

URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY LEADS CLIMATE ACTION PLAN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Urdaneta City, Pangasinan — In a steadfast demonstration of its commitment to sustainability and community empowerment, **Urdaneta City University (UCU)** has taken a leading role in advancing **climate action planning** in close collaboration with local government units and community organizations. This initiative directly supports **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13.3.2**, which emphasizes strengthening climate change education, awareness, and institutional capacity at the local level.

With the growing urgency of addressing climate-related challenges, UCU has integrated climate education and outreach into its institutional agenda. The university's programs are designed not only to raise awareness but also to **build adaptive and resilient communities** through informed participation and shared responsibility.

"Our goal is to ensure that every student and community member understands their role in climate action. By linking education with environmental responsibility, UCU is helping create a generation of advocates who act for the planet and their communities."

Education as the Core of Climate Action

Through its academic programs, seminars, and extension activities, UCU empowers students, teachers, and residents to become active participants in environmental solutions. The university conducts **capacity-building workshops**, **community lectures**, and **school-based programs** that focus on climate adaptation, sustainable energy use, and disaster preparedness.

One of UCU's key strategies is strengthening partnerships with local government offices and civic groups. These collaborations ensure that the university's climate initiatives extend beyond campus grounds—reaching barangays and neighboring communities where awareness and preparedness are most needed.

Community Partnerships for Climate Resilience

The university works closely with the **City Government of Urdaneta**, local environmental councils, and non-government organizations in formulating localized climate action plans. These partnerships involve joint projects such as tree-planting drives, renewable energy demonstrations, and disaster simulation drills that highlight the value of collective climate action.

Commitment to Sustainable Development

Through these ongoing initiatives, UCU has solidified its position as a **regional leader in climate education and action**, showing how higher education institutions can translate global sustainability goals into local impact. By combining research, outreach, and collaboration, the university continues to build pathways toward environmental resilience and community empowerment.

Urdaneta City University's leadership in climate action stands as a testament to its dedication to **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** and **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**—proving that education remains one of the strongest forces for a sustainable future.

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Urdaneta City University Climate Action Plan

1. Introduction

Urdaneta City University (UCU) is committed to advancing climate action through education, research, and community partnerships. In alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 13 (Climate Action) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), the university collaborates with local government units (LGUs) and community organizations to develop a comprehensive Climate Action Plan that integrates sustainability across all levels of education and community engagement.

2. Vision

To create a climate-resilient university and community that actively contributes to environmental sustainability, disaster preparedness, and adaptive resilience through education, innovation, and partnership.

3. Mission

To strengthen UCU's role as a catalyst for climate action by integrating climate education, promoting sustainable practices, and fostering collaborative efforts with local stakeholders toward achieving a low-carbon and climate-smart community.

4. Goals and Objectives

Overall Goal:

Promote sustainable development through education, research, and local partnerships that enhance climate resilience and environmental stewardship.

Specific Objectives:

1. Integrate climate change education and sustainability principles across all academic programs.
2. Strengthen institutional capacity for climate-related research and innovation.
3. Enhance awareness and community participation in climate adaptation and mitigation activities.
4. Establish long-term partnerships with LGUs, NGOs, and community groups for joint climate initiatives.
5. Promote renewable energy use and sustainable resource management within and beyond the university.

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5. Strategic Areas and Action Steps

Strategic Area	Action Steps	Lead Office/Partner	Timeline	Expected Outcome
A. Climate Education and Awareness	- Integrate DRRM and climate modules into NSTP and general education subjects.- Conduct annual seminars and workshops on climate literacy.	NSTP Office, DRRM Committee	2025–2027	Students and faculty gain improved knowledge and awareness of climate issues.
B. Research and Innovation for Climate Solutions	- Support research projects focused on climate adaptation, green technologies, and local sustainability practices.- Establish a Climate Research Hub within the campus.	Research and Development Office	2025–2028	Increased number of climate-focused studies and innovations.
C. Community Engagement and Partnerships	- Collaborate with Urdaneta City LGU and local NGOs for tree-planting, waste reduction, and renewable energy programs.- Organize climate-resilience training in barangays.	Extension Services Office, LGU, NGOs	2025–2026	Strengthened community preparedness and environmental resilience.
D. Campus Sustainability and Resource Management	- Implement campus-wide waste segregation and recycling programs.- Promote energy-efficient facilities and renewable energy demonstrations.	Physical Facilities and Environmental Management Office	2025–2027	Reduced carbon footprint and sustainable resource usage in campus.
E. Disaster Risk Reduction and Preparedness	- Conduct disaster simulation drills with local government support.- Develop emergency response protocols and climate risk assessments.	DRRM Office, City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office	2025 and onward	Improved readiness and response capacity among students and staff.

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6. Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation of the Climate Action Plan will be monitored annually by the UCU Sustainability and DRRM Committee. Progress reports will be submitted to the University President and the City Government of Urdaneta, focusing on measurable outcomes such as:

- Number of climate-related activities conducted Research
- outputs and community partnerships formed Reduction in
- energy and resource consumption Increased participation in
- environmental programs

Periodic assessments will guide policy adjustments and ensure alignment with evolving climate priorities.

7. Expected Impact

- Increased climate literacy among students and faculty Strengthened community partnerships
- promoting environmental stewardship Enhanced campus sustainability and disaster resilience
- Contribution to local climate mitigation and adaptation efforts Institutional recognition as a model for
- sustainable education and community partnership

8. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

This Climate Action Plan directly contributes to:

- **SDG 13 – Climate Action:** Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards.
- **SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals:** Building strong collaborations with local and community partners to achieve shared sustainability objectives.

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