



Co-operative planning for climate change disasters

The Women University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (WUAJ&K), Bagh, is committed to advancing climate action through multi-level collaborations with government, universities, international organizations, and community stakeholders. These partnerships not only help address environmental challenges but also enhance the university's role in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action) along with other interlinked SDGs.

Through cooperation, the university seeks to:

- Promote sustainable solutions for climate resilience.
- Foster academic and policy dialogue with government entities.
- Encourage global, national, and local collaborations.
- Provide hands-on training and research opportunities for students and faculty.

1. Collaboration with the Government of Azad Jammu & Kashmir

Women University has established strong collaboration with the **Agriculture Department of AJ&K** by organizing multiple **joint seminars, awareness campaigns, and capacity-building workshops** on sustainability and climate-smart agriculture. These initiatives benefit local farmers, communities, and students by transferring knowledge on adaptive practices, soil conservation, and sustainable food production.

➔ Impact: Strengthened university-government relations and support for SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 6 (Clean Water), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). ([Annex I](#))

2. Global Collaboration with IUCN

Through faculty expertise (Dr. Mubashir Gardazi), Women University is linked with the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**. This collaboration contributes to:

- Monitoring impacts of climate change on biodiversity.
- Advocating **Nature-based Solutions (NbS)** for mitigation and adaptation.
- Promoting conservation and restoration projects at the regional level.

➔ Impact: Contributes to SDG 15 (Life on Land) and global climate governance. (Order 1 attached) ([Annex II](#))





3. Curriculum Development in Collaboration with UK Education Gateway

In partnership with the **British Council (Pak-UK Education Gateway Mobility Program)**, Women University designed a curriculum on **environmental protection and fruit tree plantation in the Poonch region**. This program strengthens climate education and introduces practical sustainability modules in the curriculum.

➔ *Impact:* Supports long-term **climate literacy** and fosters SDG 4 (Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships). *(Order 3 attached)* [\(Annex III\)](#)

4. Student Visits to Schools on Disaster Management and Water Conservation

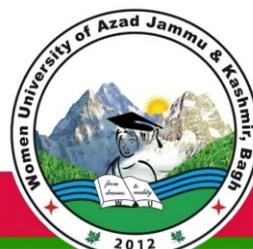
As part of the activities under **SDG 13: Climate Action**, the students of the **Department of Environmental Sciences at the Women University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Bagh**, visited various **private and government schools** in the region.

The purpose of these visits was to educate school children about the importance of **disaster management** and the growing challenge of **water scarcity**. The students highlighted that water is not available in sufficient quantity to meet future demands and that urgent action is required at the community level.

Interactive awareness sessions were conducted to guide students on practical measures for **saving water**, such as reducing wastage, rainwater harvesting, reusing water where possible, and adopting water-smart habits in daily life. Through these visits, young learners were motivated to understand the seriousness of water scarcity and to actively contribute toward building a **climate-resilient and sustainable future**. [\(Annex IV\)](#)

5. Plantation Drives under the Green Youth Movement

The **Department of Environmental Sciences** organized plantation drives involving **fruit and indigenous tree species**. These drives provided long-term ecological, nutritional, and climate benefits while engaging students, faculty, and staff.





→ *Impact:* Contributes to SDG 15 (Life on Land) and enhances carbon sequestration. (Evidence [Annex V](#))

6. Expert Group on Groundwater Potential Zoning and Aquifer Mapping in AJ&K

To address the challenges of **climate change and water scarcity**, faculty and researchers joined the **Expert Group – Groundwater Potential Zoning and Aquifer Mapping in AJ&K**. The group consists of professionals and experts working together to identify, map, and manage groundwater resources in the region.

This initiative directly contributes to **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** by promoting scientific collaboration for **sustainable water management**, disaster preparedness, and climate resilience. The group provides a platform for knowledge sharing, research discussions, and the development of strategies that ensure the conservation and efficient utilization of groundwater resources in Azad Jammu and Kashmir. ([Annex VI](#))

7. Integration of Climate Change into Curriculum

WUAJ&K has integrated **climate change, sustainability, and environmental management courses** into various departments. This prepares students to tackle modern environmental challenges while raising community awareness.

