



GREEN CAMPUS POLICY DOCUMENT

AN INITIATIVE OF RCUB



RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY

VIDYASANGAMA, NATIONAL HIGHWAY - 04, BHOOTARAMANAHATTI, BELAGAVI - 591156
(NAAC ACCREDITED WITH B+ GRADE - 2021) PM-USHA (MERU)



REEN CAMPUS POLICY
RANI CHANNAMMA UNIVERSITY, BELAGAVI

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1. Preamble

Rani Channamma University, Belagavi (RCUB) recognizes that its institutional operations and resource consumption interact with, and influence, the external environment through physical, economic, and social processes. The University is committed to advancing environmental sustainability by conserving natural resources and developing a green campus in accordance with the guidelines of the Government of India and the Government of Karnataka.

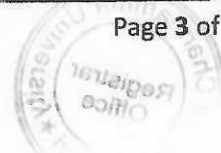
RCUB acknowledges that resource conservation, zero-waste campus development, carbon-footprint reduction, water conservation, and the adoption of renewable energy systems are fundamental components of environmental sustainability.

As a higher education institution, RCUB has a responsibility to protect the environment and maintain an ecologically responsible campus. Consistent with the vision of a "Green Campus," this policy reaffirms the University's commitment to identifying, evaluating, and addressing environmental and sustainability-related challenges. It promotes continual improvement through evidence-based environmental policies and the implementation of safe, sustainable operational practices in compliance with national mandates and the guidelines issued by the Government of India and the Government of Karnataka.

2. Aim and Objectives

RCUB aims to establish and sustain high standards of green campus development through the adoption of environmentally sound technologies, scientific management practices, and institutional best practices, while preserving its distinctive academic identity. The University seeks to achieve this vision through the following objectives:

- ✦ To promote awareness among students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders on environmental issues, responsible resource use, and sustainability.
- ✦ To implement and demonstrate green initiatives through education, training, and capacity building.



- ↓ To strengthen knowledge of biodiversity, sustainability, waste management, resource conservation, and renewable energy through research, curricula, and field learning.
- ↓ To promote research that develops sustainable solutions for a clean, healthy, and eco-friendly environment.
- ↓ To build partnerships with government agencies, industries, NGOs, civil society, and academic institutions to strengthen Green Campus initiatives.
- ↓ To conduct periodic environmental audits across RCUB campuses for continuous sustainability improvement.
- ↓ To organize and participate in events, workshops, seminars, and conferences that promote environmental awareness and green campus best practices.
- ↓ To implement an integrated sustainability action plan that embeds environmental priorities in University decision-making.
- ↓ To ensure compliance with applicable national and international environmental laws, standards, and guidelines.

3. Policy Statement

This policy seeks to establish effective strategies for developing a sustainable green campus and for promoting environmental sustainability within regional and global contexts. In doing so, it supports balanced, inclusive, and equitable development. RCUB is committed to cultivating a culture of environmental responsibility by implementing green campus initiatives and scientifically informed best practices across its constituent institutes and postgraduate centres.

The policy envisions the integration of environmental responsibility into all institutional policies, programmes, and operational systems. Through this initiative, the University will encourage and support projects that improve sustainability within the academic environment and the physical infrastructure of the campus.

4. Environmental and Sustainable Committee (Green Committee)

Rani Channamma University, Belagavi shall constitute an Environmental and Sustainable Committee, hereafter referred to as the Green Committee, to plan, implement, monitor, and



periodically review all green campus initiatives. The Committee shall function under the guidance of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and shall be responsible for advancing environmental sustainability across all campuses.

The Green Committee shall oversee initiatives related to energy conservation, water management, waste management, biodiversity conservation, sustainable transportation, and environmental awareness. It shall facilitate periodic environmental audits, prepare action plans, ensure compliance with relevant environmental policies, and promote active participation by students, faculty, and staff in sustainability initiatives.

