KIBABII UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

(A Constituent College of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology)

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

JUNE, 2014

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

Environment: Is the surrounding of the organization (KIBUCO) which will include social, economical and physical.

Management: organization and coordination of environmental sustainability activities.

Policy: Refers to guiding principles for implementation of a strategy

Staff: Refers to all employees of the University College

Stakeholders: Individual or organizations with which the Kibabii University College Environment Management Mainstreaming Committee works directly.

Strategy: A set of planned activities to achieve the objectives of a policy.

Sustainability: Conserving an ecological balance by avoiding depletion of natural resources.

Sustainable Environmental management: The way we use, conserve and enhance the community's resource so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained and the total quality of life now and in the future is secured.

University College: Refers to Kibabii University College

ACRONYMS

CBOs: Community Based Organizations

DEMS: Directorate of Environment Management and Sustainability

EMCA: Environment Management Co-ordination Act

ESD: Education for Sustainable Development

GoK: Government of Kenya

HIV/AIDS: Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

ICT: Information Communication Technology

IHE: Institution of Higher Learning

KIBUCO: Kibabii University College

NEC: National Environment Council

NEMA: National Environmental Management Authority

NGOs: Non Governmental Organizations

SD: Sustainable Development

UN: United Nations

UNDESD: United Nation Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

FORWARD

The world is currently facing complex environmental problems caused by increasing population and increased development that have both resulted in environmental degradation, economic and social constraints. The consequences have been global warming, depletion of the ozone layer, increased waste, air and water pollution, poverty and food insecurity.

Therefore, the UN declared the periods (2005-2014) as the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD). As a response to this, Kenya has developed an Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Implementation strategy to serve all sectors.

The Kenya ESD strategy is guided by three broad strategic objectives namely to:-

- Enhance the role of Education and learning for equitable, efficient and sustainable utilization of the country's resources.

- Promote quality education through diverse learning and public awareness for improved quality of life and productive livelihoods.

- Promote teaching and learning that inculcates appropriate values, behavior and lifestyles for good governance and sustainability.

When the National Environment Council (NEC) adopt the ESD implementation strategy document on April 24, 2008, NEMA was given the mandate to roll out the document for use by different stakeholders such as government institutions including Institutions of Higher Education (IHE), civil society organizations, the private sector and media.

The University College through its vision endeavours to incorporate environmental management and sustainability issues in the implementation of its mandate of Science, Technology, Innovation and Community Service. This policy, therefore, provides an opportunity for Kibabii University College (KIBUCO) to work more closely with its students, staff, the local community and the local and international partners to deliver on its mandate.

Principal,
KIBABII UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The development of this Environmental Sustainability Policy for Kibabii University College (KIBUCO) would not have been possible without the enormous contribution of a number of stakeholders. We extend our appreciation to the different institutions that devoted their time and resources towards the development of this policy.

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) played a catalytic role in the development of this policy by providing technical support. This involved sensitizing the University College on the role of Institutions of Higher Education and Sustainable Environmental Management through information exchange and continuous encouragement.

Additionally, the Kibabii University College Environment Management Mainstreaming Committee are appreciated for their tireless efforts in putting together this policy document. Lastly, but not least, are participants to the various consultative fora held and whose contributions enriched this policy and the University College for offering conducive environment for the development of this policy.

I look forward to successful implementation of this policy by the University College, with continued assistance from the various stakeholders.

(Chair, Environment Management Mainstreaming Committee)

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Establishment of Kibabii University College

Kibabii University College (KIBUCO) was established through the Legal Notice No. 115 of 2011.

The University College endeavors to achieve quality education and training by mainstreaming environmental sustainability issues in its academic and non-academic programmes, innovation, research and extension, community service, and management strategies.

1.1 Objectives

KIBUCO is dedicated to the realization of Vision 2030. The University College Strategic Plan (2012/13 – 2016/17) outlines the following strategic objectives to guide its pursuit of excellence in the next five years as a contribution towards the attainment of Vision 2030.

1.1.1 Overall Objective

To engage in the discovery of new knowledge and skills for addressing the scientific, socio-economic and technological concerns nationally, regionally and internationally.

1.1.2 Strategic objectives

  i.   To produce graduates equipped with relevant knowledge, skills, attitudes and values critical to the posterity of human beings and society.
  ii. To undertake research, innovation and extension aimed at generating new knowledge, skills and strategies that shall drive sustainable development and wealth creation for the benefit of the community.
  iii. To establish and maintain infrastructure and services.
  iv. To advance the intellectual and human resource capacity through training and team-building.
  v.   To publicize University College programmes, activities and promote its public image.
  vi. To practice prudent financial management.

