



THE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



SDG 13 — CLIMATE ACTION

2025 / 2026



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1. Overview — SDG 13: Climate Action

Gulf University demonstrates its single strongest SDG commitment through SDG 13 (Climate Action) during AY 2025–2026, led decisively by SDM-C. Climate Action was the most-addressed goal of Gulf University Sustainability Week (GUSW2025) overall — represented in 16 of 35 analysed activities (45.7%), nearly double the next-highest goal (SDG 3, Good Health, at 40.0%). SDM-C anchors this through three explicitly-mapped flagship initiatives: the Daily Tree-Planting Campaign, the Carbon-free Campus Initiative, and the Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI).

Most tangibly, Gulf University’s carbon footprint (613.13 t CO₂ in 2025–26, down from 619.25 t CO₂ the prior year) and a named carpooling programme reducing transport emissions. CECEC contributes more modestly, with SDG 1a3 present in 4 of its 7 pillars. ICSDI 2025 research contributed 2.6% of accepted papers.

2. Key Highlights for Academic Year 2025–2026

- GUSW2025: SDG 13 (Climate Action) was the single most-addressed SDG — 16 of 35 activities (45.7%).
- ICSDI 2025: SDG 13 represented in 2.6% of conference papers.
- Daily Tree-Planting Campaign: explicitly mapped to SDG 13 — carbon sequestration, climate mitigation, environmental awareness.
- Carbon-free Campus Initiative: explicitly mapped to SDG 13 — reduced greenhouse gas emissions via sustainable mobility.
- Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI): explicitly mapped to SDG 13 via household behavioural change.
- GU Sustainability Club (GUSC): SDG 13 is a primary contribution goal (tree-planting, clean-up drives).
- CECEC’s SDG Contribution Chart records SDG 13 across 4 pillar/event instances, spanning Pillars 2, 4, 5, and 7.
- Campus carbon footprint fell to 613.13 t CO₂ in 2025–26 (from 619.25 t CO₂), a 0.99% year-over-year reduction, despite campus population growth to 1,859 persons.
- Energy-efficient appliance usage reached 98% campus-wide in 2025–26 — 100% LED lighting with sensor controls, 90% inverter air conditioning (105 of 117 units), and 100% low-power ICT equipment.
- Smart Building Implementation reached 100% of total building area, with all three campus buildings (Administrative, Academic, and Main Campus) meeting the UI GreenMetric smart-building requirements.
- Per-capita carbon footprint stands at 0.33 t CO₂ per person (613.13 t CO₂ across a campus population of 1,859).
- Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEV): EV-charging infrastructure is identified under the Future Sustainability Roadmap — currently at the planning stage — complementing the active Carbon-free Campus Initiative.

3. Climate Awareness and Community Outreach

Initiative	Date	Partners	Result
Daily Tree-Planting Campaign	16–20 Nov 2025 (GUSW2025)	Ministry of Municipalities Affairs & Agriculture; stc Bahrain	Flagship, explicitly SDG 13-mapped; contributed to SDG 13 being the



Initiative	Date	Partners	Result
			most-addressed goal of GUSW2025
Carbon-free Campus Initiative ('Zero Car in the Parking')	Pilot Feb 2026; expansion Nov 2026 (World Sustainable Transport Day)	Ministry of Transportation & Telecommunications	Explicitly mapped to SDG 13; core pillar of the Green Campus Strategy
Sustainable Family Initiative (GU-SFI)	Jan–Jun 2026	GU student families; Bahraini community households	SDG 13 embedded as a direct household-assessment domain
Sustainability Week Bamboo Distribution (2nd Edition)	AY 2025–2026 (during GUSW2025)	Internal (CECEC, Pillars 2 & 4)	Reinforced green institutional culture among students and staff
Chechen Mountain Field Experience (Languages Hub)	AY 2025–2026 (Moscow/Chechnya visit)	Bahraini Embassy, Moscow; Chechen cultural/environmental hosts	Direct climate/ecosystem awareness-building for 13 students and 3 faculty members
GU Sustainability Club (GUSC) — Tree-Planting & Clean-Up Drives	AY 2025–2026 (ongoing)	GUSC members; SDM-C	SDG 13 named as a primary GUSC contribution goal