The Committee will have the members as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Designation
1.	Hon'ble Vice Chancellor	Chairman
2.	The Registrar	Member
3.	Director IQAC	Member
4.	Internal Member &Field Expert, Department of Computer Science, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Member
5.	Internal Member &Field Expert, Department of Chemistry, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Member
6.	External Member & Field Expert	Member
7.	Estate Officer Internal Member &Field Expert, Department of Social Work, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Member
8.	Estate Officer Internal Member &Field Expert, Department of Geography, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Member
9.	Estate Officer Internal Member &Field Expert, Department of Chemistry, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Member
10.	Coordinator NSS, Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Member



11.	Superintendent Department Rani Channamma University, Belagavi.	Garden Member Secretary
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Note: The Chairperson of the Committee shall have the authority to constitute sub-committees as and when required for effective implementation, monitoring, and review of specific green campus activities.

5. Activities

Green Campus activities at RCUB shall be organized around key dimensions of sustainable development, including education and capacity building, research, campaigns and awareness, biodiversity documentation, resource-use optimization, knowledge-resource development, and the formulation of institutional best practices.

5.1 Education and capacity building

RCUB shall strengthen competencies in environmental sustainability by developing integrated educational programmes and specialized certification courses for students, professionals, and other relevant stakeholders.

5.1.1 Curricula

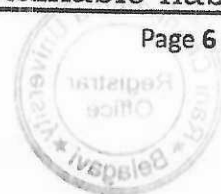
- ❖ RCUB intends to increase and improve the environmental content of curricula at its constituent institutes by:
- ❖ Developing curriculum for undergraduate and post graduate students focusing on emerging issues around environmental sustainability.
- ❖ Improving awareness amongst students and faculty members around the environmental content of courses.
- ❖ Inviting guests and lectures from eminent researchers/ industrialists/sustainability experts at campuses.
- ❖ Designing and implementing niche-based programmes to strengthen Academic —Industry interface.

5.1.2 Green Initiatives

RCUB shall extend environmental learning beyond the classroom to develop responsible attitudes, sustainable habits,



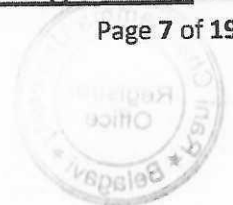
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and long-term commitment to environmental conservation at home, on campus, and within the wider community. The initiative shall be guided by a strategic plan for staff, faculty, and students. The plan shall identify operational areas where resources are not being used efficiently from environmental and economic perspectives and shall recommend sustainable alternatives. The campus environmental initiative aims to increase stakeholder awareness of local, low-impact living and sustainable operational practices. Its effectiveness shall be assessed periodically through environmental audits that measure progress against stated objectives and commitments. The policy supports, but is not limited to, the following green initiatives and commitments:

to:

- ❖ Formation of Green-Campus Committee at different levels of university management, staff, students and local community for execution and monitoring of green initiatives and impact monitoring at campus.
- ❖ Awareness on biodiversity conservation and protection through group meetings, field visits, nature interpretation centres.
- ❖ Conducting events on important environmental days to promote environmental sustainability
- ❖ Improving green cover through afforestation of local habitats using sound ecological methods and practices.
- ❖ Promote a plastic-free campus through plastic collection drives, reducing disposable plastic use through awareness creation.
- ❖ Establish a zero-waste culture on campus by integrating it into education curriculum and other activities on campus, so members of the campus community will leave as Zero Waste leaders.
- ❖ Providing curricular opportunities for study of campus and local environmental issues.
- ❖ Improving sanitation and hygiene through enabling access of tools for sustainability
- ❖ Initiate waste management through primary action of reducing campus waste generation and management of

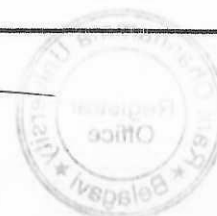


campus waste by utilizing on-site waste processing green systems such as composting, biogas, biological waste water treatment, systems for pre-processing and recycling of recyclable waste.