→ *Impact:* Builds a climate-resilient knowledge economy (SDG 4 & SDG 13). ([Annex VII](#))

8. Future Directions (2024–2026)

- Establish a **University Climate Change and Sustainability Center**.
- Develop **MoUs with UNDP, WWF, and FAO** for joint climate projects.
- Scale up **community-based projects** such as kitchen gardening, waste recycling, and clean cooking technologies.
- Initiate **student exchange programs** with international universities working on climate resilience.
- Publish **annual Climate Action Reports** documenting progress toward SDG 13.





Annex I

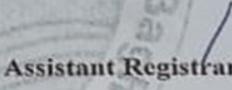
 **WOMEN UNIVERSITY**
OF AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR, BAGH. Website: www.wuajk.edu.pk
Registrar office
(General section)

No: WUB/ARO (G)/ 335-39/2023 **Dated: 27-03-2023**

Office Order:
The Vice Chancellor, on the recommendation of the Incharge Dean Faculty of Science & Technology and on the request of focal person GYM Department of Botany has been pleased to accord approval to organize a seminar titled **“Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources, Problems and Mitigations** “under the platform of the Green Youth Movement Club and Botanical Society on March 21, 2023, in conference room of WUAJ&K Bagh. The advanced amount of PKR: 22000/- may be released in favor of the focal person green youth movement club. The Expenditure can be met from the Budget of the GYM club’s fund.

The details of resource person is as follows.

- Eng. Zaheer Gardazi (Former DG Watsan ERRA and Former DG Local Government AJK)
- Mr. Shafi Abbasi (Director Environmental Protection Agency AJK)
- Mr. Akram (In-Charge Regional Office PCRWR Muzaffarabad AJK, Government of Pakistan)

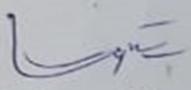

Assistant Registrar (General)

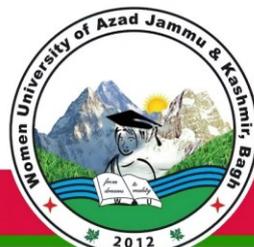
Copy (for distribution):

- The Incharge Dean Faculty of Science & Technology
- The Director Academics/ Student Affairs.
- Chairperson Department of Botany
- Focal person Green Youth Movement

Copy (for information):

- Private Secretary to the Vice Chancellor.
- Master File.


Assistant Registrar (General)





Annex I



WOMEN UNIVERSITY

OF AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR, BAGH Website: www.wujk.edu.pk

(Registrar Office)

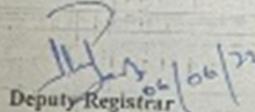
No. WUB/DRO/JC1-07/2022 Date: 06-06-2022

Office Order:

The Vice Chancellor, on the recommendation of the Registrar has been pleased to accord approval to nominate Dr. Mubashar Gardezi, Assistant Professor Department of Botany as focal person to liaise with International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) pertaining to "Fostering Collaborations between IUCN Pakistan and Universities of Azad Jammu and Kashmir".

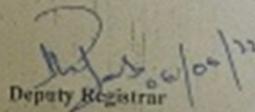
Detail of the focal person is as follows:

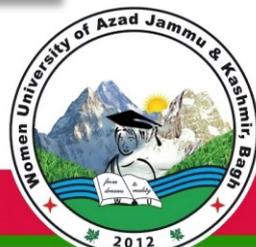
Sl. #	Name of Focal Person	Department/Designation	Contact No.	Email Address
01	Dr. Mubashar Hussain Gardazi	Assistant Professor, Department of Botany	03349554272	mubashargardezi@wujk.edu.pk


 Deputy Registrar

CC:

1. PS to the Vice Chancellor, WUAJ&K Bggh
2. The Secretary Presidential Affairs, Presidential Secretariat Muzaffarabad (for kind information)
3. PS to the Registrar, WUAJ&K Bggh
4. Chairperson Department of Botany, WUAJ&K Bggh
5. Mr. Mahmood Akhter Cheema Country Representative, IUCN Pakistan
6. Ms. Fauzia Malik, Program Coordinator IUCN Pakistan
7. Focal Person from Women University of AJ&K Bggh
8. Office Copy


