

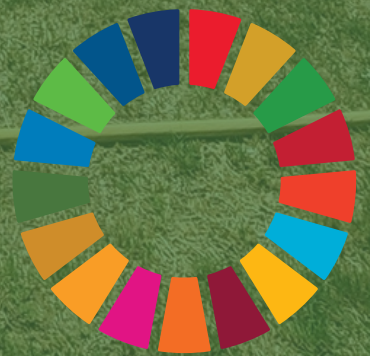


جامعة عجمان
AJMAN UNIVERSITY

20
23

SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

13.2 Low-carbon energy use



THE GLOBAL GOALS

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Introduction

As the global climate crisis intensifies, institutions worldwide are increasingly recognizing the urgent need to adopt sustainable practices. Universities, as hubs of innovation and knowledge, play a pivotal role in driving this transition. This report delves into the University's commitment to sustainable energy practices and its alignment with UN Target 13.2.

By examining the University's low-carbon energy use, we aim to:

- Assess the carbon footprint: Quantify the environmental impact of the University's energy consumption.
- Identify areas for improvement: Pinpoint opportunities to reduce carbon emissions and enhance energy efficiency.
- Benchmark against peers: Compare the University's performance with other institutions.
- Inform future strategies: Develop evidence-based strategies to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future.

To achieve these objectives, the report will focus on two key indicators:

1. **Low-carbon energy tracking (13.2.1):** This indicator assesses the University's ability to measure and monitor its low-carbon energy consumption. It is a fundamental step towards effective energy management and decision-making.
2. **Low-carbon energy use (13.2.2):** This indicator quantifies the proportion of the University's total energy consumption that originates from low-carbon sources. It provides a direct measure of the University's progress towards a more sustainable energy profile.

By analyzing these indicators, we can gain valuable insights into the University's commitment to environmental sustainability and its potential to contribute to a greener future.

Message from the COO

We are proud to share our progress in reducing carbon emissions. Our University is actively implementing energy efficiency measures across our campus buildings.

As we navigate the complexities of the 21st century, the imperative to adopt sustainable practices has never been more urgent. Our University is committed to playing a leading role in addressing climate change and transitioning to a low-carbon future.

This report highlights our progress in tracking and reducing our carbon emissions. It is a testament to the collective efforts of our faculty, staff, and students.

We recognize that the journey towards sustainability is ongoing. We will continue to explore innovative solutions, invest in energy-efficient technologies, and foster a culture of environmental consciousness. By working together, we can create a more sustainable future for generations to come.



Reducing our
carbon emissions is
a top priority at
Ajman University

RABI ALKHOFASH
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

13.2.1 Indicator: Low-carbon energy tracking

Low Carbon Energy Use

Ajman University's Climate & Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030 highlights its commitment to drive climate action goals in line with the UAE Green Agenda, Net Zero by 2050 Strategy, the National Climate Change Plan of the UAE 2017–2050, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Universities from various parts of the world have shown their willingness to become carbon-neutral in the future. Ajman University has accomplished important milestones in recent years, and we firmly believe in the University's dream team that can achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 and net zero by 2050. That will be an exponential achievement in our contribution to the national and global efforts to tackle climate change. Climate action is a collective action that involves all members of Ajman University. You have a chance to be part of the driving force that will reshape our future, ensure Sustainability and resilience, and preserve our environment and earth for future generations.

<https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/en/pages/au-carbon-emissions-reduction>

The AU Climate and Sustainability Strategy 2022-2030 is a practical guide on how the University will deliver key climate commitments, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting a carbon-neutral campus, reducing energy consumption, investing in energy optimization solutions and renewable energy, exploring new ways to decrease direct and indirect CO2 emissions, minimizing the environmental impact rating of the University activities and processes, and creating awareness on taking action for climate change. The strategy considers how to achieve resilience to the impacts of climate change across University operations and supports a smooth and fair transition to a low and eventually zero carbon future.

AU strategy on Climate and Sustainability, adopted in the year 2022, can be accessed at:

https://www.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_Climate_Sustainability_Strategy_Document_2022_2030.pdf



13.2.2 Indicator: Low-carbon energy use

Calculation of Carbon Footprint

After identifying all the activities and processes that generate GHG, including CO₂ and its related gases from emission sources 1, 2, and 3, the carbon footprint of Ajman University has been calculated using 2020 as the base year.

Ajman University has applied the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG PROTOCOL) to report emission sources. The GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard provides requirements and guidance for companies and organizations preparing a GHG emissions inventory. The GHG Protocol is the internationally recognized standard for greenhouse gas accounting on the corporate level. It was developed by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). Gases that trap atmospheric heat are called greenhouse gases (GHGs). Since these gases get trapped in the atmospheric layer instead of being released into space, they cause global warming.

For detailed information on our Carbon Emissions Report and reduction plan, please click [here](#). The reports on GHG Emissions by Ajman University, as conducted and reported by Axosomatic, can be accessed at:

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_GHG_Inventory_Report_-_Final_\(2020_-_2022\).pdf](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_GHG_Inventory_Report_-_Final_(2020_-_2022).pdf)

[https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_GHG_Inventory_Report_-_Final_\(2022_-_2023\).pdf](https://ehs.ajman.ac.ae/upload/files/ehs/AU_GHG_Inventory_Report_-_Final_(2022_-_2023).pdf)