1.2 Mandate

The mandate of KIBUCO, as contained in the Legal Notice No. 115 of August 2011 is;

i.   To provide directly, or in collaboration with other institutions of higher learning, facilities for university education, the integration of teaching, research and effective application of knowledge and skills to the life, work and welfare of the citizens of Kenya.

ii.   To participate in the research, transmission and preservation and enhancement of knowledge and to stimulate the intellect participation of students in the economic, social, cultural, scientific and technological development of Kenya.

iii.   To provide and advance university education and training to appropriately qualified candidates, leading to the conferment of degrees and award of diplomas and certificates and such other qualifications as the Council and the Senate shall from time to time determine and in so doing , contribute to manpower needs;

iv.   To conduct examinations for such academic awards as may be provided in the statutes pertaining to the University College;

v.   To examine and make proposals for new faculties, schools , institutes , departments, resource and research centers, degree courses and subjects of study;

vi.   To play a leading role in the development and expansion of the opportunities for higher education and research;

vii.   To contribute to industrial and technological developments through innovations and technology transfer.

viii. To develop as an institution of excellence in teaching, training, scholarship, entrepreneurship, innovation, research, and consultancy services;

ix.   To participate in commercial ventures and other activities for the benefit of the institution, the community and stakeholders;

x.   To contribute to agriculture, industrial and technological development of Kenya in collaboration with industrial and other institutions through the transfer of appropriate technology;

xi. To develop and provide educational, cultural, professional, technical and vocational services to the community and in particular foster corporate social responsibility and the practical arts;

xii. To provide programmes, products and services in ways that reflect the principles of equity and social justice;

xiii. To facilitate student mobility between different programmes at different training institutions, universities and industry; and

xiv. To foster the general welfare of all staff and students.

1.3 Vision

To be a Global and Dynamic University of Excellence in Science, Technology and Innovation.

1.4 Mission

To achieve excellence in generation, transmission and enhancement of new knowledge in Science, Technology and Innovation through quality Teaching, Research, Training, Scholarship, Consultancy and Outreach programmes.

1.5 Philosophy Statement

KIBUCO embodies the view that Science, Technology and Innovation are critical for sustainable utilization of material and human resources for the posterity of the universe.

1.6 Motto

Knowledge for Development.

1.7 Values

To undertake its mission and realize its vision, KIBUCO upholds the following values: -

i. Productivity
ii. Professionalism
iii. Excellence

iv. Accountability and Transparency

v. Equity

vi. Integrity

vii. Academic freedom

viii. Social responsibility

ix. Innovation

x. Respect for human rights

CHAPTER TWO

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

2.0 Policy Context

The Constitution of Kenya is quite coherent in the need to promote Environmental Management and Sustainability in Kenya. Its preamble commits the people of Kenyans to be respectful of their environment as their heritage. Kenyans are called upon to conserve their environment for posterity, and to be proud of their ethnic, cultural and religious diversity, and strive to live in peace and unity as one indivisible sovereign nation. Article 10 (2d) in particular identifies sustainability as one of the national values and principles of governance. Additionally, article 42 provides for the right to a healthy environment for all Kenyans.

Kenya's development blue print (Kenya Vision 2030) identifies several emerging challenges in environmental management and sustainability which include environmental degradation, forestry, food insecurity, water resources, pollution and waste management, climate change, bio-technology, integrated environmental planning, and unplanned human settlement among others.

That is, environmental management and sustainability is, therefore, is a critical undertaking needed to help Kenyans realize the aspirations of our Constitution and the Vision 2030.

In the context of Kibuco, being a young institution, a number of environmental challenges abound:

    i.   Solid waste and waste water management

    ii.   Soil and water conservation

    iii.   Surface/drain water management

    iv.   Electronic waste management

    v.   Unplanned business and settlement structures

    vi.   Air (noise pollution) among others.

Climate change impacts will always be a challenge to the University College as reflected in:

    i.   Unreliable water supplies

ii.   Unreliable power/energy supplies.

2.1 Purpose of the policy

To embrace, integrate and implement the principles of environmental management and sustainability in all aspects of the University College.

