

SDG 15 LIFE ON LAND 2026

university of sharjah

Sharjah UAE





SDG 15.2.1

Events about sustainable use of land

The University of Sharjah supports environmental events and student activities that promote sustainability and the protection of natural resources. On 25 November 2024, female students from the University participated in the 24th Inter-College Environmental Public Speaking Competition organised by the Emirates Environmental Group (EEG), under the theme *"Greennovation: Envisioning Cities of Tomorrow"*. The team was formed from the Student Council and the student debate team and represented the University at the Middle East level in an environmental competition focused on green innovation and future cities.



Alongside these activities, the University facilitated student involvement in COP28 by inviting female students to register and submit their achievements for participation in the University's pavilion. More than 125 students expressed interest, and four were selected to take part in the conference. Their participation connected them to discussions and initiatives related to sustainability and climate action, and the selected students were honored at the conclusion of the

event. These efforts demonstrate the University's ongoing support for events that encourage environmental responsibility and promote sustainable use of natural resources among the student community.

Moreover, the University has established 36 sustainability circles designed to promote sustainability measures, activities, and community involvement. These circles address a range of environmental themes aligned with COP28, such as climate change mitigation, adaptation, circular economy practices, sustainable studies, water management, waste management, and broader sustainability awareness. The circles meet regularly to identify issues, discuss solutions, and develop actions that support sustainability across the campus and the community. Through these structured activities, the University provides ongoing opportunities for engagement in events and initiatives related to the sustainable use of natural resources.





SDG 15.2.2

Sustainably farmed food on campus

The University of Sharjah directly supports sustainable food production on campus through an active community-based organic farming initiative. This work is carried out at the College of Medicine's greenhouse and community farm, where students, staff, and volunteers participate in soil production, composting, and organic cultivation activities. The program demonstrates practical sustainable agriculture by transforming campus food waste into high-yield soil, producing a wide variety of crops, and engaging the community in low-cost, environmentally responsible farming practices. These initiatives promote sustainable land use, waste reduction, and local food production.

Relevant report can be seen in the section below.

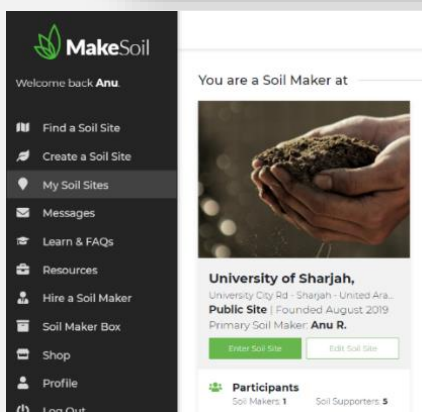
Current Projects and Achievements

- 1) Produced +500 Kg of high-yield soil in the College of Medicine with the corporation of the faculty, service personnel, and Janitors achieving “Zero food waste”.
- 2) Reused yogurt containers from the hospital canteen to make compost bins (which otherwise will cost 400AED for one unit) to make our soil.
- 3) Utilized sawdust and goat dung as manure in the greenhouse allocated by the UOS as a part of sustainable community gardening.
- 4) Planting. More than 56 types of tomatoes were grown, in addition to other food crops such as mint, dill, squash, eggplant, and pepper.



Links & Figures:

- 1) Created a drop-off point (University of Sharjah) using an application (Make Soil) for the community to deposit biodegradable food waste. (5.10.2019)



- 2) Preparing a bed for growing plants using sawdust and goat dung in the greenhouse provided at the UOS campus (02.09.2019).

Click the link below to watch the video:

<https://bit.ly/35Zh29t>

- 3) Interview with Helen Farmer on Social Balcony Gardening at 108.3 FM. (09.10.2019)

Click the link below to listen to the interview:

<https://bit.ly/3mZHp6j>

- 4) Guest speaker at The New Indian Model School, Dubai as a part of learning from leaders (10.10.2019).

- 5) Workshop for the children in the apartment on recycling plastic bottles & paper cups to grow plants and management of biodegradable kitchen waste to produce high-yield soil (12.10.2019).