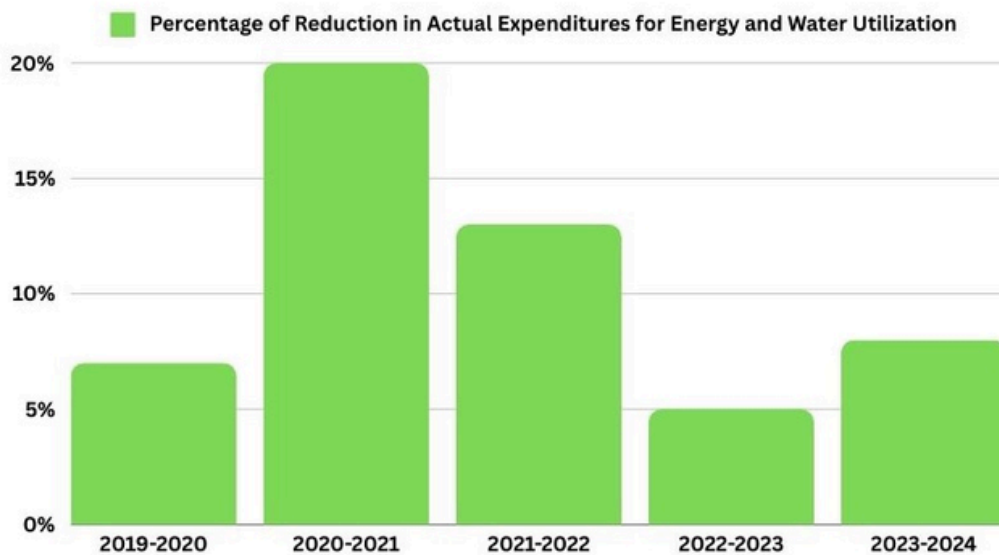


Key Performance Indicators at Ajman University

In Fall 2018, Ajman University adopted an annual key performance indicators (KPIs) based evaluation system for its Colleges/Offices/Units. Each Unit was assigned a set of KPIs mapped to six of AU's strategic goals. This is a standard process that is repeated every academic year. As part of AU's commitment to the UAE Climate strategy, the relevant KPIs were adopted to measure the low carbon energy consumption. Most key offices were assigned to take initiatives during the year that can contribute to 17 UN SDGs. Some of the relevant KPIs assigned during the AY 2022-2023 were:

Key Performance Indicator	# of Offices/Colleges
% Processes digitalized during the AY 2022-2023	24
# Implemented innovative ideas on optimizing the work cycle, saving time and efforts	1
# Activities carried out to support UN SDGs	8
# Food Safety Inspections	1
% Total fund collection from students through non-cash methods	1
# Systems/tools deployed towards digital transformation	1
\$ Efficiency of utility utilization	1
% Archiving of institutional documents (Catalogs, Handbooks, Manuals, etc.) since 2000	1
% Offices that implemented the archiving of documents on Laserfiche	1

The KPI on "Efficiency of Utility Utilization" assigned to the Office of University Facilities, was achieved during the past academic years and showcased the AU's commitment to "SDG #13 Climate Action:



<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/campus/energy-and-water-utilization-efficiency>

Future Plans

Ajman University is committed to setting ambitious carbon reduction targets covering Scope 1 and 2 emissions in alignment with the urgency to combat climate change. These targets vary in their specific emission reduction goals, timelines, and strategies. Still, they all aim to transition to a low-carbon economy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels.

The KPIs assigned to each Unit strengthened the AU's commitment to Sustainability, as this was one of the key Strategic Goals in the AU Strategic Plan 2022-2027

"Enhance Institution Sustainability"

<https://www.ajman.ac.ae/en/about/strategic-plan-2022-2027>

Current low-energy Use Projects

Ajman University is dedicated to fostering a sustainable future. Through its strong commitment to environmental stewardship, the university is at the forefront of creating a more sustainable world. As a leading educational institution, the university is committed to reducing its environmental impact and promoting energy efficiency. From implementing cutting-edge green technologies to promoting eco-friendly practices, Ajman University is setting a powerful example for other institutions to follow.

Our ongoing projects demonstrate our dedication to creating a greener campus and building a better future for all. From solar panel installations to energy-efficient building upgrades, we are constantly seeking ways to minimize our carbon footprint. Our commitment to sustainability extends beyond our facilities, as we strive to inspire and educate our students, faculty, and staff on the importance of environmental conservation.

Ajman University is excited to announce two groundbreaking projects that align with our commitment to sustainability:

- **Solar Hydroponic Net House:** This innovative project combines solar energy with hydroponic farming to cultivate fresh produce year-round, reducing water consumption and minimizing the use of chemical fertilizers. By harnessing the power of the sun and using advanced hydroponic techniques, we will be able to grow a wide variety of fruits and vegetables in a highly sustainable way. This project will not only provide a local source of fresh produce, but will also serve as an educational tool to demonstrate the potential of sustainable agriculture.
- **Sustainability Hub:** A dedicated center for research, education, and community engagement focused on promoting sustainable practices. The hub will host workshops, seminars, and exhibitions to raise awareness about environmental issues and inspire action. The Sustainability Hub will be a vibrant gathering place where people can come together to learn, share ideas, and get involved in making a positive impact on the environment. From hands-on workshops to thought-provoking exhibitions, the hub will be a catalyst for sustainability in our community.

By integrating sustainability into our curriculum and promoting research in green technologies, we are cultivating the next generation of leaders who will shape a more sustainable future. Our students are not just learning about sustainability – they are actively contributing to it through hands-on projects and initiatives that make a real difference. At Ajman University, we believe that everyone has a role to play in protecting our planet, and we are dedicated to empowering our community to be a force for positive change.

As we continue to grow and evolve, our commitment to sustainability will remain at the heart of everything we do. We are proud to be a leader in sustainable education and will keep striving to set new standards for environmental responsibility. Together, we can create a greener, more sustainable future for all.

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/campus/solar-hydroponic-net-house>

<https://sustainablecampus.ajman.ac.ae/en/campus/solar-sustainability-hub>



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**We thank you for your
continued support in
our efforts to contribute
to the SDGs.**

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