



LBTU SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Jelgava, 2025





1. AIM OF THE POLICY

The aim of the Sustainability Policy of Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies (hereinafter – LBTU or the University) is to define the sustainability principles, directions and priorities that contribute to the achievement of the goals set out in the LBTU Development Strategy. The Sustainability Policy reflects the University's commitment to the sustainable use of resources and development in the areas of research, study and lifelong learning, as well as governance, while taking the needs of future generations into account.



2. ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STRATEGIES

The LBTU Sustainability Policy has been developed in line with Latvia's The LBTU Sustainability Policy has been developed in line with Latvia's Sustainable Development Strategy and is consistent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the European Union's Green Deal, thus demonstrating the University's commitment to promoting sustainable development at the national and international levels.



3. IMPLEMENTATION

The LBTU Sustainability Policy is implemented with the help of internal laws and regulations, strategic action plans and monitoring mechanisms, in accordance with the values set out in the LBTU Development Strategy.



4. INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT

LBTU is committed to integrating and developing sustainability principles in all areas of its activities, creating sustainable and modern study and research processes, developing an environment where innovation and scientific research create solutions to both local and global challenges, as well as ensuring compliance with sustainability principles in University governance..



5. LBTU SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES:

- 5.1. Responsible and sustainable use of resources, reducing consumption and promoting efficient resource management,
- 5.2. Strengthening environmental and climate responsibility by reducing environmental impacts and adapting to climate change,

- 5.3. Promoting social inclusion and fairness by ensuring equal opportunities and a respectful attitude towards everyone,
 - 5.4. Transparent, ethical and accountable governance as the basis for a credible and open university,
 - 5.5. Highlighting the importance of science, innovation and technology as a driver for sustainable solutions,
 - 5.6. Building cooperation and partnerships with local and international partners to jointly tackle sustainability challenges,
 - 5.7. Providing a safe, healthy and supportive working environment for University staff and students,
 - 5.8. Active involvement in global sustainability initiatives and international platforms to promote a positive impact on a wider scale.
- into account.

6. LBTU SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND ACTIONS

6.1. Sustainable education and engagement of students in study processes.

6.1.1. Integrate sustainability principles into study programmes and lifelong learning processes, creating a balanced and future-oriented education offer.

6.1.2. Develop innovative, interactive and practice-based learning methods that foster critical thinking, the creativity of students, and the ability to solve sustainability problems in real-world settings.

6.1.3. Promote student involvement in sustainability initiatives at the University and community levels, creating a sense of belonging and co-responsibility for building a sustainable future.

6.1.4. Establish LBTU as a platform for cooperation, where students regularly meet with entrepreneurs and industry representatives to learn about best practices, work and research opportunities in the context of sustainability.

6.1.5. Promote the professional development of academic staff in sustainability issues, ensuring a coherent understanding of sustainability principles and a modern, methodologically sound approach to their integration into the study process.

6.2. Scientific research and innovation.

6.2.1. Promote the development of innovative solutions in the fields of science represented by LBTU, based on scientific and technological achievements.

6.2.2. Strengthen cooperation with industry, creating opportunities for effective technology transfer and promoting the commercialisation of innovations in the economy.

6.2.3. Develop an effective technology and knowledge transfer ecosystem to ensure the introduction of innovations, support in the formation of start-ups, and the development of sustainable ideas.

6.2.4. Build an internationally competitive and interdisciplinary research environment capable of solving complex and global sustainability challenges.

6.2.5. Implement scientific research and innovation processes in compliance with LBTU principles of academic integrity, ethics and responsible research.

6.2.6. Ensure the management of LBTU research results and data in accordance with the Latvian Open Science Strategy, promoting their accessibility, transparency and reusability for the benefit of society and scientific development.

6.2.7. Encourage students to engage more actively in scientific research, especially in sustainability issues, by providing opportunities to participate in research projects, develop research skills and build interdisciplinary collaborations, thereby strengthening the academic competence of students and motivation to develop sustainable solutions.

6.3. Sustainable management and infrastructure development.

6.3.1. Improve the energy efficiency and accessibility of University infrastructure by introducing environmentally friendly solutions and sustainable building practices.

6.3.2. Promote the introduction of circular economy principles by improving the waste management system and integrating sustainability criteria into public procurement.

6.3.3. Use effective resource management models to ensure the financial stability and sustainable development of LBTU.

6.3.4. Improve information and communication technology (ICT) resources by introducing digital solutions in study, research and administrative processes, thereby promoting efficiency and sustainability.

6.3.5. Develop and implement a green public procurement policy, which provides for the selection of environmentally friendly, energy-efficient and sustainable goods and services, based on the principles of the circular economy and reducing the ecological footprint

6.4. Social responsibility, inclusion and community involvement.

6.4.1. Promote an inclusive, fair and respectful study and work environment, where equal opportunities are provided to all members of the University community, regardless of their gender, age, social, economic, or cultural background.

6.4.2. Develop cooperation with regional and local communities, supporting their sustainable development initiatives and promoting mutual knowledge exchange.

6.4.3. Plan and implement educational, public participation activities and information campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of sustainability and solutions in different areas.



7. LBTU PRIORITIES IN THE FIELD OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INCLUDE:

- 7.1. Integrating sustainability into education and science, incorporating sustainability principles into study programmes, scientific research and lifelong learning, as well as educating LBTU staff and the public on sustainability issues.
- 7.2. Developing innovations in bio-economics and in the fields of science represented by LBTU, promoting the introduction of new methods for sustainable growth in various sectors of the economy.
- 7.3. Developing a sustainable working environment and human resources, providing comprehensive career opportunities, a fair approach in determining remuneration, and diverse measures to support employee well-being.
- 7.4. Strengthening digital sustainability by promoting the effective use of digital solutions in study, research and management processes.
- 7.5. Promoting climate neutrality by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, promoting the effective use and management of resources, as well as supporting green mobility through the introduction of environmentally friendly transport solutions.
- 7.6. Ensuring the monitoring, evaluation and continuous improvement of sustainability as a horizontal priority in all areas of the University.



LBTU is committed to continuously developing and improving its sustainability policy in order to promote a long-term positive impact on the environment, economy and society. LBTU is convinced that by combining the potential of science and innovation with responsible action, it is possible to build a sustainable future for future generations. The Sustainability Policy will be regularly reviewed and updated at least every five years or, where necessary, in the light of new national and international guidelines..