Click the link below to watch the video:

<https://bit.ly/389037A>

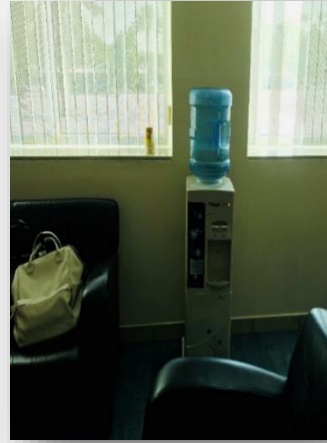
- 6) Educating the community about organic farming through social networks such as Youtube & Facebook (13.10.2019). <https://youtu.be/LmSKhCnlbbI>

- 7) Workshop on low-cost gardening to the community of UAE at Kaber Farms UAQ (18.10.2019).

<https://bit.ly/3eudcJu>



- 8) Installed two water dispensers and provided paper cups for the students at the College of Medicine, UOS to reduce the use of single-use water bottles. (13.10.2019).
- 9) Installed GOBBLE a compost maker and a deep freezer to store the biodegradable kitchen waste and started to make the first set of high-yield soil at the College of Medicine UOS (19.10.2019).
- 10) Reused yogurt containers from the hospital canteen of UOS to make compost bins (24.10.2019).
- 11) Recycling paper cups & foam cups to saw seeds & grow saplings (21.10.2019).
- 12) Held our first official meeting with the students at the College of Medicine to discuss the strategies and work towards achieving the same (27.10.2019).
- 13) Set up our first booth with the members of LEAF to bring about awareness among the public in recycling biodegradable kitchen waste and low-cost farming at the “Health, community and Environmental Awareness



14) +2 tons of high-yield soil produced by collecting dry leaves, used cartons, and food scraps from both the College of Medicine and UOS community – 1025 AED savings.

15) Adding HDPE Liner to save water – 30% of water.

16) Conducting the 'First community garden virtual workshop' to the stakeholders of the community farm.

17) Obtained the organic certification from Emirates Authority for Standardization and Metrology "ESMA" to sell the produced organic crops to the market.

18) Educating the community of UAE about organic farming through social media successfully led to them practicing it in their homes.

19) Harvested 40 different types of tomatoes, radishes, cabbage, spinach, okra, and mint and sold them to the supermarkets and community with UOS.





SDG 15.2.3

Maintain and extend current ecosystems' biodiversity

The University of Sharjah undertakes multiple direct initiatives that contribute to maintaining, restoring, and enhancing biodiversity across plant and animal ecosystems on campus. These initiatives are implemented through organized sustainability circles and community-led environmental projects that focus on native plants, sustainable agriculture, and animal welfare.

One key component is the **Integrated Organic Farm**, which promotes environmentally responsible agricultural practices. This initiative supports biodiversity by producing chemical-free soil, eliminating the use of pesticides and fertilizers, recycling biodegradable waste, and rehabilitating sandy soils using natural materials such as sawdust and animal dung. The farm's work in composting, soil fabrication, and organic cultivation helps improve soil health, reduce environmental pressures, and support diverse plant growth. The project also develops long-term strategies for increasing local production of fruits and vegetables using sustainable land-use methods.

In parallel, the **Agriculture Sustainability Circle** focuses specifically on native plant biodiversity. The group cultivates native species under controlled nursery conditions and uses them in landscaping areas of the University campus. This work directly contributes to preserving plant species adapted to local desert environments, including medicinal, culturally significant, and ecologically important plants. Seeds from approximately 15 native species have been collected and grown, and the initiative aims to encourage both the University and Sharjah Municipality to adopt native plants for broader landscaping and conservation purposes. These efforts support the maintenance of threatened desert ecosystems and promote the restoration of natural habitats.