2.3 Policy Objectives

The objectives of the Policy are:

i.   To encourage changes in behavior that promote a more ecologically sustainable environment at University College.

ii.   To enhance KIBUCO's responsiveness to environmental management and sustainability challenges at the university college

iii.   To re-orient university college operations to promote environmental knowledge, skills, perspectives and values inherent to sustainability.

iv.   To build capacity and improve knowledge, skills, and leadership in line with the university college mandate.

2.4 Guiding Principles

i.   The policy will be guided by the following principles:-

ii.   Improving the quality of life for all

iii.   Changing personal attitudes and practices

iv.   Integrate local and global environmental sustainability issues and practices

v.   Respect for the community and conserving diversity

vi.   Keeping within the earth's carrying capacity.

2.5 Roles and responsibilities of the Committee

The Environment Management Mainstreaming Committee will undertake the following activities towards environmental management and sustainability:-

i.   Develop and implement environmental awareness creation programmes

ii.   Develop and implement climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives (eg. energy saving and water harvesting)

iii. Promote tree planting and other soil conservation activities in and around the University College

iv. Promote environmental protection and conservation through partnerships with stakeholders

v. Initiate community outreach activities on environmental management and sustainability.

2.6 Implementation Strategy

2.6.1 Introduction

The implementation of this environment management and sustainability policy is a priority in order for the University College to achieve the global accolade of being a sustainable university. The implementation of this policy will be guided by the mandate of the University College, and will embrace the environmental pillar of our vision 2030. These include Teaching and Training, Research, Innovation and Community Service mandate. It is proposed that a Directorate of Environment Management and Sustainability (DEMS) be created in the University College to be in-charge of implementing environmental management and sustainability issues. The implementation of the policy, however, requires the goodwill of the stakeholders and collaborators, and the local, national, regional and global community.

2.6.2 Teaching and Training Mandate

Objective:

To develop programs for imparting knowledge to promote environmental management and sustainability practices.

Policy statement

The University College shall:

i. Integrate ESD principles in its curricula to deliver teaching and training based on the principles of environmental management and sustainability.

Strategies:

i. Incorporate environmental issues in University College teaching and training curriculum

ii. Allocate adequate resources to support environmental management and sustainability initiatives

iii. Extend environment management and sustainability training materials to collaborating and partnering organizations.

iv. Promote practical involvement of students in conservation activities such as tree planting.

v. Encourage exchange programmes with best practicing institutions.

2.6.3 Research and Innovation Mandate

Objective:

To promote and encourage better research (basic and applied) methods, and appropriate technologies, invention and innovation for sustainable environment.

Policy Statements:

The University College shall:

i. Encourage relevant research on emerging issues including climate change, waste management, biodiversity, biotechnology and green technologies

ii. Develop partnerships and networks with relevant organizations on environmental, social and economic research areas.

iii. Promote and facilitate innovations that address social, economic and ecological challenges of society.

iv. Avail more funds to promote research and innovations for sustainable development.

Strategies:

i. Partner with other stakeholders to mobilize resources for community engagement in environment management and sustainability.

ii. Develop programmes that enhance research competence in environment management and sustainability.

iii. Facilitate staff and students to acquire skills on applied research methods.

iv.   Establish collaborations to undertake practical research and disseminate findings on emerging environment management and sustainability issues.

v.   Promote and utilize appropriate aspects of indigenous knowledge.

vi.   Encourage the use of ICT in the University College research and innovation operations.

vii.   Mobilize and allocate funds for research on environment management and sustainability.

viii.   Put in place innovative climate change mitigation measures including green energy harnessing, tree planting, and water harvesting among others.

2.6.4 Community Outreach and Service Mandate

Objective:

To promote public awareness and build understanding of the principles of environment management and sustainability through partnerships with the community under '3 Cares' of local well-being; i.e., Care for self; Care for one another and Care for one's environment.

Policy statements:

The University College shall:

i.   **Promote development of green technologies.**

ii.   **Promote collaborative resource mobilization for community engagement.**

iii.   **Promote capacity building for sustainable environmental management practices with the community.**

iv.   **Enhance inclusive community representation in sustainable environmental practices.**

v.   **Promote cultural cohesion, equity, social harmony and integration of cross-cutting issues.**

Strategy

i.   Partner with other stakeholders to mobilize resources for community engagement, and waste management.

ii.   Identify, document and harness indigenous knowledge and projects for environmental management and sustainability.

iii. Create awareness of the environmental management and sustainability practices and innovations to the community through the mass media, public fora and creative art.

iv. Mentor community leaders on environmental management and sustainability issues.

v. Promote the use of ICT and social media networks in the promotion of environmental conservation issues in the community.

vi. Promote HIV and AIDS and other health aspects education and awareness

vii. Engage stakeholders in sustainable development events like cleaning the environment, tree-planting, sports, cultural events.