- ❖ Water and other natural resource management through initiatives such as rain waste harvesting, recharge pits, reduction in paper use, utilizing regional and organic food sources, etc.
- ❖ Energy conservation through maximization of energy efficiency and using sustainable energy sources, utilizing energy efficient equipment, etc.
- ❖ Enhancing sustainability in land-use and building planning
- ❖ Encouraging low fossil-fuel transport such as use of bicycle, electrically driven vehicles and/or by developing no-vehicle zones on the campus.
- ❖ Promoting environmentally and socially responsible development and investment.
- ❖ Create environmentally friendly physical infrastructure, institutional practices and personal behaviours that will foster public health and well-being.
- ❖ Promoting and executing best practices for green public outreach through community engagement

5.2 Research

The policy promotes faculty–student engagement in green campus and sustainability-related research at institute and university levels. It further seeks to establish linkages between research activities and campus sustainability initiatives in water, energy, waste, biodiversity, land use, and transportation. The policy encourages interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research in environmental sustainability through the following measures:



5.2.1 Encouraging students to conduct environment-related research on campus, in local communities, and in relevant industries.

5.2.2 Promoting interdisciplinary research among faculty members by providing appropriate research infrastructure relevant to environmental, managerial, and societal issues.

5.2.3 Conducting environmental audits to identify research issues that can improve the efficiency of the Green Campus Programme.

5.2.4 Ensuring that research conducted at RCUB is based on sustainable practices and is ethically and environmentally sound.

5.2.5 Establishing guidelines for research that may have potential impacts on the environment and society.

5.2.6 Conducting regional, national, and international conferences, seminars, workshops, and symposia to provide platforms for faculty, students, researchers, and civil society networks to exchange ideas and research findings.

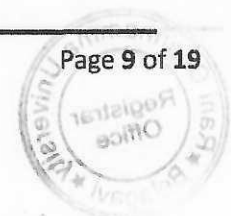
5.3 Campaigns and Awareness

As part of positioning green campus development and sustainability as core components of RCUB's institutional vision, the University shall promote and implement environmental campaigns and awareness programmes across all constituent institutes. These shall include:

- i. Involvement of staff, faculties and students in conducting of camps, seminars, workshops, drives, rallies for communicating environmental concerns and issues from classroom to field action.
- ii. Involvement with local communities and industries through a participatory approach.
- iii. To develop academic—industry focused campaigns on matters of current interest and needs.



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5.4 Resource Use

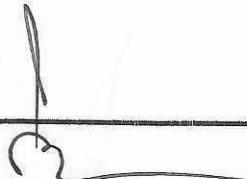
Natural-resource use is a critical indicator of institutional sustainability performance. This policy therefore promotes periodic assessment of resource utilization at RCUB by measuring environmental footprints associated with water, energy, biodiversity, land use, buildings, solid waste, and other relevant resource categories.

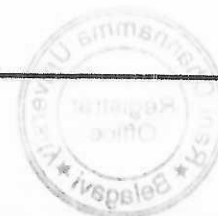
5.4.1 Water

Each campus location uses water resources in relation to its local land-use patterns, terrain, and hydrological conditions. Accordingly, each location may develop a sustainable water-management plan that addresses the following activities:

- i. Describe the applicable types of water comprising water systems, including but not limited to potable water, non-potable water, industrial water, sterilized water, reclaimed water, stormwater, and wastewater.
- ii. Develop water conservation and water efficiency strategies taking into account local ecological and regional conditions and regulatory requirements.
- iii. Review and report water usage at each campus location in a systematic manner by way of metered utilization, implementing leak detection program
- iv. Outline location specific strategies for achieving the target for reduced potable water consumption for other activities where reuse of treated water is possible.
- v. Encourage implementation of innovative water-efficient technologies as part of capital projects and renovations (e.g. installation of Water efficient technologies, fixtures and appliances, greywater reuse, rainwater harvesting, and watershed restoration)
- vi. Identify Indirect costs and savings associated with reduced energy consumption due to the energy use embodied in water use,