Biodiversity protection is further supported through the **Animal Welfare Sustainability Circle**, which implements humane and structured management of stray animals on campus. The circle uses the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) method to control the stray cat population, establishes feeding stations, provides medical care, and raises community awareness about sustainable animal welfare practices. These activities improve the health and stability of animal populations while reducing ecological disruption. The group also collaborates with external veterinary services and explores partnerships with local authorities to support long-term animal care and ecosystem balance.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate that the University of Sharjah is actively engaged in maintaining and extending biodiversity across campus through sustainable agriculture, native plant conservation, and responsible animal welfare programs.



SDG 15.2.4

Educational programs on ecosystems

The University of Sharjah actively supports national efforts to enhance environmental knowledge and strengthen ecosystem resilience. Through the Sharjah Smart Center for Climate Resilience (SSCCR), the University provides educational programs, workshops, and scientific engagement opportunities that directly address ecosystem sustainability, climate resilience, and environmental stewardship. These programs target local and national communities, including government entities, researchers, and policy leaders.

SSCCR Hosts Strategic Workshop on Environmental Resilience in Collaboration with Government Entities

On Wednesday, February 26, 2025, the Sharjah Smart Center for Climate Resilience (SSCCR) organized a landmark workshop at the University of Sharjah, bringing together key governmental entities, researchers, and policy leaders to strengthen collaboration in tackling climate change and advancing environmental sustainability in the UAE and beyond.



The workshop featured the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment (MOCCAEE) and the University of Sharjah, underscoring a joint commitment to integrate national climate policies with scientific research and academic expertise. The agreement was signed by Her Excellency Dr. Alanoud Al Haj, Acting Assistant Undersecretary for the Green Development and Climate Change Sector, and His Excellency Prof. Hamid M.K. Al Naimiy, Chancellor of the University of Sharjah.

This collaboration will focus on key areas such as climate risk forecasting, data-driven policymaking, remote sensing, and AI-based environmental monitoring—helping pave the way for a more climate-resilient future.

In addition to this milestone, the event also celebrated the signing of a collaborative research agreement between the University of Sharjah and DAVAS Prime Middle East Manufacturing. This initiative aims to enhance agricultural sustainability in arid and desert regions through the application of glauconite as a soil ameliorant, in combination with biochar and biostimulants (bioeffectors). The project will be implemented in two phases, starting with controlled greenhouse experiments and expanding to field applications across the Gulf, Middle East, and North Africa.

Both agreements mark a significant step in aligning scientific innovation with national and regional sustainability agendas, further positioning SSCCR as a driving force in building climate resilience through impactful research and strategic partnerships.



SDG 15.2.5

Sustainable management of land for agriculture

The University of Sharjah is committed to providing educational opportunities that enhance community understanding of ecosystems, biodiversity, and sustainable environmental practices. Through strategic partnerships and community-focused initiatives, the University offers programs that address ecological sustainability, sustainable agriculture, and the protection of natural resources. The following evidence demonstrates how the University delivers ecosystem-related educational activities to both local and national communities.

Sharjah Sustainable City – the first sustainable master-planned residential community developed by Sharjah Investment and Development Authority (Shurooq) in partnership with Diamond Developers, joined forces with the University of Sharjah's College of Fine Arts and Design (CFAD) to promote sustainable agriculture among students.

As part of this collaboration, the city recently participated in the Sustainability Day celebrations hosted by CFAD under the theme 'Beyond the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.' During the event,



experts from the city conducted a special workshop titled “Plant Your Pot,” where approximately 300 students, faculty and staff learned about creative sustainable agriculture practices.

Commenting on the occasion, Carl Atallah, Director of Marketing & Communications at Sharjah Sustainable City, said: “We are delighted to partner once again with the University of Sharjah’s College of Fine Arts and Design and share our knowledge with students.

The workshop exemplified how collaborations can promote sustainability and generate interest among the younger generation while harnessing their creative potential. As the world faces several challenges posed by climate change, using creativity and art is one of the most effective means to promote sustainable agriculture and cultivate change among future generations. This aligns with our broader efforts to promote eco-friendly practices beyond our city and engage with a wider range of stakeholders, including youth.”