4. Training, Research, and Innovation Activities

Program	Objective	Key Outcome
GARMCO Green HR Practices — Student Graduation Project Presentation	Present applied academic research linking green HR practices to industrial competitive advantage	Graduation research (Ali Al-Ghazzal) presented directly to GARMCO Executive Director Mohammed Rafie; opened dialogue toward a formal MOU; explicitly SDG 13-tagged
ICSIDI 2025 Climate Action Research	Advance academic research addressing climate action	SDG 13 represented in 2.6% of accepted conference papers
Sustainability Ambassadors Bootcamp 2026	Train students in interdisciplinary sustainability leadership, including climate-relevant research	40% complete; feeds into GUSW2026's broader sustainability/innovation agenda
Future Sustainability Roadmap — Energy Efficiency Measures	Build long-term climate-relevant infrastructure (energy audits, solar PV, LED retrofitting)	Currently at the planning/roadmap stage — not yet confirmed as implemented

5. Quantified Climate Performance

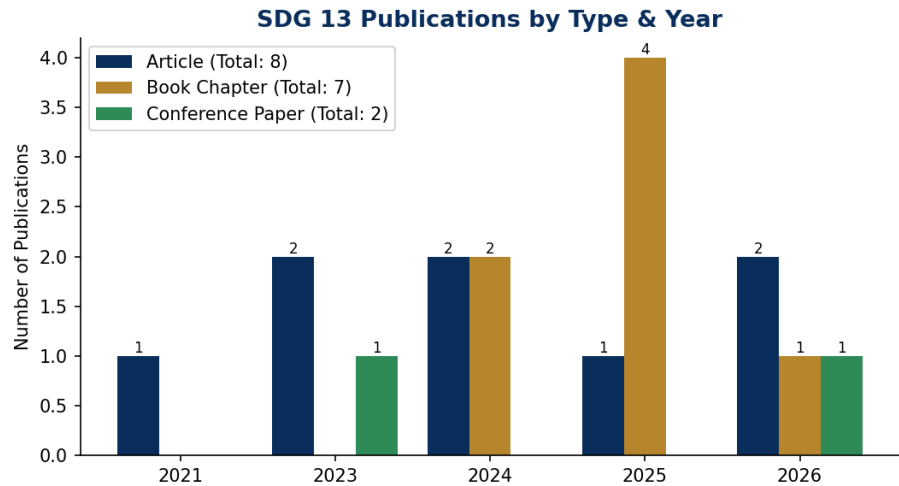
The University's Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Program measures under the GU Smart Energy Transformation Program:



Category	Action / Initiative	Impact
Energy Efficiency	Continued replacement of remaining 5-star ACs with inverter models	12,343 kWh reduction (–1.76%)
Renewable Energy	Rooftop and parking solar PV expansion	38,657 kWh, ≈5.61% of total electricity consumption
Digital Monitoring	Real-time Power BI dashboards	Institution-wide energy tracking
Smart Lighting	100% LED coverage with sensor-based controls	Campus-wide
Sustainable Transportation	‘Ride Share’ carpooling promotion	475 cars counted; 34.2 t CO ₂ associated impact
Afforestation & Offsetting	Tree Planting Drive ‘Together for Carbon Neutrality’	Participant count pending confirmation
Reused Infrastructure	Recycled containers for Sustainable Engineering Hub/kiosks	Reduces embodied carbon
Paperless Operations	ERP submissions, e-exams via Moodle LockDown Browser	Reduces printing/waste emissions
Energy-Efficient Appliances	Campus-wide LED lamps (412), LED sensor lights (365), inverter ACs, and low-power ICT equipment	98% average appliance efficiency
Smart Building Implementation	Administrative, Academic, and Main Campus buildings each meeting a minimum of five smart-building requirements	100% of total building area
Zero-Emission Vehicles (planned)	EV-charging infrastructure under the Future Sustainability Roadmap, alongside rooftop solar expansion and energy audits	Planning stage

Gulf University's total annual carbon footprint decreased from 619.25 metric tons (2024–25) to 613.13 metric tons (2025–26) — a 0.99% reduction — despite continued growth in campus population to 1,859 persons. This continues a three-year decline from 629.57 t CO₂ (2023–24), a cumulative reduction of 2.61%. Of the 2025–26 total, electricity consumption accounted for 578.93 t CO₂ and on-campus vehicle movements for 34.2 t CO₂, giving a per-capita footprint of 0.33 t CO₂ per person.