- vii. Address stormwater management from a watershed perspective in a comprehensive way that recognizes stormwater as a resource and aims to protect and restore the integrity of the local watershed
- viii. Develop best and innovative practices for preventing stormwater pollution free.
- ix. activities that have the potential to pollute the watershed (e.g., construction; trenching; storage of outdoor equipment, materials, and waste; landscaping maintenance; outdoor cleaning practices; vehicle parking)
- x. Identify opportunities for new and innovative practices with regard to water use and management.
- xi. To follow responsible ethics and practices related to minimization of wastewater and water recycling through responsible and planned practices.
- xii. To conduct studies related to alternative methods and techniques related to water conservation and recycling

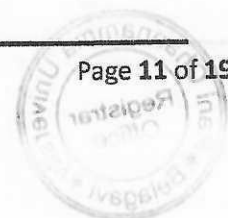
5.4.2 Energy

RCUB shall work toward developing a sustainable energy framework by implementing energy conservation and energy-efficiency measures across all campuses. These measures shall aim to reduce dependence on non-renewable energy through energy-efficiency projects, local renewable-energy systems for existing and new facilities, renewable-energy procurement from the grid where feasible, and other energy-saving interventions that generate measurable environmental benefits. In alignment with the University's Energy Policy, RCUB shall adopt the following approach:

- i. Create awareness among students, faculty members, and all relevant stakeholders on the efficient use of energy, electricity consumption on campuses and encourage energy conservation in operational activities.



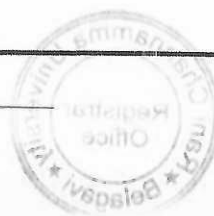
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- ii. Promote student driven projects and studies on energy conservation and optimal use of usage of energy utility systems.
- iii. Plan and progress towards conducting energy audits and monitoring of energy use at all campuses.
- iv. Create a platform for generating power through appropriate renewable energy at all campus locations to the extent possible.
- v. RCUB will make efforts to use energy efficiency as the basis to retrofit appliances and technologies at all its campus locations and infrastructure through a long-term plan to reduce energy consumption keeping in mind growth of the University.
- vi. Adopting energy savings and energy conservation measures driven by technology, costs and internal capacity, to determine the appropriate mix of measures to be adopted within the overall infrastructure development.
- vii. Formulating a long-term action plan to implement sustainable energy projects through installing renewable energy-based power wherever possible.
- viii. Development of a strategic action plan for implementing energy efficiency measures for all campus related infrastructures and establishments.

5.4.3 Waste Management

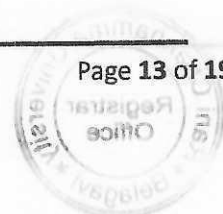
As part of the Green Campus Policy, Waste Management Policy, Environmental Sustainability Policy, and Energy Policy, RCUB shall adopt an integrated approach to managing waste and waste-related concerns across its campus locations. The scope of this policy includes all forms of waste generated from academic, administrative, residential, and support facilities, including wet waste, solid waste, recyclable waste, biomedical waste, hazardous waste, electronic waste, wastewater, and other relevant waste streams. RCUB shall:



- i. Nurture a high level of awareness of waste minimization and advocacy using the principle of reduce, reuse and recycle practice within campuses.
- ii. RCUB will develop a strategic policy and action plan to address all sorts of waste generated on the campus and resource use.
- iii. Make efficient use of resources to minimize waste production whilst increasing recycling and reuse within campuses.
- iv. Work towards adopting a paperless work culture in the campus to reduce environmental footprint and to improve overall operational efficiency.
- v. Development of demonstrative model for on-site waste processing and recycling green technologies/systems and recovery of resources/ useful products from wastes.
- vi. Development of innovative technologies and improvement of existing technologies through research for sustainable Green Campus development and development of advocacy programmes with communities and stakeholders.
- vii. Formulate an integrated waste management policy and action plan involving all stakeholders of society and communities (students, policy makers, NGOs, Urban local bodies, corporators, Academic institutions, Industry and other agencies) complying the guidelines of the Govt. of India for Swachh Campus', which is an integral part of Green Campus development.