For her part, Professor Nadia M. Alhasani, Dean at CFAD, said: “We were pleased to have Sharjah Sustainable City join us in celebrating Sustainability Day and promoting sustainable agriculture among our students. Their creative workshop aligned perfectly with our theme, ‘Beyond the 17 Sustainable Development Goals,’ which aimed to raise awareness and push the boundaries of sustainability. We regularly engage our students with interactive learning and critical thinking activities, encouraging them to innovate. Our goal is for students to draw inspiration from diverse environments and apply their creativity not only to their projects but also to real-life challenges, including environmental issues and how they can use art to address them.”

As part of its commitment to enhancing the quality of life for its residents while ensuring the needs of future generations are met, Sharjah Sustainable City regularly organizes workshops for its residents on a wide range of topics. The city has also formed collaborations with key entities to promote sustainable practices while cultivating an exceptional and sustainable community that embraces the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and inspires a low-carbon future.

The workshop concluded with the distribution of sustainably made gifts among the students, reinforcing the importance of eco-friendly practices. This event builds on the recent collaboration between Sharjah Sustainable City and CFAD, where both organizations partnered to host a workshop on wood recycling for residents and students earlier this year. Through these efforts, the city continues to promote eco-friendly living and environmental awareness within its community and beyond.

“This article was published in the sharjah sustainability city official website 5th of novmber 2024”



SDG 15.2.6

Sustainable management of land for tourism (education outreach)

The University of Sharjah contributes to national sustainability efforts by producing research and knowledge that support responsible tourism, environmental protection, and sustainable land management. Through academic work that provides insights for public authorities, tourism organizations, and local communities, the University plays an active role in enhancing national awareness of sustainable tourism practices.

The College of Communication at the University of Sharjah recently hosted the defense of a doctoral dissertation by researcher Fakhra Abdullah Issa Al Balushi, titled Communication Strategies for Promoting Sustainable Ecotourism in the United Arab Emirates. Supervised by Dr. Thouraya Snoussi, Chair of the Department of Mass Communication, the study aimed to assess the efficacy of various communication strategies in promoting ecotourism by examining their influence on tourists' perceptions, engagement, and environmentally conscious behaviors. Additionally, the research sought to provide insights that support the growth of sustainable tourism by identifying the most effective communication channels, messaging strategies, and approaches for raising awareness and fostering responsible tourism practices. The thesis committee comprised Dr. Fawzia Al Ali, Dr. Badriya Al Janibi, and Dr. Ahmed Farouk.

The findings of Dr. Al Balushi's research underscore the need for a more dynamic and interactive approach to promoting tourism. The researcher recommends that government tourism websites transition away from traditional, news-style formats and adopt more engaging and immersive platforms. Integrating storytelling techniques, multimedia content, and experiential marketing could attract a broader audience, inspire travel, and ensure the long-term sustainability of tourist destinations. Furthermore, the establishment of a dedicated Ministry of Tourism would enhance these efforts by developing cohesive tourism strategies in coordination with other ministries and local authorities.

The thesis also emphasizes the importance of a balanced approach to sustainable ecotourism promotion—one that harmonizes cultural preservation, environmental protection, and local economic growth. Achieving this balance requires active community involvement, positioning local residents as key players in educating tourists about cultural heritage and reinforcing the importance of protecting natural and historical sites.

Moreover, the study advocates for empowering local populations to serve as cultural and environmental ambassadors. By fostering a deeper and more authentic tourism experience, this approach not only boosts the community's sense of pride but also yields economic benefits. This comprehensive strategy goes beyond merely conserving environmental and cultural resources; it lays the foundation for a sustainable tourism model that ensures long-term prosperity and resilience for local communities.

This dissertation provides educational insights that support sustainable management of land for tourism by examining how communication strategies can encourage responsible interaction with natural and cultural sites. Its recommendations help national stakeholders and communities promote environmentally conscious tourism practices that protect land resources and local ecosystems.





SDG 15.3.1

Sustainable use, conservation and restoration of land (policy)

Policy for sustainable development at the University of Sharjah

University of Sharjah has an objective to become a prominent educational institution in regard to sustainable development. To achieve this ambition University of Sharjah is taking measurements to stimulate the different aspects of sustainability in education and research related fields, as well as physically implementing the concept throughout the campus.

As part of the mentioned objective, University of Sharjah has taken the initiative to assign the responsibility of sustainable development to the Sustainability Office, which include following:

- Become an institutional forefront in the work of sustainable development
- Establish collaborative relationships to promote sustainability
- Increase production and utilization of effective research related to social, economic and ecological development
- Constantly obtain knowledge and competence in the teachings of sustainability
- Incorporate the teachings of sustainable development in various educational activities
- Develop anticipatory solutions for activities that may have negative effects on social, environmental or economic progression
- Frequently review and assess the university's work in sustainable development
- Search for solutions and methods of improvement related to the work in sustainable development
- According to capacity implement technology and resources which promote sustainable development
- To make sustainable solutions available for students, staff and faculty members
- Imprint consequence thinking in decisions which may affect sustainable development for students, staff and faculty members



SDG 15.3.2

Monitoring IUCN and other conservation species (policies)

The University of Sharjah demonstrates a clear commitment to identifying, monitoring, and protecting species present within its campus environment through dedicated animal welfare initiatives. The work of the Animal Welfare Sustainability Circle, particularly its structured TNR programme and health-monitoring efforts for campus cats, reflects an organized approach to safeguarding species that inhabit areas affected by the University's operations.

The Animal Welfare Sustainability Circle have the following policies and goals:

1. Ensure control of the stray cat population through the TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) approach.
2. Create designated feeding stations.
3. Seek volunteers to help with trapping, transporting, and returning cats after surgical procedures.
4. Organize donation drives for food and other necessary support such as medical supplies and pet carriers.
5. Create awareness in the community about the benefits of TNR.
6. Represent the University of Sharjah at local, regional, and international animal welfare workshops, forums, and conferences.
7. Promote the University of Sharjah as an animal-friendly environment through social media and public forums.
8. Make arrangements for care during summer months, including regular provision of food and water, and the construction of permanent air-conditioned shelters on campus.
9. Set up on-campus vet services.
10. Ensure cat wellness through medical treatment and vaccinations against diseases.
11. Respond to the needs of cats and other animals requiring urgent medical attention.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

1. Detecting a slower growth in the cat population.

2. Discerning signs of healthier cats.
3. Observing fewer cats with indications of disease and/or fighting with other cats.
4. Perceiving a growing interest among students and faculty in animal care.

Current Projects and Achievements

1. Arranging off-campus veterinary services for TNR.
2. Developing an awareness campaign within the University of Sharjah community.
3. Collaborating with local grocery stores for a food donation campaign.
4. Seeking volunteers and necessary support.

New Initiatives

1. Establish similar initiatives at the University of Sharjah branch locations.
2. Extend awareness campaigns throughout the Emirate of Sharjah.
3. Collaborate with other organizations and government authorities in addressing animal welfare in the UAE.
4. Collaborate with government authorities to help fund animal welfare, such as through traffic violation payments.
5. Promote pre-vet and Veterinary Technician degree programs for students at the University of Sharjah.
6. Promote Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree programs for students at the University of Sharjah.
7. Establish partnerships with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), London, U.K., for the registration of UOS students obtaining DVM degrees.
8. Provide on-campus and off-campus mobile vet services affiliated with a veterinary program at the University of Sharjah.
9. Promote the establishment of a permanent UOS veterinary service affiliated with veterinary degree programs.



SDG 15.3.3

Local biodiversity included in planning and devt

The University of Sharjah integrates local biodiversity considerations into its planning and development processes through the work of the Architecture and Built Environment Sustainability Circle. Their approach emphasizes sustainable campus design, protection of wildlife habitats, and landscape management practices that ensure ecological factors are incorporated into new construction, renovations, and long-term master planning.

