

**UNIVERSITY OF ILORIN, ILORIN,
NIGERIA**



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

1. Introduction

The University of Ilorin recognises and accepts its responsibility to have a beautiful, well landscaped and clean campus, minimising the impact of its activities upon the environment at the local, regional, national and global levels. The University of Ilorin undertakes to comply with all statutory environmental requirements. The University wishes to promote, among its students and staff, an understanding of environmental issues and shall facilitate and encourage participation in activities tailored towards the beautification, protection and preservation of the environment.

Having an environmental policy is premised on the fact that the environment in which staff and students live and work needs to be made conducive for academic, social and cultural activities and interactions. Against the backdrop of the current issues on global warming and climate change, the University of Ilorin needs to make meaningful contributions towards the mitigation of this phenomenon and the promotion of sustainable environment.

2. Objectives

The University is committed to the following objectives:

- a) Making and keeping the University campus beautifully landscaped, green, clean and pollution free.
- b) Providing safe and healthy working conditions for students and staff, reducing and discouraging avoidable impacts such as litter, graffiti, posting of bills on unauthorized places and noise pollution.
- c) Protecting the environment and promoting the minimisation of environmental impacts at all levels in relation to the generation and disposal of wastes and harmful emissions.

- d) Promoting environmental awareness among its students and staff in the areas of resource use, design, maintenance and use of its buildings and other facilities through the provision of information, instruction and training.
- e) Encouraging a participatory approach to environmental management throughout the University community and adopting “best practice” environmental policies at individual, departmental, faculty, professional service and institutional levels.

3. Policy Statements on Specific Environmental Issues

The objectives would be achieved through the mobilisation of funds and manpower from within and outside the University.

3.1 Sustainable Environment and Greening the Campus

The University is committed to sustainable environment by landscaping and greening the campus. This will be achieved by:

- (i) planting and growing of ornamental plants along with the hardscape of walkways, footpaths and bicycle paths;
- (ii) establishment of tree plantations, orchards and biofuel plants;
- (iii) controlling of soil erosion through the provision of adequate drainage system;
- (iv) prohibition of unauthorised farming, tree-felling, hunting, bush-burning and quarrying activities on campus.

3.2 Waste Management and Environmental Health Issues

The University to conserve resources by minimising the generation of both general and hazardous wastes. This will be achieved by:

- i) recycling existing materials wherever practicable (i.e. recovery and re-use with or without processing);
- ii) adopting a purchasing policy sensitive to environmental concerns;
- iii) identifying and minimising hazardous wastes on campus;
- iv) ensuring satisfactory disposal of wastes that cannot be re-used or recycled in accordance with statutory requirements;
- v) conducting a regular waste audit to evaluate improvement of waste management strategies on campus and to communicate these results to relevant parties; and
- vi) encouraging research into production of bioplastics or green plastics which are biodegradable and waste-to-energy process through controlled incineration and composting.

3.3 Conservation of Energy

The University to conserve energy and aims at maximising energy use efficiency by:

- i) carrying out a continuous programme of energy conservation through monitoring the total energy consumption and eliminating excessive or unnecessary use;
- ii) Implementing wherever possible the best available energy technology for all new buildings and existing structures; and
- iii) Communicating to students and staff the means by which energy may be conserved.

3.4 Conservation of Water

The University to conserve water and will endeavour manage its water resources efficiently. It aims to achieve this by:

- i) carrying out a continuous programme of water conservation by monitoring total consumption, optimising water consumption, reducing leakage and eliminating excessive and unnecessary use;
- ii) identifying opportunities for water re-use; and
- iii) communicating to students and staff the means by which water may be conserved.

3.5 Buildings and Estate Facilities

The University to develop and operate its buildings and estate facilities in order to conserve resources and minimise its impact on the environment. To achieve this, it will:

- i) make use of building materials from sustainable sources where possible, construct and renovate buildings based on the principles of green design or sustainable design;
- ii) adopt methods of construction which make best use of resources and designs which result in high energy efficiency;
- iii) manage the University estates with a view to enhancing the biodiversity; and
- iv) communicate to students and staff means by which buildings and estate facilities may be used and operated correctly to conserve energy and minimise waste.

3.6 Transport

The University will put in place measures to minimise and mitigate the harmful effects of its traffic on the environment. University vehicles will be serviced regularly so as to reduce their harmful emissions especially smoke.

3.7 Awareness and Training of Students and staff

The University to promote the awareness of environmental matters among its students and staff.

To do this, it will:

- i) delegate environmental responsibilities to the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Management Services) and the Chairman of the University Environmental Protection Committee;
- ii) communicate internally and externally the University environmental objectives and performance;
- iii) provide appropriate environmental educational programmes for students and staff;
- iv) sponsor campaigns to raise awareness on environmental issues among students and staff;
- v) encourage and facilitate feedback and suggestions from members of the University community on ensuring good practice.

4 Conclusion

The University is committed to keeping its campus in green, clean and safe conditions conducive for academic and social activities. Keeping the campus green and clean would be maintained for sustainable development of the country and for mitigation of global problem of climate change.