



Sustainability Strategy

OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY WAS CREATED IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH THE GUST COMMUNITY



INITIAL ENGAGEMENT

1

We initiated the discussion with our community during our strategy retreat;

- Identified global challenges that our community cares about – all were linked to sustainability.
- Conducted brain storming sessions matching disciplinary expertise against those challenges (interdisciplinary)
- Finally identified top priority and highest in relevancy challenges and trends to address.



FRAMEWORK BUILDING

2

Based on the feedback we had received from our community we developed a framework that encompasses all the elements that GUST can be effective in addressing identified challenges;

- **Strategic Direction**
- **Core activities**; learning research and extracurricular
- **Infrastructure**; operations, construction etc.
- **Partnership ecosystem**
- **Internal & external communications**

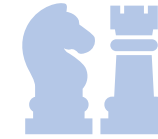


CURRENT STATE ASSESSMENT

3

We conducted a study to further understand our internal and external environments;

- Benchmark other institutions
- Regional and national direction
- Our internal Innovation infrastructure elements
- National and regional landscape and mega projects

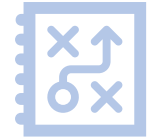


STRATEGIC INCORPORATION

4

We prepared our Health of Strategy annual review report and in the process incorporated Sustainability as a key element to be reflected upon in all strategic action plans. Accordingly we incorporated sustainability through the following steps;

- Showed benchmarks on regional strategies and sustainability initiatives (regionally and in other Universities)
- Reflected with departments on how they will incorporate into their strategic action plan updates

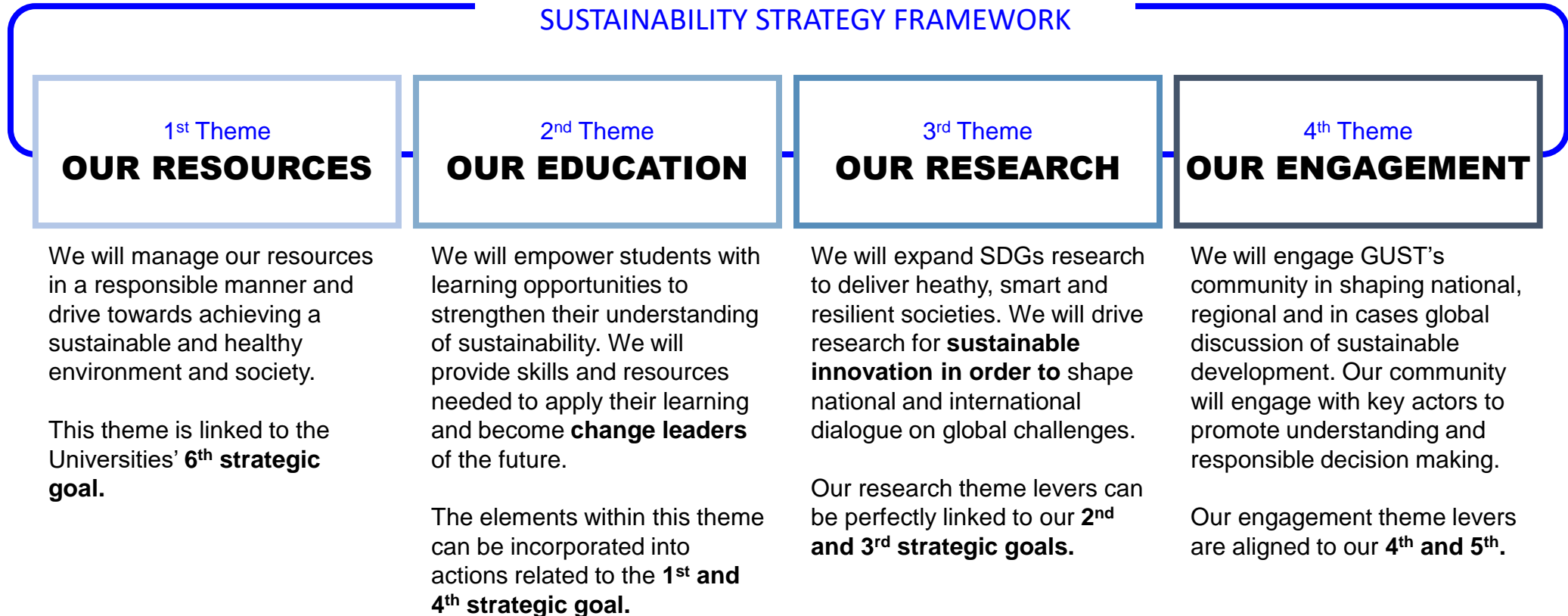


LAUNCH OF STRATEGY

5

Based on all the inputs and efforts we have put into building our sustainable approach and strategy we are finally ready to launch our sustainability strategy.

WE BUILT OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY AROUND 4 THEMES



Our Approach: This strategy will act as framework for action that can be incorporated into our strategic action plans. The themes within the Sustainability strategy align to specific goals within the University wide strategy. This framework will help us leverage our resources and impact in support of SDGs.



