



UON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

A presentation made by Prof. David N. Mungai to the College Academic Board,
College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences, Kabete Campus, on
Wednesday, April 16, 2014 (mungaidavid@uonbi.ac.ke)



BACKGROUND



- Initial Environmental Audit of June 2008 (report submitted to university management)
- It involved all Colleges in the University
- Environmental Policy was one of the outputs
- Presentation /Feedback on Corporate Environmental Policy development
- Environmental Policy completed in 2009 and submitted to management



BACKGROUND



- Greening Universities Toolkit: Transforming Universities into Green and Sustainable Campuses, UNEP (2013)
http://www.unep.org/training/docs/Greening_University_Toolkit.pdf
- Roll of Commitments RIO+20
<http://rio20.euromed-management.com/roll-of-commitments-bis/#Kenya>



PRINCIPLES



(Act as guidelines for environmental goals and objectives)

- Nature and scale of UON activities can have impacts of the environment

- University has responsibility to manage its activities in ways that reduce –ve impacts



Principle 1: Legal Obligations



- UON will meet requirements of relevant national legal obligations



Principle 2: Sustainable Development



- UON committed to sustainable development
- UON supports Vision 2030 – esp. development of NMR
- UON will cooperate with other stakeholders for better environmental quality in Nairobi and environs



Principle 3: Strategic Planning and Implementation



- UON will mainstream SD requirements into all stages of planning, design, implementation and decision-making processes of all proposed projects, developments & activities
- Will ensure changes in University Campuses are designed, constructed and maintained in a manner that promotes sustainability
- Encourage innovation in construction management, systems maintenance, retrofitting & landscaping



Principle 4: Education and Awareness



- UON committed to:
 - promoting environmental awareness
 - Educating and training University Community regarding collective responsibility to implement the Environmental Policy



Principle 5: Safety and Health



- UON is committed to safe and healthy work environment
- UON is committed to welfare of employees and all persons lawfully present at the workplace
- Will maintain high standards – safety
- Will maintain high standards – occupational health & hygiene
- Emergency response procedures and contingency plans to enhance disaster preparedness and disaster reduction



Principle 6: Monitoring and Reporting



- University committed to measuring and monitoring progress towards reaching environmental goals and objectives by:
 - Evaluating conformance with environmental policies and standards
 - Setting environmental indicators
 - Benchmarking against other academic institutions
 - Prepare annual environmental report



Principle 7: Communication



- University encourages staff and students to report any incidents, actions or concerns which may harm the environment
 - Reporting procedure being established
 - Implement appropriate feedback mechanisms through the Environmental Policy Steering Committee
 - Making public and accessible the annual environmental report



Principle 8: Purchasing Policy



- UON committed to purchasing products which balance quality and cost
- Products which promote environmental sustainability



Principle 9: Environmental Management System



- UON committed to developing and sustaining an EMS based on ISO 14001
 - Compliance with legislative requirements
 - Measuring of continual improvement targets and outcomes
 - UON currently chairs KEBS Environmental Management TC



Goals and Objectives



Goal 1: Waste Minimization

Objectives

- Minimizing waste generation by adopting CP methods – Reducing, Reusing and Recycling
- Develop and implement supportive programmes & practices to support 3Rs (now 7Rs)



Goals and Objectives



Goal 2: Minimize hazardous waste generation

Objectives

- Adopt 3Rs = Reducing, Reusing and Recycling
- Develop and implement supportive programmes & practices to support 3Rs
- Develop & implement hazardous materials waste tracing system
- Encourage use of alternative inputs



Goals and Objectives



Goal 3: Reduce energy consumption

Objectives

- Implement energy conservation programmes and promoting energy efficiency
- Create awareness among staff and students



Goals and Objectives



Goal 4: Water conservation and pollution abatement

Objectives

- Reduce water used and waste water produced
- Apply water harvesting techniques/technologies
- Identify and minimize sources of water contamination



Goals and Objectives



Goal 5: Improve indoor and outdoor air quality

Objectives

- Identify problems of air quality pollution and implement effective programmes to mitigate
- Use materials in building construction & renovation that protect and improve indoor air quality
- Identify and quantify emissions from University-related activities
- Minimize GHG emissions



Goals and Objectives



Goal 6: Transportation

Objectives

- Identify and implement programmes that will reduce environmental impacts from operations of University-owned vehicles



Goals and Objectives



Goal 7: Noise reduction

Objectives

- Where applicable, maintain all noise within National Guidelines, and to reduce noise levels, as far as practical, to a minimum



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

The University of Nairobi is firmly committed to protection of the environment as an integral part of good institutional practice. To enable us to do this, we shall develop and sustain an Environmental Management System that will lead to sustainable development and will advance positive effects on both human health and the environment for the university community and our neighbours.

Believing this goal to be fully achievable, at the University of Nairobi:

- We are totally dedicated to preventing pollution by minimizing waste generation through enhanced adoption of Cleaner Production methods and development and implementation of effective programs and practices
- We are committed to reducing our energy consumption, implementing energy conservation programmes and promoting energy efficiency
- We are committed to increasing water use efficiency in our campuses and reducing the quantity of waste water released to the environment
- We are committed to improving indoor and outdoor air quality by implementing effective programmes where appropriate to mitigate negative effects, use of materials in building construction and renovation that protect and improve indoor air quality and minimizing greenhouse gas emissions from University-related activities.
- We will examine the operations of University-owned vehicles and identify and implement alternatives that will reduce environmental impacts
- We are committed to maintaining all noise within national guidelines
- We will ensure that we comply with, and where possible exceed, applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- We will review our environmental objectives and targets from time to time in order to minimize resource consumption and improve our environmental performance
- We will review and revise this Policy, if necessary, every two years to ensure that our activities, products and services are appropriate and have no adverse effects on human health and the environment
- We will ensure through education and training that each employee and student is aware of our environmental objectives and can fulfill them
- We will communicate our Environmental Policy to all our stakeholders

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VICE-CHANCELLOR

01 October 2009

<http://www.uonbi.ac.ke>

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION