

### Conclusion

Through these programs, WUAJK has demonstrated that **education is a powerful tool for climate action.** By linking climate-smart practices with poverty alleviation, the University has advanced SDG 13.3.1 while simultaneously contributing to **SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), and SDG 5 (Gender Equality).**





**Annex I**



**Annex II**





**Annex III**



**Annex IV**





Annex V