6. GU Research & Publications Related to SDG 13



Publication Type	2021	2023	2024	2025	2026	Total
Article	1	2	2	1	2	8
Book Chapter	0	0	2	4	1	7
Conference Paper	0	1	0	0	1	2

Gulf University's SDG 13-linked research base totals 17 publications (8 articles, 7 book chapters, 2 conference papers).

7. Summary of Impact and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

KPI	Indicator Description	2025–2026 Result	Status
KPI 1	Activities addressing SDG 13 within GUSW2025	16 of 35 activities (45.7%) — the single most-addressed SDG of the entire week	Exceeded
KPI 3	Flagship SDM-C initiatives explicitly mapped to SDG 13	3 — Tree-Planting Campaign, Carbon-free Campus Initiative, GU-SFI	Achieved
KPI 4	CECEC pillar coverage of SDG 13	4 of 7 pillars	On Track
KPI 5	ICS DI 2025 research papers addressing SDG 13	2.6% of accepted papers	Minimal



KPI	Indicator Description	2025–2026 Result	Status
KPI 6	Campus carbon footprint	613.13 t CO ₂ (2025–26), down from 619.25 t CO ₂ — -0.99% YoY, -2.61% over 3 years	Achieved — declining trend
KPI 7	SDG 13-linked publications	17 publications (8 articles, 7 book chapters, 2 conference papers)	Achieved
KPI 8	Energy-efficient appliance usage	98% average efficiency — 100% LED lighting, 90% inverter ACs, 100% low-power ICT	Achieved
KPI 9	Smart building implementation	100% of total building area (3 of 3 campus buildings)	Achieved
KPI 10	Per-capita carbon footprint	0.33 t CO ₂ per person (613.13 t CO ₂ / 1,859 campus population)	Achieved — declining trend
KPI 11	Zero-Emission Vehicles (EV-charging infrastructure)	Identified under the Future Sustainability Roadmap — planning stage	Early stage

8. Conclusion and Future Directions

SDG 13 is unambiguously Gulf University's flagship sustainability goal — the University organizes its single biggest annual event (GUSW2025) predominantly around it, backs that with three named flagship initiatives, and a declining, quantified carbon footprint. This is among the strongest evidence bases of any SDG reviewed. The comparative weak point is that CECEC's contribution, while present in over half its pillars, is largely incidental (bamboo distribution, industry-visit tagging) rather than purpose-built climate programming, and DTC has no presence at all.

Future directions:

Expand CECEC's bamboo-distribution activity into a standalone, purpose-built climate-action programme. Explore a DTC-side climate contribution — e.g., a campus energy/carbon dashboard within Project G's 'Sustainability' module.

Quantify Tree-Planting Campaign outcomes (trees planted, estimated carbon sequestration) and confirm the pending participant count for the 'Together for Carbon Neutrality' tree-planting drive.

Commission a dedicated SDG 13 research/publications tracker — even the University's strongest SDG currently lacks a properly surfaced bibliometric chart.

Advance the planned EV-charging (Zero-Emission Vehicle) infrastructure from the Future Sustainability Roadmap into a budgeted roll-out plan with a confirmed implementation timeline.



Use SDG 13's strong multi-initiative model (Tree-Planting + Carbon-free Campus + GU-SFI) as the template for building out weaker goals.

Compiled from:

Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center (IEC) -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/innovation-entrepreneurship-center/annual-report/IEC-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

Sustainability Development Makers- Center -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/sustainability-and-development-makers-center/SDM-C-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

Community Engagement & Continuing Education Center (CECEC) -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/community-engagement-and-continuing-education-center/annual-reports/CECEC-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

Digital Transformation Center (DTC) -Annual Report for the year 2025-26

<https://www.gulfuniversity.edu.bh/images/centers/digital-transformation-center/annual-report/DTC-Annual-Report-2025-2026.pdf>

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