 Deputy Registrar





Annex III

WOMEN UNIVERSITY
OF AZAD JAMMU & KASHMIR, BAGH Website: www.wuajk.edu.pk
(REGISTRAR OFFICE)

No: WUB/ARO (Acad)/ 195-201 /2023 Date: 30-01-2023

Office Order

The Vice Chancellor is pleased to accord approval in favor of Dr. Arshad Mehmood, (Assistant Professor, English) Principal Investigator & Head of English Department to submit his project proposal, titled: "Developing English Language Proficiency of Secondary Teachers and Creating Awareness through Collaborative Curriculum on Environment Protection and Plantation of Fruit-Trees in Poonch Region of Azad Kashmir" to British Council under the program, Going Global Partnership Pak-UK Education Gateway Mobility Partnership for Universities.

- The university resolve to ensure transparency of the project in every aspect and will provide required facilitation for the successful completion of the project.

Assistant Registrar
(Academics)

Copy to the:

1. PS to the Vice Chancellor, WUAJ&K Bagh.
2. The Incharge Dean Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, WUAJ&K Bagh.
3. PS to the Registrar, WUAJ&K Bagh.
4. The Treasurer, WUAJ&K Bagh.
5. The Director, QEC, WUAJ&K Bagh.
6. The Director, ORIC, WUAJ&K Bagh.
7. Dr. Arshad Mehmood Assistant Professor, Department of English, WUAJ&K Bagh.
8. Office Copy.

Assistant Registrar
(Academics)



Annex IV



Annex V



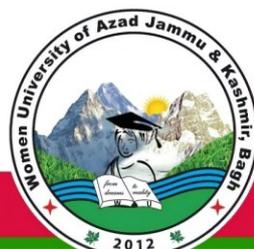


Annex VI



Expert Group – Groundwater Potential Zonning and Aquifer Mapping in AJ&K

Group · 22 members



Program Structure

The Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science is structured in accordance with the provisions of the HEC Undergraduate Education Policy V 1.1. and comprises of minimum **135** credit hours spread over 8 regular semesters. Universities may offer courses up to a maximum of 148 credit hours provided that the total number of credit hours are reasonably set to achieve the Program Learning Objectives (PLOs) without putting an undue burden on students.

Minimum Credit Hours (including all program related requirements)		135
General Education		34 credit hours (15 courses)
Major	a) Compulsory	58 credit hours (20 courses) Mandatory courses as reflected in the scheme of study, irrespective of the area of specialization (where applicable).
	b) Mandatory Electives	21 credit hours (7 courses) (to be opted from either general pool of electives or from a particular specialization)
	Total Major Requirement	79 credit hours (27 courses)
Interdisciplinary Courses		16 credit hours (6 courses)
Internship		3 credit hours
Capstone Project		3 credit hours
Program Duration		Minimum: 4 Years Maximum: 6 Years (further extendable to another year subject to approval of university's statutory body)
Semester Duration		16-18 weeks for regular semesters (1-2 weeks for examination) 8-9 weeks for summer semesters (1 week for examination)
Course Load (per semester)		15-18 credit hours for regular semesters Up-to 8 credit hours for summer semesters (for remedial / deficiency / failure / repeat courses only)
3 Credit Hours (Theory)		3 classes (1 hour each) OR 2 classes (1.5 hour each) OR 1 class (3 hours) per week throughout the semester
1 Credit Hour (Lab/equivalent)		Practical / lab / studio / field work of 1 credit hour requires 3 hours per week throughout the semester

The standard scheme of studies for the program of BS Environmental Science (irrespective of the area of specialization) is given as under:

SEMESTER I			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Introduction to Environmental Science	3 (3-0)	Major
2	Principles of Biology	3 (2-1)	Interdisciplinary
3	Quantitative Reasoning – I *	3 (3-0)	General Education
4	Natural Science **	3 (2-1)	General Education

5	Islamic Studies * (Religious Edu / Ethics for non-Muslim students)	2 (2-0)	General Education
6	Applications of Information & Communication Technologies *	3 (2-1)	General Education
7	Understanding of Holy Quran – I *	1 (0-1)	General Education
Total Credits Hours = 18			

