



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮುಕ್ತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ

**KARNATAKA STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY**

Mukthagangothri, Mysuru - 570 006

[www.ksoumysuru.ac.in](http://www.ksoumysuru.ac.in)



# Policy Document on Environment and Energy Usage



**ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮುಕ್ತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ**  
**KARNATAKA STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY**  
**Mukthagangothri, Mysuru - 570 006**



**Policy Document**  
**on**  
**Environment and Energy Usage**

**Centre for Internal Quality Assurance**

## *Foreword*



Karnataka State Open University was established in June 1996 with a motto “**Higher Education to Everyone, Everywhere**”. The University blossomed in the era of globalization in which the economies of the world are being transformed from their original closed self-sustaining structure to the globalized context, where they can expose themselves to the competitive world. This transition forced the arena of knowledge emphasizing itself to more of its application than of accumulation of facts. The University, in order to cope with the present global environment, is attempting to integrate interdisciplinary approaches in the dissemination of knowledge with the aim of achieving overall human personality development.

The University is situated at heart of Mysuru city. It operates in 50 Acre of land in a fully green ambience. The University is offering UG, PG and Ph.D. programs besides Diploma and PG Diploma programs in various disciplines such as Humanities, Social Science, Science, Education, Commerce and Management. The Institution is fully equipped with 33 Academic Departments monitored by the chairpersons and supported by other faculty and non-teaching staff. The University is carved mainly with the motto of promoting unprivileged section of society and hence the fees for all the programmes are at affordable rate. KSOU operates in a 3 tier system with its Headquarters in Mysuru, 23 Regional Centres and 149 Learner Support Centres across the state of Karnataka.

The University has considered its employees as human capital. The transparent policy put in place regarding employees apparently ensure fair and consistent treatment of them at the workplace without any bias. The equitable treatment of employees builds trust, enhances morale, deepens loyalty and spurs productivity. The University with the faculty members, administrative personnel, supporting staff, technical staff etc. strives for its overall development.

The CIQA has drafted this policy regarding employees welfare measures based on the recommendations of the committee and government orders from time to time. The policy motivates employees to work in team, which contribute to the growth of the university both at micro and macro level.

**Prof. Sharanappa V. Halse**  
**Vice-Chancellor**

## Contents:

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Preamble</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Vision</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Mission</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Actions and Activities for Environment and Energy Conservation</b>	<b>2 - 3</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>KSOU's Environmental Policy will be pursued through the following</b> <b>A. Water Management</b> <b>B. Solid Waste Management</b> <b>C. E-Waste Management</b> <b>D. Air Quality Management</b> <b>E. Transportation</b> <b>F. Reduce Carbon Footprints</b> <b>G. Acquisition of Sustainable Resources</b> <b>H. Environmental Audit</b> <b>I. Environmental Education, Training And Awareness</b> <b>a. Environment-Centric Student Clubs and Departmental Events will be Encouraged</b> <b>b. Department and Student Clubs</b> <b>c. Conduct a Green Audit</b> <b>d. Plastic-free Campus</b> <b>e. Clean Campus Initiatives</b> <b>d. Landscaping Initiatives</b> <b>J. Environmental Awards</b> <b>K. Energy Conservation</b> <b>L. Renewable Sources of Energy</b>	<b>3 - 9</b>

## 1. Preamble:

The Karnataka State Open University (KSOU) Environment and Energy Usage policy aims to manage energy in such a way as to reduce its environmental impact. In order to encourage sustainable and eco-friendly behavior on campus and off, KSOU envisions a Clean and Green Campus where environment-friendly practices and education come together. The idea of a "green campus" gives the university a chance to take the lead in reinventing its environmental culture by fostering environmental ethics among its faculty, staff, and students. The university also encourages a clean and green campus by encouraging staff and students to adopt, put into practice, and spread eco-friendly behavior in order to raise awareness of the environment both within and around them.

In addition, the strategy suggests investigating renewable energy sources to lighten the load on the government and discover alternative resources as remedies for the energy crisis. This institution's head office, regional centres, and learner support centres must adhere to this environmental and energy policy, which also covers all of its stakeholders and the many activities the university engages in. We will be able to accomplish our commitment to protecting natural resources and limiting their use by integrating efficiency and environmental awareness into our daily actions.