5.4.4 Biodiversity, Land use and Buildings

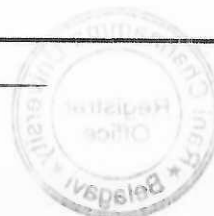
As a health-promoting university, RCUB has a continuing responsibility to conserve, enhance, and protect biodiversity and ecological landscapes across its campus and constituent institutes, while also developing sustainable infrastructure systems. The University shall make sustained efforts to maintain



and strengthen green spaces on its campuses by addressing the following components:

A. Biodiversity

- i. Establishment of a Biodiversity Cell to conduct, monitor and review programs and projects related to various biodiversity related activities.
- ii. Conduct an inventorisation and status survey of flora and faunal diversity of all campuses. Efforts will be made to identify threatened and endangered species of flora and fauna.
- iii. Develop a biodiversity action plan aimed to protecting indigenous habitats and key species.
- iv. Investigate ground management methodologies, especially the use of herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, water use for irrigation etc.
- v. Carry out afforestation, plantation and maintenance of appropriate trees, shrubs and other indigenous vegetation through ecologically sound practices.
- vi. Investigate risk of invasive species introduction and methods to prevent or manage a potential or existing problem.
- vii. Follow environmentally sound practices in maintaining existing landscape and its vegetation.
- viii. Conduct awareness campaigns for faculty, students and staff through Nature walks and biodiversity surveys.
- ix. Development of Botanical/Butterfly Gardens on campus to bring awareness and sensitivity among students and faculty regarding ecology and environment.
- x. Create a Nature Interpretation centre for sensitizing all stakeholders including visitors to RCUB on the importance of ecology and environment. This includes appropriate signages, dioramas, exhibits, books and periodicals on ecology, environment and wildlife conservation.
- xi. Implement suitable strategies for domesticated animals including stray dogs.
- xii. Use Citizen science platform through security guards, garden staff and housekeeping staff for regular documentation of biodiversity of campus.



- xiii. Conduct University Biodiversity Committee meetings to discuss and review implemented actions on all above.

B. Building Design

- i. Infrastructure establishments (campus academic blocks, hostel blocks administrative block for employees) will be designed, constructed, and commissioned using the latest sustainable building design norms, materials and technologies with a special emphasis on environmental conservation and protection.
- ii. RCUB will strive to achieve green building certification for its campuses using the established green building rating systems like USGBC-LEED and GRIHA rating systems, ISO norms for all its establishments wherever possible within the constraints of RCUB needs and standard budget parameters.
- iii. RCUB will develop its internal quality management systems with regard to sustainability processes with a long-term vision to attain campus sustainability certification through global campus sustainability standards like AASHE, GASU, GRI or any other relevant standard as applicable.

C. Building Renovation

All refurbishments of campus infrastructure will consider use of appropriate sustainable technologies for fixtures, mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, and landscaping as per accepted norms of the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC).

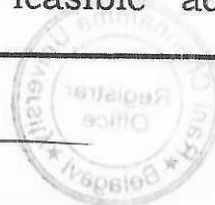
5.4.5 Sustainable Transportation and Travel

RCUB shall implement sustainable transportation and travel practices through appropriate fleet management and commuter-travel planning, including the following measures:

- i. Create and implement a long-term strategy to reduce energy related GHG emissions from academic travel, and facilitate staff needs in choosing low carbon travel.
- ii. Inventories campus wise travel-related GHG emissions through appropriate methodologies for car, bus and air travel.