SEMESTER II			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Fundamentals of Ecology	3 (3-0)	Major
2	Basic Chemistry	3 (3-0)	Interdisciplinary
3	Quantitative Reasoning – II *	3 (3-0)	General Education
4	Social Sciences ***	2 (2-0)	General Education
5	Functional English *	3 (3-0)	General Education
6	Pakistan Studies *	2 (2-0)	General Education
7	Arts & Humanities ****	2 (2-0)	General Education
Total Credits Hours = 18			

SEMESTER III			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Environmental Chemistry	3 (2-1)	Major
2	Environmental Physics	3 (2-1)	Major
3	Mineral Resources	3 (3-0)	Major
4	Introduction to Earth Sciences	2 (2-0)	Interdisciplinary
5	Expository Writing *	3 (3-0)	General Education
6	Civics & Community Engagement *	2 (2-0)	General Education
7	Ideology & Constitution of Pakistan *	2 (2-0)	General Education
Total Credit Hours = 18			

SEMESTER IV			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Environmental Toxicology	3 (2-1)	Major
2	Environmental Pollution	3 (3-0)	Major
3	Applied Ecology	3 (2-1)	Major
4	Environmental Microbiology	3 (3-0)	Major
5	Water & Wastewater Treatment	3 (3-0)	Major
6	Understanding of Holy Quran – II *	1 (0-1)	General Education
7	Entrepreneurship *	2 (2-0)	General Education
Total Credit Hours = 18			

SEMESTER V			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Analytical Techniques in Environmental Science	3 (2-1)	Major
2	Research Methods in Environmental Science	3 (3-0)	Major
3	Geographical Information Systems & Remote Sensing	3 (2-1)	Major
4	Environmental Governance	2 (2-0)	Major
5	Climate Change	2 (2-0)	Major
6	Environmental Economics	2 (2-0)	Interdisciplinary
Total Credit Hours = 15			

SEMESTER VI			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Disaster Risk Management	3 (3-0)	Major
2	Solid Waste Management	3 (3-0)	Major
3	Environmental Management Systems	3 (2-1)	Major
4	Elective – I *****	3	Major
5	Elective – II *****	3	Major
Total Credit Hours = 15			

SEMESTER VII			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Biodiversity & Conservation	3 (3-0)	Major
2	AI & Emerging Technologies in Environmental Science	3 (2-1)	Major
3	Elective – III *****	3	Major
4	Elective – IV *****	3	Major
5	Sustainable Development	3	Interdisciplinary
Total Credit Hours = 15			

SEMESTER VIII			
S.N.	COURSE	CREDIT HOURS	CATEGORY
1	Elective – V *****	3	Major
2	Elective – VI *****	3	Major
3	Elective – VII *****	3	Major
4	Health, Safety & Environmental Management	3 (3-0)	Interdisciplinary
5	Capstone Project	3	Capstone
Total Credit Hours = 15			

- * HEC designed **model courses** for general education may be used by the university.
- ** The university / concerned department may offer any course in the broader category of **“Natural Sciences”** which should have relevance to the purpose of the degree program.
- *** The university / concerned department may offer any course in the broader category of **“Social Sciences”** including but not limited to a course of Sociology, Social Work, Anthropology, Psychology, Education etc.
- **** The university / concerned department may offer any course in the broader category of **“Arts & Humanities”** including but not limited to a course of regional or international language such as Chinese, Arabic, French, Spanish etc. or any other course such as Philosophy, History etc.
- ***** Read in conjunction with guidance given on **“Standard Nomenclature”** in this document, the university / concerned department may offer any 7 advanced courses from either the general pool or from within one of the specializations as **electives** keeping in view its available academic, human and infrastructural resources. **Credit combination** may be arranged in accordance with the nature of the course.

Degree Award Requirements

The following minimum requirements are prescribed for the award of BS Environmental Science:

- a) All courses in the General Education category with titles and credit hours as prescribed in HEC Undergraduate Education Policy V 1.1. including the courses of “Pakistan Studies”, “Understanding of Holy Quran – I” and “Understanding of Holy Quran – II” must be completed.