



NET ZERO DECLARATION

of Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav (HSUP)

Date	17 March 2025
Signed by	Rector

1. Preamble and Institutional Commitment

Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav (HSUP) recognises climate change as one of the defining global challenges of our time and acknowledges the responsibility of higher education institutions to contribute to climate mitigation, adaptation, and resilience.

As a multidisciplinary state university and an educational, scientific, and cultural centre, HSUP aligns its long-term development with the principles of the Paris Agreement, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the European Green Deal, and Sustainable Development Goal 13 – Climate Action.

Building on its academic profile in education, psychology, health, humanities, philology, economics, management, natural sciences, and community-oriented research, the University affirms its commitment to advancing climate-neutral development through evidence-based action, responsible governance, innovation, and public engagement.

2. Vision and Strategic Objectives

HSUP's vision is to become a low-carbon, climate-resilient, and socially responsible university campus, while also serving as a regional hub for sustainability education, research, and civic partnership.

The University hereby commits to pursue Net Zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2040, with any residual emissions to be addressed through verified reduction, removal, or offset mechanisms consistent with applicable standards and future institutional policy.

The following strategic targets are set:

- a 70% reduction in total greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 relative to the 2022 baseline;
- a transition to 100% renewable electricity consumption by 2035, through a combination of on-site generation and certified external supply where feasible;
- progressive decarbonisation of campus heating, university transport, and energy-consuming operations by 2040.

3. Scope, Boundaries, and Accounting Framework

This Declaration applies to the University's educational, research, administrative, cultural, and support activities, including academic buildings, student housing, transport, procurement, waste management, and other campus operations.

For accounting purposes, emission sources shall be classified in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol:

Scopes

- Scope 1: direct emissions from university-owned or university-controlled sources, including stationary combustion, vehicles, and certain laboratory operations;
- Scope 2: indirect emissions from purchased electricity, heating, and other forms of purchased energy;
- Scope 3: other indirect emissions associated with procurement, commuting, business travel, waste, water, outsourced services, and other relevant activities.

Accounting cont

HSUP shall apply internationally recognised methodological approaches for greenhouse gas accounting, including the principles of ISO 14064-1:2018 where appropriate. The baseline year for institutional carbon accounting is 2022. Monitoring and verification shall be integrated with internal quality assurance and management procedures.

4. Governance, Leadership, and Institutional Structure

The Academic Council endorses this Declaration. Overall responsibility for implementation rests with the Rector and the Rectorate, in cooperation with the University's structural units responsible for infrastructure, research, quality assurance, international cooperation, finance, student affairs, and communications.

To coordinate implementation, HSUP shall establish an institutional mechanism for climate action and sustainability governance, including regular data collection, target tracking, risk review, and reporting.

A Sustainability Steering Committee may be formed under the chairmanship of the Rector or an authorised vice-rector and may include faculty representatives, students, administrative staff, and invited external experts. The Committee shall support cross-institutional coordination and ensure alignment with the University's strategic development priorities.

Each faculty and relevant structural unit should integrate sustainability and climate action into its operational planning and academic activity in line with its disciplinary profile.

5. Key Action Pillars

a) Energy Transition and Renewable Energy

- prioritise energy efficiency in buildings, engineering systems, and daily operations;
- promote the phased use of renewable and low-carbon energy solutions, including on-site solar generation where technically and financially feasible;
- implement energy monitoring and management tools for evidence-based decision-making;

- apply modern energy performance standards in renovation and future infrastructure development.

b) Sustainable Mobility and Transport Decarbonisation

- encourage low-carbon mobility options for staff and students, including walking, cycling, shared transport, and public transport use where available;
- gradually modernise the University vehicle fleet and related logistics with lower-emission alternatives;
- support virtual and hybrid formats for meetings and academic cooperation in order to reduce avoidable travel-related emissions.

c) Sustainable Procurement and Circular Economy

- integrate environmental and life-cycle considerations into procurement procedures where possible;
- prioritise durable, repairable, reusable, and resource-efficient goods and materials;
- strengthen practices for reuse, maintenance, refurbishment, and responsible disposal of equipment, furniture, and electronic waste.

d) Waste Management and Resource Efficiency

- expand waste prevention, sorting, recycling, and responsible waste handling systems across the campus;
- reduce single-use products and promote sustainable alternatives;
- support water-saving solutions and resource-efficient campus management, including rainwater use and landscape resilience where feasible.

e) Research, Innovation, and Climate Education

- embed climate literacy, sustainable development, and environmental responsibility across educational programmes and extracurricular activities;
- promote interdisciplinary research related to sustainability, climate adaptation, education for sustainable development, public health, psychosocial resilience, and community recovery;
- encourage student initiatives, applied research, and pilot projects that test low-carbon and climate-resilient solutions in practice.

f) Inclusion, Adaptation, and Community Resilience

- conduct risk-informed planning for campus safety, continuity, and resilience in the context of climate-related and compound risks;
- develop measures that support inclusive access, mental well-being, and social resilience, especially for vulnerable groups and communities affected by crisis;
- strengthen cooperation with local communities in awareness-raising, preparedness, adaptation, and recovery-oriented initiatives.

g) Partnerships and Global Engagement

- participate in national and international cooperation networks relevant to sustainability, climate action, and higher education transformation;
- work with municipalities, schools, civil society organisations, and international partners on sustainability-related projects and public engagement;
- mobilise project-based cooperation and grant opportunities that support the University's green and resilient transition.

6. Monitoring, Reporting, and Transparency

HSUP shall prepare a regular Climate and Sustainability Report presenting greenhouse gas inventory data, progress toward declared targets, implemented measures, and sustainability-related academic and public activities.

Relevant information should be made publicly available through the University's official communication channels in Ukrainian and, where appropriate, in English.

The University shall strengthen the use of data-driven monitoring tools to support decision-making, transparency, and continuous improvement.

7. Continuous Improvement and Innovation

This Declaration shall be reviewed periodically and may be updated in line with scientific developments, national legislation, institutional capacity, and evolving strategic priorities.

HSUP shall continue to invest in knowledge, skills, partnerships, and institutional practices that advance climate responsibility, resilience, innovation, and sustainable development.

Knowledge sharing, academic integrity, stakeholder dialogue, and public responsibility shall remain central to the implementation of this Declaration.

8. Signature and Endorsement

On behalf of Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav, this Net Zero Declaration affirms the University's determination to reduce its climate impact, strengthen resilience, and contribute to a sustainable future in Ukraine and beyond.

**Rector
of Hryhorii Skovoroda
University in Pereiaslav,
Doctor of Historical Sciences, Professor**

Vitalii KOTSUR