CHAPTER THREE

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

3.0 Policy Implementation

The University College will play a critical and leading role in addressing the environmental challenges by integrating and implementing necessary strategies within its mandate to ensure sustainability as shown in Figure 1.

While the proposed Directorate of Environment Management and Sustainability (see Figure 2) will be responsible for day to day implementation of the policy, the College Principal will be the chief custodian of this policy.

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                    │       University College Management          │
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┌───────────────┬───────────────┬───────────────┬───────────────┐
│ Training and  │ Research and  │ Administration│ Community     │
│ curriculum    │ innovation    │               │ service       │
│ development   │               │               │               │
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│        Environment Management and Sustainability Issues         │
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                    │ SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AT   │
                    │ UNIVERSITY COLLEGE           │
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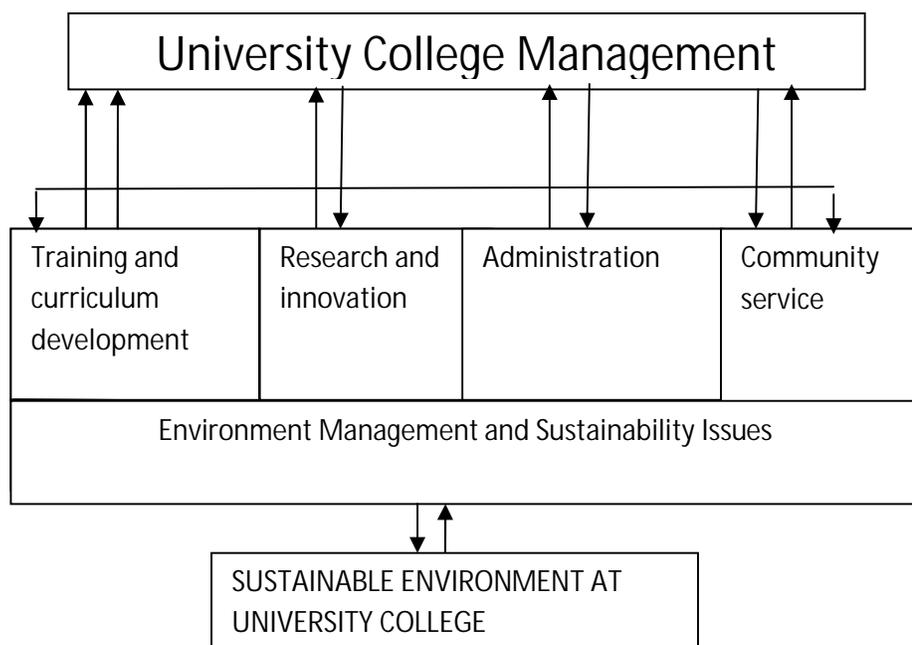
Figure 1: Implementation Framework

The implementation process of the policy will be guided by the University College's core values which include:

      i.   Productivity.

     ii.   Professionalism.

iii.   Excellence.

iv.   Accountability and Transparency.

v.   Equity.

vi.   Integrity.

vii.   Academic freedom.

viii.   Social responsibility.

ix.   Innovation.

x.   Respect for human rights.

3.1 Implementation requirements

3.1.1 Stakeholder Involvement and Participation

The implementation strategy of this policy will involve communities, civil society, private sector, collaborating learning and research institutions, policy makers and development partners. The engagement and participation of stakeholders in the implementation process is guided by their mandate, their capability and priorities. Stakeholders will be involved at all stages of the implementation including monitoring and evaluation. KIBUCO will explore measures to enable donors finance the various projects related to this policy.

### 3.1.2 Resource Requirements

Implementation of this policy requires a deliberate and targeted allocation of resources (financial, human and technological) that calls for resources capacity assessment. However, the impacts from various interventions in the policy often take time to be realized hence the need for prioritization. The University College should, therefore, undertakes to implement the policy with the help of the potential partners such as GoK parastatals, development partners, international organizations, universities, the private sectors, NGOs and religious organizations and KIBUCO itself.

