

The climate is changing, time for action



LAST REVIEW: SEP 2024

Energy Policy

Frederick University firmly believes that key to its mission is being a force for positive change in the society. Unequivocally, one of the central problems facing humanity now is the use of unsustainable energy sources and climate change at large.

As a responsible institution, we have developed an energy policy to steer decisions related to sustainable energy use and achieve a reduction in carbon and overall greenhouse gas emissions, with the purpose to mitigate the environmental impact of the institution by 2030 by 55% in line with the 'Fit for 55 package' of the European Commission.

This dedication is further strengthened by the responsibility stemming from our leading role in Research on energy matters, including sustainable energy technologies, low carbon buildings and infrastructure, as well as on Education for a sustainable environment.

Carbon reduction

After assessing the CO₂ emissions, it was determined that fossil fuel use has a negligible impact on the University's overall carbon footprint. Instead, the primary contributors to emissions are identified in two main areas:

- (a) electricity usage required for university operations, and
- (b) transportation needs of the entire Frederick community to and from campus.

To address these impacts, two key actions have been incorporated into the University's energy action plan.

Firstly, a plan is in place to upgrade energy efficiency and install photovoltaic units on all university-owned buildings.

Secondly, policies are being developed to reduce the need for on-site transportation and inter-campus travel of students and staff.

Our pledge

- **Regulatory compliance:** At a minimum, we shall fully abide by all legal and other requirements related to energy management as specified under Cyprus Law and relevant EU and national directives and guidelines (e.g. EU Directive 2018/2002/EC, EU Directive 2018/844/EC, EU Directive 2018/2001/EC)
- **Building construction and renovation:** We shall treat energy efficiency as the factor with the highest weight in any decisions taken for renovation or new building construction for the university, in compliance with regulatory framework on nearly zero energy buildings, as well as implement a review cycle on progress in order to ensure that a process of continuous improvement is achieved.
- **Renewable energy use in buildings:** By 2030 all buildings in which the University operates and are owned directly or indirectly by the University (more than 80% of used premises) shall reach 80% renewable energy use and that existence of renewable energy will be a key factor in renegotiation of new leases. Furthermore, by 2040 the University will use 100% of its energy from renewable sources.
- **Regular Energy Audits:** We shall maintain, track and provide - where necessary - information regarding energy efficiency matters, including energy audits.
- **Fossil fuel divestment policy:** No investments of the university are or will be made on fossil-fuel industries or other carbon intensive industries and the university shall have no financial assets (such as stocks in related companies) that are primarily related to carbon-intensive activities. The divestment policy and updates on its implementation are communicated to stakeholders regularly.
- **Raising awareness on energy savings:** We shall ensure that all members of the community are appropriately aware of the importance of energy saving and mechanisms through which this can be achieved. Special awareness campaigns are implemented to encourage students and staff to reduce energy consumption.

Our Climate Action Plan is reviewed and updated on an annual basis to reflect the progress made, internal or external factors that may have changed and new strategies.

The plan outlines the strategic targets of the university in relation to its energy use and monitors the implementation of relevant actions.

Actions are organized into the following target areas:

- Governance: compliance with regulatory framework, policies, trainings
- Facilities: Building construction and renovation
- Energy Use: Energy production and use of renewable energy

This table summarizes the progress status on the action plan's main target

Target Area	Action	Expected/ Completed	Notes
Governance	Obtain ISO 50001:2018 Energy Management System certification	Spring 2025	The University hired a consultant to implement the necessary framework. Data collection was completed and an audit has been scheduled by TÜV CYPRUS LTD.
Governance	Complete energy audits on buildings	Spring 2021	Completed. Energy audits are valid for four years.
Governance	Training on energy conservation	Rolling	Training programs on best practices for energy conservation in the workplace offered annually. Completed staff training on 'SDG 7 : Affordable and Clean Energy' and educated Student Halls residents on energy conservation during their induction.
Governance	Remote working policy	Pilot completed. Phase 2 and revision in 2025	Policy for virtual office hours and reduced teaching days for academic staff . Policy for reduction of physical presence and remote working with limited scope for administration staff. Promotion of participation in online meetings to reduce inter-campus travel.
Governance	Timetabling directive	Completed	Adopt policy to limit number of days faculty and students need to be at University premises so as to minimize transport needs.
Facilities	Light change to LED	Completed	Change all lighting in University buildings to energy efficient (LED) alternatives.
Facilities	Heat Insulation in buildings	Rolling Completion Progress according to plan, expected completion: 2025	Improve insulation of old buildings. Issues identified with: Library Building (LB), Architecture Department Building (AR), Limassol Building (LM). Planning impeded by COVID pandemic.
Facilities	Limassol building expansion	Completed	Limassol building expanded with an additional floor and expansion and renovation of main floor facilities. Energy efficiency was prioritized in tender in relation to shell insulation (ceiling and sides), energy efficient external glasses, and energy efficient lighting.
Facilities	Development of energy efficient Halls of Residence (HR)	Completed	Top-rate energy-efficient building with at least 80% of its energy consumption sourced from renewable energy.
Energy Use	Assess all university-owned buildings and plan for covering 80%+ of energy needs by renewable energy	Incremental completion by building: 2024 to 2026	Assessment was conducted on all University-owned buildings: Nicosia Main Building (NM), New Wing (NW), Architecture Dept Building (AR), Library Building (LB), Engineering Laboratories (EL), Limassol Building (LM). Study suggests in the first phase the installation of photovoltaic units that would cover between 50% and 75% of electricity consumption depending on type and use of building.
Energy Use	Deploy photovoltaic units to address energy needs	2024 (HR) 2025 (LM) 2025 (EL) 2025 (AR) 2025 (LB) 2026 (NM) 2026 (NW)	Installation of photovoltaic systems in the Halls of Residence (HR) completed in 2024, supplying over 80% of the building's energy consumption. Study completed for the other buildings. An application has been submitted to secure partial funding through state grants.
Energy Use	Upgrade existing buildings to higher energy efficiency	2026	A study to upgrade the energy efficiency of the main buildings in Nicosia and Limassol has been completed, and an application has been submitted to secure partial funding through state grants.