HELIOPOLIS UNIVERSITY

Climate Action Plan 2025

Seven action areas for lower emissions, smarter resource use and a climate-aware campus

1. Purpose

Heliopolis University (HU) will reduce emissions from its campus and university activities while strengthening energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, water conservation, waste management and climate awareness. The plan builds on the 2024 Climate Action Plan and the evidence and priorities reported for 2025.

The 2025 footprint at a glance

4,602	18	404	4,180
$mtCO_2e$ total	**$mtCO_2e$**	**$mtCO_2e$**	**$mtCO_2e$**
2025 footprint	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3 (about 91%)

The increase from earlier years is mainly due to expanded Scope 3 accounting, including student commuting. 2025 should therefore be treated as a new, more complete emissions baseline, not as evidence of a sudden emissions increase.

2. 2025 priorities and proposed actions

1 ACTION AREA 1
Measure emissions and strengthen accountability

Objective *Use a consistent, transparent emissions inventory to guide reductions and report progress.*

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Maintain the annual GHG inventory using the GHG Protocol, covering Scope 1, Scope 2 and relevant Scope 3 sources.
- Treat the 2025 footprint, especially the expanded commuting data, as the new baseline for future comparisons.
- Assign sustainability-reporting focal points in faculties, centers and administrative units to submit data on a regular schedule.
- Document calculation methods, data sources, assumptions and estimates, and improve data validation year on year.
- Develop a university-wide emissions-reduction pathway that prioritizes direct reductions before offsets.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Annual inventory completed and reviewed.
- Share of reporting units submitting complete, on-time data.
- Scope 1, 2 and 3 reported separately, with methods and assumptions documented.
- Approved emissions-reduction pathway in place.

Lead Carbon Footprint Center (CFC), with university management and reporting focal points

SDGs **13 · 16 · 17**

2 ACTION AREA 2
Energy efficiency and renewable energy

Objective *Reduce electricity-related emissions and expand renewable electricity use.*

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Conduct or update energy audits of campus buildings and identify the largest sources of electricity use.
- Track electricity consumption and solar generation at the two existing solar stations: the Faculty of Pharmacy and the Administrative Building.
- Prepare a prioritized efficiency program covering lighting, cooling and ventilation, equipment use and building operation.
- Continue practical energy-saving measures, such as switching off idle equipment and using efficient lighting and controls.
- Assess the technical and financial feasibility of expanding on-site solar and moving toward the report's ambition of 100% renewable energy during winter months.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Energy audit completed and priority measures approved.
- Monthly electricity consumption and solar generation recorded.
- Number of efficiency measures implemented.
- Renewable electricity share reported.

Lead Campus Operations and Facilities, supported by the Faculty of Engineering and CFC

SDGs **7 · 9 · 13**

3 ACTION AREA 3
Sustainable commuting and business travel

Objective *Address commuting as HU's most significant reported emissions source.*

Good to know The 2025 report identifies commuting as the dominant share of Scope 3 emissions once student commuting was added. HU runs daily shuttle services and is considering more Greater Cairo routes and carpooling incentives.

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Establish a consistent student and staff commuting survey covering travel mode, distance and frequency.
- Use the results to plan shuttle routes and schedules around demand, and assess expanding routes into Greater Cairo.
- Pilot and evaluate carpooling incentives or coordinated ride-sharing.
- Encourage virtual meetings where they can replace business travel without reducing collaboration quality.
- Record business travel and commuting consistently in the Scope 3 inventory.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Commuting survey completed and repeated consistently.
- Shuttle use, route coverage and carpool participation tracked.
- Scope 3 commuting emissions reported using a consistent method.
- Business travel emissions recorded annually.

Lead Campus Operations, Human Resources, International Relations and CFC

SDGs **11 · 13**

4 ACTION AREA 4
Water conservation and wastewater reuse

Objective *Reduce pressure on freshwater resources and maintain safe reuse practices.*

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Track water use and treated wastewater volumes, including the amount reused for landscape irrigation.
- Inspect treatment, storage and irrigation systems regularly to find leaks, losses or operational issues.
- Promote water-efficient practices among campus users and facilities teams.
- Coordinate with the Faculty of Engineering and relevant research units on monitoring and improvement.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Water withdrawal and wastewater-reuse data recorded annually.
- Reuse volumes and system performance monitored.
- Water-efficiency or maintenance actions completed and documented.

