



Pondicherry University

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Pondicherry University Goal-Specific Policy for “SDG 13: Climate Action”





Policy Heading Pondicherry University Goal-Specific Policy for “SDG 13: Climate Action”

Introduction Established in 1985, Pondicherry University holds the status of a Central University and possesses jurisdiction that extends over the Union Territory of Puducherry, as well as the territories of Lakshadweep and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The university's core objectives revolve around the advancement of knowledge through the realms of teaching and research. This is exemplified by the diverse array of courses it offers, spanning the fields of Humanities, Sciences, and Engineering. Additionally, the university is dedicated to nurturing interdisciplinary studies and research. The heart of its operations resides in its expansive main campus situated in Kalapet, spanning an impressive 780 acres, while its influence extends further through satellite campuses strategically located in Karaikal, Mahe, and Port Blair. A testament to its global outlook, the university has forged collaborative MOUs with various international institutions, industries, and research-focused NGOs, all geared towards fostering cooperation and enriching faculty development.

The significance of Goal 13, denoted as Climate Action, cannot be overstated. It is a goal intrinsically linked to the very survival of our planet. The University is acutely aware of the pressing need for immediate and resolute action to combat climate change and its far-reaching consequences for both the environment and communities at large. The impacts of climate change, ranging from agricultural disruption to dwindling water resources and compromised ecosystems, have triggered a cascade of extreme weather events, sea level rise, and biodiversity decline.

Pondicherry University has risen to the occasion, firmly committing itself to proactive measures aimed at mitigating the effects of climate change and promoting sustainable development. To realize the objectives of SDG 13, the university is channeling its efforts into reducing its carbon footprint through multifaceted approaches. These include the advocacy and implementation of renewable energy sources, with a notable emphasis on solar energy and bio methanation. Pondicherry University is resolutely committed to collaborating with local communities, governmental bodies, and international organizations to effect meaningful change in addressing the repercussions of climate change and propelling sustainable development forward. This dedication underscores the university's pivotal role in the collective endeavor to safeguard our planet's future.

Policy Statement Pondicherry University stands unwavering in its commitment to wholeheartedly support students and communities in the pursuit of Climate Action across every facet of life, encompassing both the realms within and beyond the campus, closely aligned with the specific objectives outlined in Goal 13.

Target Pondicherry University’s resolute dedication will reach out to its students and communities in equitable partnership with government departments, relevant stakeholders, and working groups implementing Goal 13 targets at all levels.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS




Policy

1. **Pondicherry University shall uphold SDG 13: Climate Action and take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts through environmental education, innovation, and adherence to our nation’s climate commitments, by making necessary changes to protect the planet while providing huge opportunities to modernize our infrastructure, create new green jobs, and promote greater prosperity across borders.**
2. **Pondicherry University shall implement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, University Grants Commission and various Union Ministries mandate on climate change missions in fast-track mode within the campus, its affiliated institutions, its satellite campuses, and communities in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on the implementation process, while measuring progress, and reflection.**
3. **Pondicherry University shall strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related inland and coastal disasters by providing education programs or campaigns on climate change risks, impacts, mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning to students and local communities.**
4. **Pondicherry University shall integrate climate change measures into its policies, strategies, and planning for a nature-positive university and provide recommendations to the regional and national governments on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning.**



5. **Pondicherry University shall develop green protocols and standard operating procedures and prioritize on-campus quick launch climate actions, short-term goals, and long-term goals towards reducing waste, footprint(s), and emissions adhering to the Precautionary Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration.**
6. **Pondicherry University shall incorporate and give emphasis to climate change-related subjects in its curricula of various courses/disciplines to build the capacity of students and scholars to understand the entire gamut of issues related to climate change and be ready to combat climate change thereby strengthening human capital towards climate actions.**
7. **Pondicherry University shall in collaboration with relevant stakeholders draft a mitigative plan for climate change disasters and a university climate action plan, and share the same with the local government and local community groups.**
8. **Pondicherry University shall with an intent to catalyze the students' participation and to inculcate climate-conscious behavior collect the Green Climate Fund and use the same for on-campus and outreach programs led and organized by the students.**
9. **Pondicherry University shall enhance the professional capacity of students by developing living labs to provide lab-to-land environment education, awareness-raising, training, capacity building, and green skill development, and to inculcate environment-conscious behavior for attitude change fostering the 'fundamental duties' under the constitution.**
10. **Pondicherry University shall provide required academic inputs to various climate change-related organizations to build their knowledge and capacity to meet climate change mitigation, impact reduction, early warning, and sustainable development.**
11. **Pondicherry University shall strengthen its research programs so that climate-related hazards and natural disasters are managed better in the country.**
12. **Pondicherry University shall follow strict compliance with rules, standard operating procedures, and environmental standards in all its operations and developmental activities for safety, healthy living, and national and international recognitions, awards, and rankings.**
13. **Pondicherry University shall have an interdisciplinary, practical, and applied approach by signing declaration(s), charter(s), and others to have an essential foundation with the regional and national government, international organizations, private sector, institutions, industries, and non-government organizations for climate commitment, campus sustainability, and outreach.**



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- 14. Pondicherry University shall in collaboration with non-government research organizations host student-centered international and national symposiums, conferences, seminars, workshops, etc., to share best practices and strengthen equitable collaboration and partnerships for momentum.**
 - 15. Pondicherry University shall individually measure the energy generated and energy purchased and the amount of low-carbon energy used across all the sectors of the university to become a carbon-neutral university adhering to the Greenhouse Gas Protocols.**
 - 16. Pondicherry University shall in collaboration with non-governmental organizations and industries uphold water sustainability, food sustainability, renewable energy generation, energy recovery, nutrient recovery, and its application in the horticultural landscape for a 50% carbon-neutral campus by 2030.**
 - 17. Pondicherry University shall promote collaborative research activities to understand its impacts as well as to enhance capacity for effective climate change adaptation planning and management in India, also shall conduct research to understand what approaches are better and more effective and analyze the implementation of SDGs so as that a better policy can be developed at the National level.**
 - 18. Pondicherry University shall provide the required technical inputs to integrate climate change measures into various national policies, strategies, and planning e.g. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan, National Education Policy, Blue Economy, etc.**



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