THEME 1: OUR RESOURCES

OUR AIM: We will manage our resources in a responsible manner and drive towards achieving a sustainable and healthy environment and society.

APPROACH: Our campus and resource management mechanisms will reflect our vision. We will commit to generating targets to improve different areas within our resources; **Energy, Water, Construction, Waste Management, Procurement & Catering and Biodiversity**



LEVER 1 | ENERGY

To decrease our carbon footprint for Scope 1 and 2 emissions, minimizing Scope 3 emissions where possible, while also fostering a student learning and growth environment and ensuring state of art learning spaces.

LEVER 2 | WATER

To ensure the responsible management of water resources on campus by reducing our consumption and preventing pollution of the natural environment.

LEVER 3 | CONSTRUCTION

To consider sustainability at all stages of building, expanding and/or refurbishment, and to work with architects and contractors to minimize the environmental impact of construction.

LEVER 4 | WASTE MANAGEMENT

To reduce waste arising from different activity streams through innovative approaches to reduce consumption of single use items, reuse materials and promote recycling.

LEVER 5 | PROCUREMENT & CATERING

To incorporate sustainability in key procurement considerations and decisions. Moreover, deliver sustainable catering services by working with suppliers to ensure responsible and ethical sourcing and waste management practices.

LEVER 6 | BIODIVERSITY

Enrich GUST's natural environment and promote biodiversity across the campus by safeguarding and conserving natural ecosystems wherever possible.



THEME 2: OUR EDUCATION

OUR AIM: We will empower students with learning opportunities to strengthen their understanding of sustainability. We will provide skills and resources needed to apply their learning and become change leaders of the future.

APPROACH: Our offerings delivery and diversity will reflect our objectives. We will ensure that students graduating from all of our programs have an understanding and basic tool kit to respond to global sustainability challenges. This will be reflected in our **curricula, experiential learning programs** and the **student's sustainable enterprise outputs**.



LEVER 1 | CURRICULA

To respond to student and societal needs both by incorporating sustainability themes into the curriculum and/or creating new sustainability courses. This will also provide access to relevant modules and courses to all students, and increase our focus on the skills required to lead and drive change.

LEVER 2 | EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

To invest and support experiential frameworks that promote though leadership and problem solving skills. To also invest in skilling and capability development to provide students with a fuller understanding of their respective environmental and social aspects of sustainability.

LEVER 3 | SUSTAINABLE ENTERPRISE

To build problem solving and collaboration networks across our educational offerings focused on the sustainability agenda. We will build the next generation of entrepreneurs through our innovation architecture which includes some of our flagship programs and partnerships.



THEME 3: OUR RESEARCH

OUR AIM: We will expand SDGs research to deliver healthy, smart and resilient societies. We will drive research for **sustainable innovation in order to** shape national and international dialogue on global challenges.

APPROACH: We will drive and support research tackling global challenges to build a sustainable future for humanity. We will capitalize on **strategic direction**, our existing and future **research centres** and building an **interdisciplinary approach**.



LEVER 1 | STRATEGIC RESEARCH AREAS

To reaffirm and support impactful research strategically by bringing together University wide research community to drive sustainable and innovative research that can resolve national, regional and global sustainability challenges.

LEVER 2 | RESEARCH CENTRES

To leverage existing research centers as vehicles to drive thought leadership on multiple disciplines using local context as a use case. Moreover, we will create new Research Centers that address national, regional and global challenges. We will use our existing and future centers to foster collaboration and develop our campus' innovation architecture.

LEVER 3 | INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

To build a network across our research community, disciplines and centers. Moreover, we will capitalize on our interdisciplinary approach, innovation architecture and partnership ecosystem to drive breakthrough findings to guide the transition to a more sustainable society.



THEME 4: OUR ENGAGEMENT

OUR AIM: We will engage GUST’s community in shaping national, regional and in cases global discussion of sustainable development. Our community will engage with key actors to promote understanding and responsible decision making.

APPROACH: Promote a culture that encourages growth, dares to innovate and challenge status quo through our impact vehicles; community, outreach, partnership ecosystem and public & policy makers.



LEVER 1 | COMMUNITY

To deliver varied programs and initiatives to engage and involve youth and adults with SDGs. We will also focus on increasing community service initiatives and reaching under-represented communities.

LEVER 2 | OUTREACH

To leverage our schools’ network and provide activities for younger generations to engage with GUST’s SDGs initiatives; research, education, community service etc. and empower participants to become “Change Makers” of the future.

LEVER 3 | PARTNERSHIP ECOSYSTEM

Build a robust sustainability partnership ecosystem with local, regional and global players to collaborate and grow GUST’s circle of impact through.

LEVER 4 | THE PUBLIC & POLICY MAKERS

To drive the SDGs agenda and strengthen community engagement with national and international entities to innovate, create impact and achieve societal advancement.

#SustainableGUST