**AKSARAY UNIVERSITY**

**SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY**

Aksaray University aims to raise awareness in economic, social and environmental dimensions by integrating sustainability into all its units. In this context, it adopts Sustainable Development Goals by supporting strategies to combat climate change and adaptation strategies; aims to develop sustainability awareness in students in education and training activities. In research and development activities, sustainability and climate change-oriented studies are carried out and an understanding of creating value for society is adopted.

**Working Groups**

1. **Climate Change Adaptation Working Group**

**Objective:** The University will adapt to climate change and become more resilient to environmental risks.

**Targets:** Develop strategies related to climate change. Create projects that reduce energy consumption and promote the use of renewable energy sources. Develop innovative solutions in areas such as energy efficiency, climate change, waste management, and water management.

1. **Waste Management and Circular Economy Working Group**

**Objective:** To develop sustainable solutions for efficiently using water resources and waste management.

**Targets:** Develop water-saving and conservation strategies. Create circular economy projects through proper waste management and recycling programs. Promote the use of non-toxic and sustainable materials.

1. **Green Campus and Biodiversity Working Group**

**Objective:** To increase the ecological diversity of the campus area and protect green spaces.

**Targets:** To carry out projects to make the campus greener. To work to protect ecosystems and increase biodiversity. To develop green spaces and recycling projects with the participation of students and staff.

1. **Education and Awareness Working Group**

**Objective:** To raise awareness of sustainability and climate change.

**Targets:** To create informative materials on the Sustainable Development Goals. Organize seminars, workshops, and conferences regularly. Organizing competitions that encourage students to develop ideas on sustainability issues.

**Policy Objectives**

* **Awareness Raising**

Organizing sustainability-themed days and events. Encourage and support student projects.

* **Interdisciplinary Work**

Developing cooperation projects between different academic units. Conducting joint research projects with local and international organizations.

* **Integrating into Decision Making Process**

Ensure that sustainability issues are regularly included in the agenda of university management meetings. Develop and implement sustainability strategies with the participation of all stakeholders.

* **Cooperation Development**

To cooperate with other universities, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector on sustainability projects. To organize joint congresses and symposiums at national and international levels.

* **On-Campus Life Experiences**

Establishing training programs that encourage sustainable campus practices. Organizing activities to raise awareness on energy efficiency and water conservation.

* **Sustainable Mobility**

Organize campaigns to encourage using bicycles, electric vehicles, and public transportation to reach the campus. Review and improve transportation options to increase accessibility for people with disabilities.

* **Student Engagement**

Support the development of sustainability projects through student clubs and organizations. Develop student-oriented solutions to achieve sustainable development goals.

* **Modeling through Research and Teaching**

Developing research projects and course content on sustainability issues. To integrate this information into teaching processes by conducting applied research.

As a result, Aksaray University is committed to ensuring environmental, social, and economic sustainability. The “Sustainability and Climate Change Coordination” will help it achieve the goals mentioned above within the framework of its sustainability policy. Under continuous improvement, these policies will be periodically reviewed and updated.

07.10.2024

Sustainability and Climate Change Coordination