## 2. Vision:

To make the campus and its surroundings green and clean, to conserve nature and the local natural resources, and to raise knowledge of eco-friendly practices that protect both the environment and human health.

## 3. Mission:

- ◆ To raise awareness of the environmental hazards among students and faculty.
- ◆ To make sure that faculty and students understand that it is everyone's duty to take action to protect the environment.
- ◆ To encourage faculty and students to make modest environmental conservation efforts.

## 4. Objectives:

- ◆ To safeguard the university's ecological systems and natural resources.
- ◆ To ensure that environmental resources are used wisely in order to satisfy the needs and ambitions of both the present and future generations.
- ◆ Including environmental issues in policies, programmes, and initiatives for outreach and social development.
- ◆ To collaborate with all parties involved and the neighborhood in order to increase awareness, encourages the adoption of environmentally sound practices and lessen any negative effects on the environment.
- ◆ To continually enhance our contribution to resource conservation and environment protection.
- ◆ To consistently increase the effective use of all resources, including water and energy, and to cut back on consumption and waste production while recovering and recycling waste whenever practical.
- ◆ To eliminate plastic from campus.
- ◆ To periodically undertake audits of the environment and energy use.
- ◆ To reduce the use of paper in administration by establishing an E-governance policy.

## 5. Actions and Activities for Environment and Energy Conservation:

- ◆ To evaluate how much energy we use and how it affects the environment.
- ◆ To calculate the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced by our vehicles.
- ◆ To employ environmentally friendly vehicles, such as bicycles, public transportation, and pedestrian-friendly roadways, to lower local air pollution emissions.
- ◆ To put in solar photovoltaic panels for producing alternative energy.
- ◆ To deploy sensor-based lighting and LED bulbs throughout the entire campus.
- ◆ To create a methodical waste management system.
- ◆ To create a rainwater collection system.
- ◆ To organize drives for tree planting.
- ◆ To guarantee that the resources we need to accomplish our goals are available.

- ◆ To promote the utilization of cutting-edge technologies in order to reduce energy usage, air pollutants, and noise, notably from our cars.
- ◆ To actively collaborate with local organizations in the fields of the environment, energy efficiency, and sustainable development. This includes having conversations with municipal corporations, government agencies, and other groups.
- ◆ To keep track of new environmental and energy-related challenges and take action.
- ◆ To enhance the environmental knowledge and expertise of our staff and students in order to enhance our own environmental performance.
- ◆ To offer training opportunities and information on energy-saving techniques.
- ◆ To provide chances for workers and students to participate in projects that advance environmental protection.

## **6. KSOU's Environmental Policy will be pursued through the Following Priority Areas:**

### **A. Water Management:**

- ◆ Employ efficient management techniques to save water and lower consumption.
- ◆ Using the minimum amount of water necessary for its operations while ensuring that the water it does use is both supplied and disposed of in the clean form.
- ◆ A permanent water conservation scheme would be put in place to monitor usage, stop leaks, and eliminate excessive or futile use.
- ◆ Putting in rainwater harvesting systems in all buildings to replenish ground water supplies and ensure water independence.
- ◆ It would also encourage the revival of conventional groundwater recharge techniques as well as artificial recharge.
- ◆ Encourage leaks to be reported and quickly fixed.
- ◆ Hiring a caretaker who will act quickly to halt any water leaks from tanks, faucets, pipelines, and toilet flushes, among other things.
- ◆ In its gardening endeavors, the institution shall encourage the use of water-saving techniques such sprinkler or drip irrigation.
- ◆ Build more Indian-style toilets rather than western-style toilets to conserve water.
- ◆ Recycled waste water from reverse osmosis (RO) systems is utilized in restrooms.

## B. Solid Waste Management:

- ◆ The university will make every effort to reduce waste production, including decreasing the purchase of new materials, recycling and reusing current resources, and, if these efforts are unsuccessful, disposing of trash in a way that has the least negative effects on the environment.
- ◆ Using plastic is not permitted on university campus.
- ◆ Dustbins and waste containers are placed where they are required.
- ◆ Solid waste composting in hostels, guest rooms, and canteens.
- ◆ It's important to handle, move, and dispose of hazardous and electronic trash correctly.
- ◆ The institution will utilize the least amount of hazardous chemicals and harmful cleaning agents.
- ◆ The institution has committed to a thorough recycling programme as the last step in solid waste reduction and as a strategy to turn waste into a resource.
- ◆ It will create a waste-to-composting and bio-mass resource recovery programme, as well as separate, recycle, and use its solid wastes.
- ◆ Systematically practice the 3Rs of environmental friendliness (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle).
- ◆ Collect paper waste produced on campus and recycle it in coordination with scrap dealers.
- ◆ Create a technology-focused instructional and management approach to cut down on solid waste.
- ◆ Less paper is used by encouraging the digitization of attendance and internal assessment records.
- ◆ Update the collection of electronic books and journals at the university library to lessen the need for physical books.
- ◆ Encourage both students and teachers to submit assignments via email.
- ◆ Take measures to increase student understanding of food waste and methods for decreasing it.
- ◆ Holding solid waste management workshops for students.

- ◆ Reducing the use of packaged foods and the propensity to reuse and recycle non-biodegradable things.

### **C. E-Waste Management:**

The university guarantees that neither its use of technology nor its production of e-waste harms the environment. The university plans to pursue the following objectives:

- ◆ Additional plans for disposing of institutional electronic trash.
- ◆ Collaborating with companies that recycle electronic waste.
- ◆ Student knowledge of ecologically friendly e-waste disposal methods and e-waste reduction strategies.
- ◆ Supporting societal and departmental e-waste management programmes.

### **D. Air Quality Management:**

- ◆ Maintain healthy vegetation to improve campus CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration.
- ◆ No vehicle day will be started in a given month.
- ◆ Open spaces with grass and a lawn should be used to decrease dust.
- ◆ Clean Air Initiatives: We encourage all of our staff and students to use public transportation. We encourage using a carpool to to lessen pollution and foster social interaction.
- ◆ Smoking is not permitted on University property, including the use of any other tobacco products.

### **E. Transportation:**

The University will take action to lessen the impact its transportation has on the environment. All faculty, staff, and students will be urged not to drive single-occupancy private vehicles to and from the institution, and within the campus. Instead, they should walk or use bike.

### **F. Reduce Carbon Footprints:**

- ◆ Encourage the use of numerous carbon-reduction strategies.
- ◆ Energy-efficient green building designs that keep an eye on the outside light and temperature.

- ◆ Using the RRR strategy (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) to reach zero waste.
- ◆ Green computing to reduce the use of paper.
- ◆ "No Vehicle Day" on campus and the use of electric cars.
- ◆ Making use of energy-efficient tools and lighting.
- ◆ An increase in the campus's natural vegetation.

## **G. Acquisition of Sustainable Resources:**

The organization is aware that choosing which resources to buy is one of the most crucial ways it can show its dedication to environmental stewardship. When purchasing goods and services, the university will balance maintenance, life cycle, and environmental expenses in an effort to achieve the greatest value for its money.

A stringent purchasing policy for the institution should mandate that it look for goods and services that have minimal negative effects on the environment during all stages of production, distribution, packaging, use, re-use, recycling, and disposal. Avoiding the use of any potentially hazardous materials and pressuring suppliers to make environmental performance improvements.

## **H. Environmental Audit:**

The institution will make every effort to provide training that will benefit both staff and students in order to meet the needs of environmental audits. The institution will keep abreast of upcoming developments in global contexts and be on the lookout for chances to engage with auditing organizations.

## **I. Environmental Education, Training And Awareness:**

Outreach and education are crucial to ensuring that everyone on campus is aware of the goals of the policy and can contribute to its implementation. To guarantee that the Green Campus, Energy, and Environment policies are efficiently implemented, the university supports and encourages awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, conferences, and other interactive sessions.