- iii. Ensure rational use of vehicles (buses, cars, two wheelers etc.) through proper maintenance, use of sustainable fuels, for energy efficient travel.
- iv. The University will develop emission reduction goals for transportation, including identifying categories of fleet, types of commuting, and employee travel, and report annually on progress toward achieving the goals.
- v. The University will implement cost-effective measures including, the use of clean and energy efficient vehicles, bicycles, and wherever possible adopt the use of alternative fuels, and other sustainability measures.
- vi. Utilize Campus travel emissions data to raise awareness amongst students, faculty and staff
- vii. Monitor campus wise -related GHG emissions, and set targets to reduce travel related emissions.
- viii. Seek to prioritize, and organize meetings and other discussions through telephone video conferences over physical travel (air, train bus etc.)
- ix. Encourage and stimulate a culture of low-carbon transportation and to promote conscious travel decisions and to sensitize all relevant stakeholders for implementing sustainability practices.
- x. Each campus location will develop emission reduction goals for transportation, including identifying categories of fleet, types of commuting, and employee travel, and report annually on progress toward achieving the goals.
- xi. All campus locations shall implement cost-effective measures including, the use of clean and energy efficient vehicles, and wherever possible adopt the use of alternative fuels, and other sustainability measures.
- xii. RCUB will facilitate the development of programmes and projects to reduce to reduce the potential environmental impacts from commuting. Accordingly, all campus locations will engage in appropriate and feasible advocacy and



awareness campaigns to sensitize students, employees and support staff for improving route usage as well as suitable usage patterns of private vehicles.

xiii. To the extent practicable, locations will develop a cost benefit analysis for any proposed transport fleet management services.

6. Green Campus Policy Benefits

The Green Campus Policy enables RCUB to strengthen institutional sustainability by supporting the following benefits:

6.1 Institutional Benefits

6.1.1 Development of a forum for University management, academic and research staff, and students to interact on matters of common interest.

6.1.2 Development of a balanced campus community.

6.1.3 Empowerment of the University fraternity.

6.1.4 Promotion and encouragement of innovation and institutional change.

6.1.5 Prevention and reduction of adverse environmental impacts.

6.1.6 Enhancement of RCUB's branding, visibility, and recognition as a sustainable University.

6.2 Local Community Benefits

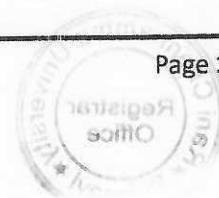
6.2.1 Establishment of an example for environmental adaptability within the locality.

6.2.2 Participation of local community members, leaders, and groups in outreach activities.

6.2.3 Sharing of experiences and best practices.

6.2.4 Enhancement of health, sanitation, and waste management practices in the local community.

7. Policy Responsibilities and Steps of Green Campus Program



7.1 RCUB shall constitute a Green Campus Committee to guide and regulate the implementation of this policy. The Committee shall represent the campus community and coordinate institutional participation in the programme.

7.2 The Committee shall conduct a campus review from environmental and Green Campus perspectives to identify targets for improvement.

7.3 RCUB shall develop an action plan based on Green Campus Committee inputs, with achievable targets, completion timelines, and assigned responsibilities.

7.4 RCUB shall establish appropriate mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of the Green Campus Programme to ensure that progress toward targets is reviewed and corrective amendments are made where necessary.

7.5 RCUB shall link Green Campus activities and programmes with learning processes on campus.

7.6 RCUB shall communicate its activities to the wider community through publicity, awareness-building, and focused outreach.

7.7 RCUB shall develop a guidance document on Green Campus management in the form of a Green Charter.

7.8 Review of Policy

This policy shall be reviewed every five years, or earlier if required by specific circumstances. The review shall assess the effectiveness of (i) the implementation of sustainable Green Campus practices at RCUB, and (ii) the adequacy of infrastructure and systems supporting sustainability, including resource utilization, building design, transportation, and service operations, in alignment with evolving local, national, and international regulations and standards.

RCUB shall encourage active participation from all stakeholders, particularly students, faculty, administrators, staff, and relevant external organizations, in the implementation and review of this



policy to ensure its continued relevance, effectiveness, and improvement.

7.9 Compliance

All Deans, Directors, Campus Administrators, and officials holding responsible positions shall ensure effective implementation of the policy guidelines specified above. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of RCUB shall facilitate and oversee annual sustainability audits across all campuses to assess compliance with this policy.




REGISTRAR
Rani Channamma University,
Belagavi.
Registrar
Rani Channamma University
Belagavi

