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WATER POLICY AT KALASALINGAM ACADEMY OF RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

The Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Education (KARE) serves over 10,000 students and is committed to fostering an environment that supports sustainable water management practices. This Water Policy aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focusing particularly on SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water). Our policy outlines strategies to conserve, manage, and reuse water efficiently across the campus to protect both human health, other flora fauna, and the environment.

I. Policy Objectives

- Ensure Access to Clean Water: Provide safe, potable water for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors on campus.
- Promote Water Conservation: Reduce water usage through behavioural changes, water-saving technologies, and infrastructure upgrades.
- Implement Effective Wastewater Management: Establish efficient wastewater treatment and recycling to reduce pollution impact on aquatic ecosystems.
- Protect and Restore Aquatic Ecosystems: No direct wastewater discharge on surrounding water bodies to preserve biodiversity.
- Raise Awareness and Build Capacity: Educate and engage the campus community in sustainable water practices.

II. Strategies and Action Plan

1. Water Conservation Initiatives

- Conduct regular audits to assess consumption and identify areas for improvement.
- Install water-efficient fixtures, such as low-flow faucets, showers, and dual-flush toilets, in campus facilities.
- Implement rainwater harvesting systems in designated areas to reduce reliance on external water sources.
- Establish a campus-wide water monitoring system to track and regulate water use in real-time.

2. Wastewater Treatment and Reuse

- Upgrade existing wastewater treatment facilities to meet standards suitable for campus irrigation and flushing systems.
- Recycle treated wastewater for l\u00e1ndscaping and non-potable uses, ensuring all reused water meets local regulatory standards.

 Introduce carbon filtration and phytoremediation methods to treat and purify wastewater in natural systems where possible.

3. Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems

- Limit the use of chemicals in landscaping and cleaning operations to reduce harmful runoff into nearby water bodies.
- Encourage organic fertilizers and natural pest control methods to minimize pollutant loads from campus grounds.
- Monitor campus discharge points to ensure treated wastewater meets environmental quality standards before being released into natural water sources.

4. Awareness and Engagement

- Launch educational campaigns, workshops, and seminars to inform students, staff, and faculty on sustainable water practices.
- Engage students in water conservation projects and encourage research on innovative water-saving technologies and methods.
- Collaborate with local authorities and environmental organizations to support regional water sustainability efforts.

5. Monitoring and Reporting

- Establish a Water Management Committee responsible for tracking progress on waterrelated initiatives and ensuring policy compliance.
- Conduct annual reviews of use and wastewater quality, publishing a Water Sustainability Report to share progress with the campus community and stakeholders.
- Set specific, measurable targets for water reduction and quality improvement, reporting annually on achievements and areas for development.

III. Policy Review and Compliance

This policy will undergo an annual review by the Management Committee to assess its effectiveness and incorporate feedback from stakeholders. Revisions will be made as necessary to adapt to new environmental standards, technological advances, and institutional needs.

IV. Conclusion

KARE's Water Policy underscores our commitment to responsible water stewardship, aligning with global sustainability goals and fostering a culture of conservation and respect for natural resources. Through dedicated efforts to manage water resources sustainably, KARE aims to lead by example in building a future where clean, accessible water supports the well-being of our campus community and the environment.

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