### **Environment-Centric Student Clubs and Departmental Events will be Encouraged:**

The university encourages all departments to host events, competitions, and training sessions that will lead to positive environmental improvements at the grassroots level, as well as specific student groups like Micro Zone, Eco-club, Plant

Planet, and others. To assist students in becoming enthusiastic environmental defenders and environmentalists, the institution collaborates with departments and student clubs.

### **Department and Student Clubs:**

Students are joining more Micro Zone, Eco-club and Plant Planet as a result of institutional changes toward sustainability and ecologically responsible behavior. Making the society required will offer it a bigger platform to spread awareness of the institution's environmental principles. The green projects and practices that are a part of this approach will be able to grow quickly since compulsory societies require a specific amount of time and attention.

### **Conduct a Green Audit:**

In order to achieve our long-term sustainability objectives, the institution plans to conduct a Green Audit/Energy Audit of our university campus on a regular basis to assess our strengths and weaknesses. You can determine how and where you waste the most energy, water, or resources by conducting a green audit. After that, the university can consider ways to save money. It can inform you of the type and quantity of waste you have. Projects for recycling or waste minimization can be implemented. It will spread awareness of health issues as well as environmental ethics and ideals. It aids students in understanding the effects of campus environmental practices. By using fewer resources, green auditing can help you save money. The university must evaluate its own contributions to the long term future.

### **Plastic-free Campus:**

Since its inception, University has complied with the vast majority of its solid waste management obligations. The university management strictly forbids the use of single-use plastics in its campus in order to make it a "Plastic Free Campus" in light of the Indian government's decision to outlaw all single-use plastics due to the negative impacts of plastic use and pollution.

### **Clean Campus Initiatives:**

The university committed to aggressively coordinating cleanliness initiatives both on and off campus in keeping with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan's goal. It promises to continue this initiative. The general vision is as follows:

- ◆ By holding regular cleanliness drives, teaching faculty and employees about the value of cleanliness and hygiene. The intention is to motivate them to make contributions proactively.
- ◆ Employees will be urged to take part in the university's cleanliness campaign.
- ◆ On the subject of "Swachh Bharat," contests will be organised for posters and slogans, essays, spoken word poetry, speeches, and skits.
- ◆ Rallies on the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan will be staged on and near the university campus to increase public awareness.
- ◆ Eliminate any waste products, such as worn-out machinery and defective furnishings.
- ◆ Every year, enforce the staff and student pledge to maintain the cleanliness of the university's campus and its surroundings.
- ◆ Conduct workshops on the 3 Rs: recycling, reusing, and garbage reduction.
- ◆ Commit to managing trash and maintaining a clean campus, especially during university events.

### **Landscaping Initiatives:**

Like its buildings, the campus environment of a university can be seen as a physical representation of its values. It is a crucial component of campus life since it provides possibilities for education, leisure, outdoor pursuits, rest, and aesthetic enjoyment. Green campus landscaping also helps to filter and chill the air on campus, reduce runoff, and recharge groundwater. The environment serves as a physical representation of the university's commitment to environmental responsibility. In addition to many acres of grass, the campus has more than 50 different plant and tree types. The landscape of trees and plants offers visitors, students, and employees a fresh, cool ambiance as well as a tranquil setting.

The university encourages environmental consciousness by planning routine tree planting campaigns and encouraging students to hold tree planting events.

### **J. Environmental Awards:**

An institution encourages participation in various competitions where different agencies will give awards for initiatives in green cover, clean campus, environmental and sustainable development, among other things.

## **K. Energy Conservation:**

- ◆ When at all feasible, cut back on your electrical usage.
- ◆ Lightbulbs that use less energy are gradually being substituted.
- ◆ Solar water heating systems are suitable for guest houses and hostels.
- ◆ Attending a "No Vehicle Day" event on campus.
- ◆ Promoting the use of natural light to conserve energy.

## **L. Renewable Sources of Energy:**

The university is dedicated to managing its electricity use in a sustainable way. The institution is dedicated to reducing the amount of non-renewable energy used by switching to clean energy sources like solar energy for things like campus lights.