Lead Campus Operations, supported by the Faculty of Engineering and Water Research Laboratory

SDGs **6 · 12 · 13**

5 ACTION AREA 5
Waste prevention, segregation and circular use

Objective *Prevent waste where possible and improve sorting, reuse, recycling and composting.*

Good to know The RDC-managed Waste Collection Unit handled 385.9 tons in 2025. This figure should not be represented as campus-only waste.

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Maintain clearly labeled waste-separation points and regular collection across campus.
- Continue composting suitable food and landscaping waste for use on campus.
- Track waste by material and destination, distinguishing campus waste from waste handled through the broader Rural Development Center (RDC) system.
- Reduce paper and disposable-item use in offices, teaching, events and procurement.
- Continue clothing and fabric collection, donation and upcycling.
- Build on community waste-awareness approaches, including lessons from the RDC's 2025 waste-management work.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Waste quantities recorded by type and destination.
- Organic waste composted and recyclable materials recovered.
- Waste-prevention and reuse actions implemented.
- Participation in waste-segregation awareness activities.

Lead Campus Operations and RDC, with student and staff participation

SDGs **11 · 12 · 13**

6 ACTION AREA 6
Climate awareness, education and participation

Objective *Make climate action part of campus practice, teaching and community engagement.*

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Provide practical climate and resource-efficiency guidance for staff, students and facilities teams.
- Use existing Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Community-Based Learning (CBL) and student engagement structures to link climate education with campus and community projects.
- Encourage student-led activities in energy saving, mobility, waste sorting, water conservation and climate communication.
- Share progress and lessons through university channels and sustainability reporting.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Climate or sustainability training delivered and attendance recorded.
- Student-led or CBL climate initiatives completed.
- Awareness materials and progress updates issued.

Lead ESD Center, faculties, Student Affairs and Campus Operations

SDGs **4 · 12 · 13 · 17**

7 ACTION AREA 7
Carbon offsets and nature-based climate action

Objective *Use credible offsets as a complement to, not a replacement for, emissions reductions.*

Good to know The report states HU offset 100% of its emissions through the voluntary carbon-credit market. Tree planting and compost production linked to projects outside routine campus operations should be reported separately from campus emissions actions.

PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Assess and report annual emissions before calculating the volume to be offset.
- Verify that credits used meet appropriate quality and documentation requirements.
- Prioritize reductions in campus energy use and commuting emissions alongside offsetting.
- Where HU supports planting or land regeneration, record location, survival, maintenance and environmental outcomes rather than planting numbers alone.

PROPOSED INDICATORS

- Share of the annual footprint offset, with supporting documentation.
- Emissions reductions reported separately from offset volumes.
- Nature-based project outcomes monitored and clearly attributed.

Lead CFC, with relevant project teams and university management

SDGs **13 · 15**

3. Implementation and review schedule

Q1	Confirm action owners; review emissions, energy, water, waste and commuting data; agree reporting methods.
Q2	Complete or update energy and commuting assessments; select priority efficiency, shuttle, water and waste measures.
Q3	Implement approved operational measures; deliver climate-awareness activities; review progress and data quality.
Q4	Compile annual results; verify emissions and offset records; assess what worked and set next year’s targets.

4. Governance and reporting

A university sustainability coordination group should review progress at least quarterly. Action owners submit indicator data to the designated reporting focal points, with the CFC coordinating emissions information. The annual review should keep four things distinct:

Measured vs. estimated
Measured results are kept distinct from estimates.

Campus vs. community
Campus operations are kept distinct from wider community or SEKEM-related projects.

Reductions vs. offsets
Emissions reductions are reported separately from carbon offsets.

Baseline vs. later years
The 2025 baseline is kept distinct from later-year comparisons.

This approach responds to the report’s stated priority of improving data collection, monitoring and year-on-year comparability.