

13 CLIMATE ACTION



SDG 13 Progress Report 2023

University of Dhaka



SDG 13: Climate action

The goal of combating climate change and its negative impacts with urgent interventions such as reducing carbon emissions, increasing awareness and supporting communities and governments relates deeply with the functions of the University of Dhaka. The aligning operations of the University can be seen through various dimensions such as education, research, campus sustainability, community engagement and partnerships. Here's how the University of Dhaka takes climate actions.

- Initiatives have been taken to incorporate low-carbon energy sources to be used to power the university. However, comprehensive tracking and measurements systems are still in early stages. Works with the government through multiple Departments and Institutes are in the process to include efforts to monitor and optimize green energy usage in the University.
- The university plays the leading role in Bangladesh as well as the region in environmental education and climate awareness. It has multiple Departments, Institutes, centers, and programs that has practical implications to the millions of climate-affected populations of Bangladesh. The faculty of Earth and Environmental Science has five Departments named Geography and Environment, Geology, Oceanography, Disaster Science and Climate Resilience, and Meteorology. This multi-disciplinary approach to understand climate change and to take sustainable initiatives is unique for a university.
- The Departments conduct research, workshops for government officials and climate rescue teams, international Conventions and seminars to address climate change risks, impacts, adaptation, and mitigation strategies. These events are specifically designed to spread comprehension about climate conditions and disaster preparedness among the students and government officials.
- The Department of Disaster Science and Climate resilience organizes events throughout the year in order to promote climate education and cooperation. Such as Special Seminar on Disaster and Climate resilience Through collaboration and research (2nd November 2022). Roundtable discussion on earthquake risk reduction in Bangladesh (28th February 2023). National workshop on Landslide disaster risk reduction approaches in Bangladesh, special attention to Kutupalong Rohingya Refugee camp, Cox's Bazar, (3rd may, 2023)
- The Department of Zoology collaborates with non-government organizations and engages in environmental educations through programs focused on pollution mitigation, safeguarding biodiversity, and faunal surveys.

- The Department of Accounting and Information systems has a rather unique approach to classroom education, where the Department encourages the students and faculty to practice green initiatives in classroom by reducing AC consumption, planting trees that are sustainable and suited for the particular environment of the campus, using green materials and reducing waste. It has been a role model for other departments to incorporate climate action in the classes.
- The university frequently arranges and participates in planning efforts for natural disasters caused by climate change. Collaborations include joint projects with NGOs to ensure disaster-preparedness especially among frequently flooded areas and coastal areas prone to cyclones. The university plays its parts for Bangladesh to make one of the world's most efficient emergency evacuation systems, relief and relocation plans that saves thousands of lives every year. The Center for Climate Change Studies and Resource Utilization (CCCSRU, DU) conducts research and supports the government's climate action plans.
- The Center for Policy Research on Business and Development is working on the Institutionalization of Capacity enhancement Package for International Climate Finance Cell.
- The Center for Policy Research on Business and Development has launched Short Courses on Mobilizing Climate Finance in Bangladesh to raise awareness on its Concepts, Strategies, and Implications in collaboration with Frankfurt School of Finance and Management.