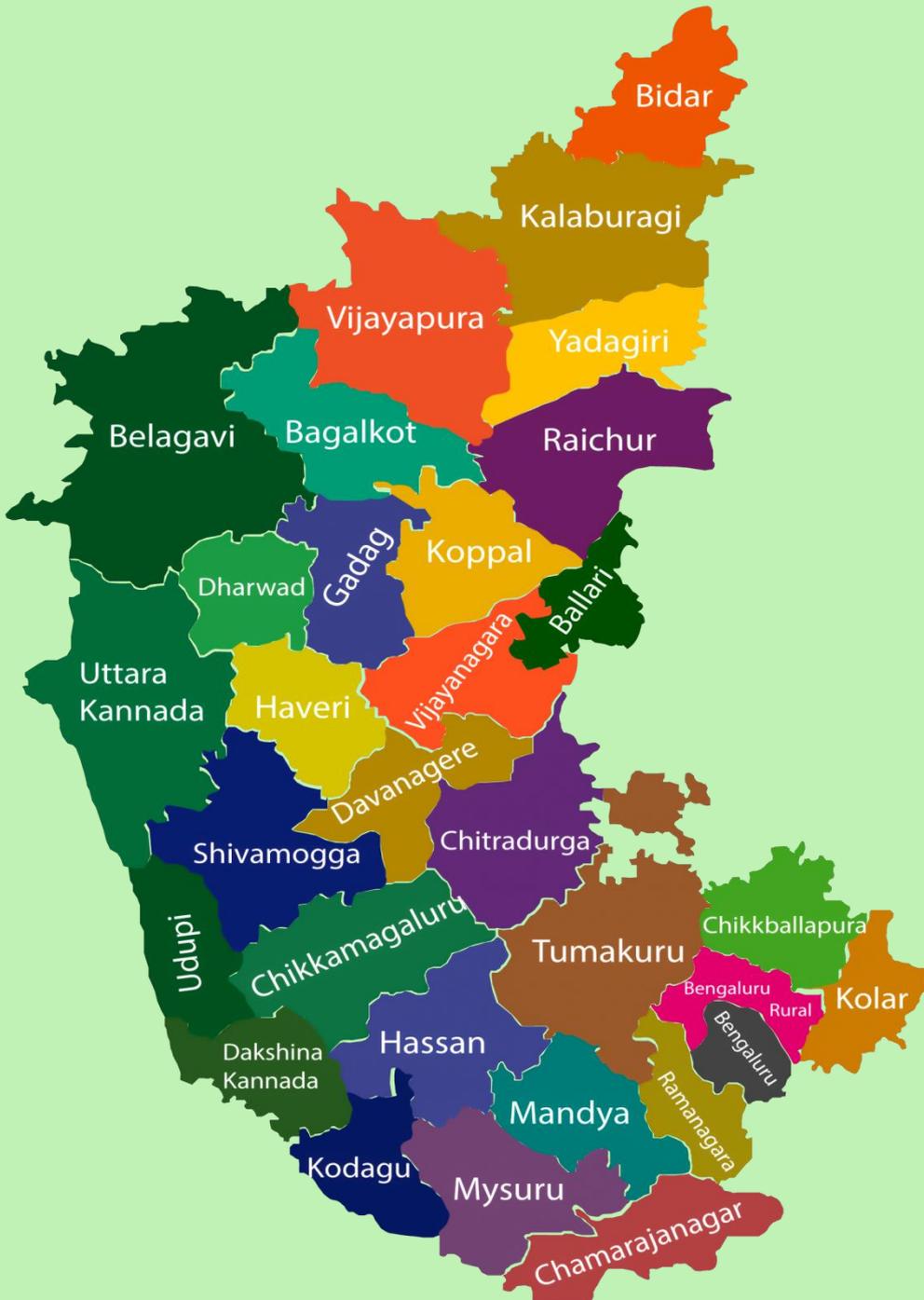
Equipment that is energy efficient and saves energy. We commit to putting in energy-saving, trash-reducing electrical appliances that are environmentally friendly. The institution supports the use of eco-friendly energy sources, like LED lighting.

Through internal channels, this policy will be distributed to the staff and students, and it will be posted on the institution's website for all parties to access. The several Committees established for the purpose will regularly evaluate the Environment and Energy Policy, objectives, and targets.



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**Exclusive University to offer Distance Education in the State of Karnataka**