3.1.3 Implementation Structure

The proposed Directorate of Environmental Management and Sustainability (DEMS) shall oversee environment management and sustainability issues at the University College. The

Directorate shall report to the Deputy Principal (ARE). The office will liaise horizontally with the Deans, Directors and the Registrars, and vertically with other offices on environmental sustainability matters (see Figure 2).

Data and information related to environment management and sustainability generated from Faculty/Schools/Centres and Departments will be collated and transmitted to the Directorate for processing and analysis and generation of necessary reports/documents. Recommendations arising from the analysis will then be communicated to relevant offices of the University College and stakeholders
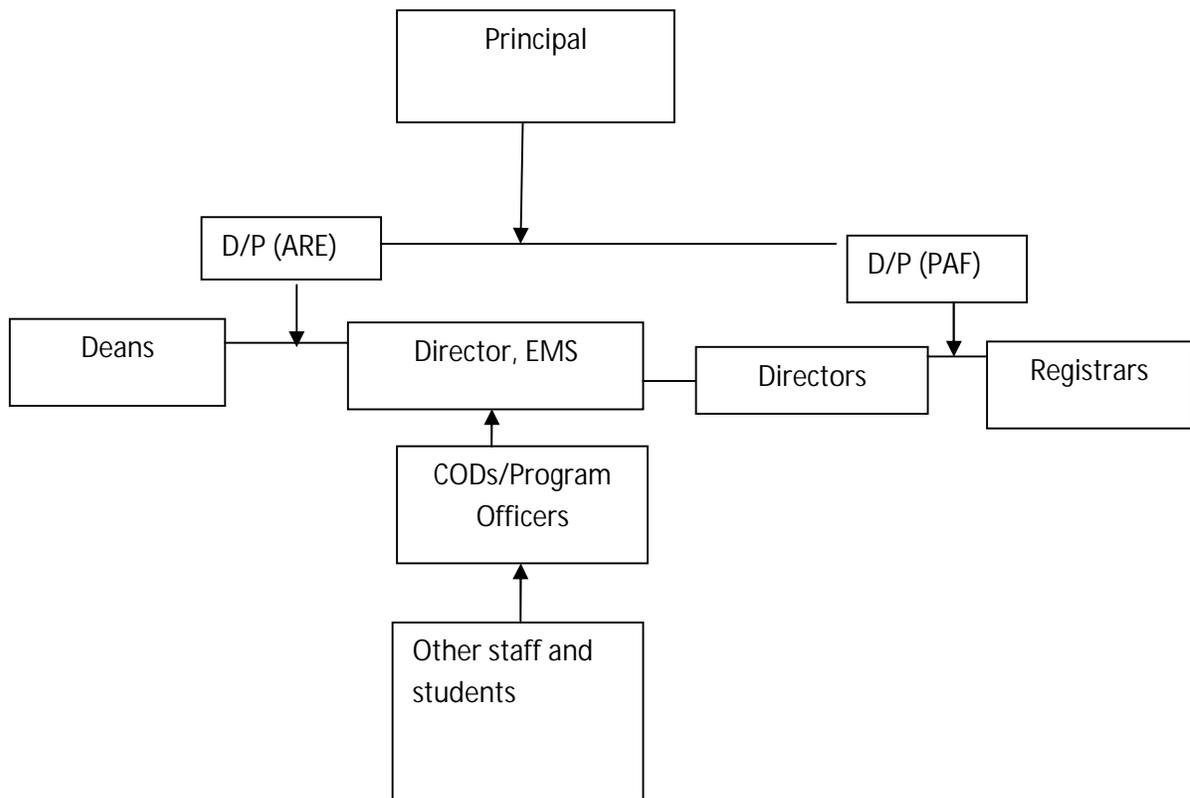
Figure 2: Interaction of the Directorate with the other University College Officers

3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

The purpose of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is to ensure its effective and efficient implementation of this policy. It will also ensure environmental management and sustainability concerns are addressed and integrated in all the University College systems. The policy programmes will be monitored and evaluated by the Environment Management Mainstreaming Committee of the University College spearheaded by the Directorate. Appropriate monitoring and evaluation mechanism will be adopted to quarterly track the achievement of the set objectives. This will involve all the major stakeholders.

3.3 Review of the Policy

Consequently, the policy will be reviewed from time to time by the University College management in consultation with the Environment Management Mainstreaming Committee and with the approval of the University Council.

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