Goals

- Manage the grounds sustainably by integrating economic, social, and ecological dimensions to meet users' needs, protect wildlife habitat, conserve resources, and maintain healthy ecosystems.
- Design, maintain, and manage all hard and soft services in ways that provide a safe, livable, and healthy indoor environment while mitigating the impacts of buildings on the outdoor environment.
- Incorporate environmental features into the design and planning of the campus to produce a sustainable master plan that considers all practices of sustainability.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

1. Building Design and Construction

- Incorporating environmental features in design and construction projects.
- Sustainable decisions in the design phase for enhanced indoor environmental quality, safe, healthy, and productive spaces for the campus community.

2. Landscape Management

- Campus-wide sustainable management of the grounds.

3. Sustainability Planning

- Developing a campus master plan and physical campus plan for current and new buildings, moving towards sustainability.

4. Student Life on Campus

- Integrating campus culture and building management with interactive design decisions to promote student engagement by integrating sustainability into daily campus life.

5. STARS Ranking – Documentation

Preparing documentation for STARS for the following components:

- **Institutional Characteristics (Mandatory):**
 - IC1 Institutional Boundary
 - IC2 Operational Characteristics
 - IC3 Academics and Demographics
- **Operational Performance:**
 - OP3 Building Design and Construction
 - OP9 Landscape Management

Current Projects and Achievements

- Landscape Design of Sustainable Farm for the UOS
- Barrier-Free and Sustainable Master Plan for UOS Campus
- Architectural Design of M3 for Institute of Leadership in Higher Education
- Sustainable Courtyard at College of Fine Arts and Design
- Renovation of the Registration Department, UOS

New Initiatives

- Waste Management and Segregation Campaign — **Total cost: AED 33,000**
- Sustainable Courtyards for UOS Campus — **Total cost: AED 6,000** for (15×5) sq. m
- Project of Access and Comprehensive Design for Persons with Disabilities — **Total cost: AED 200,000**



SDG 15.3.4

Alien species impact reduction (policies)

The University of Sharjah manages the presence of non-native and mixed-breed cats on campus through the organized work of the Animal Welfare Sustainability Circle. The campus cat population includes a variety of breeds, such as long-hair and other domestic types, and the University applies structured TNR programmes, designated feeding stations, and health-monitoring practices to responsibly control and reduce their impact.

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SDG 15.3.5

Collaboration for shared land ecosystems

The University of Sharjah is part of University City of Sharjah, which operates as a shared environment with large green areas, landscaped spaces, and coordinated sustainability practices across all institutions. Because of this structure, the University naturally participates in the joint management and upkeep of these shared land ecosystems.

University City maintains more than 3.47 million m² of green areas and over 63,700 trees, and this landscape is managed at the city level for all institutions, including the University of Sharjah. The University's own environmental work aligns with these efforts, especially in areas such as campus landscaping, sustainable maintenance, and the coordinated processing of green waste, which is handled in cooperation with University City – Sharjah.

These shared systems mean that the University works alongside University City authorities in maintaining open spaces, supporting sustainable landscaping, and contributing to the ecological health of the wider district. This collaboration reflects ongoing participation in managing and caring for the shared land ecosystem that surrounds and connects all institutions within University City.





SDG 15.4.1

Water discharge guidelines and standards

The University of Sharjah implements the PTR-FMP-24 Energy and Water Efficiency Planning policy, which establishes institutional guidelines for the responsible management of water use and discharge across campus. The policy outlines procedures for maintaining water systems, reducing unnecessary consumption, and applying efficient methods such as controlled irrigation and water reuse for non-potable purposes. These measures function as internal standards that help the University protect water quality and minimize potential impacts on surrounding ecosystems and public welfare.

The relevant policy is provided in the section below.

	Policy Main Title	Facilities Management & Planning	Effective Date	1/06/2023
	Policy Subject	Energy and Water Efficiency Planning	Last Review date	12/06/2023
	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-24	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Energy Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Overview

The Energy and Water Efficiency Planning process is set to establish clear guidelines for FMPD Energy Management Section in providing the necessary information and support to manage better and improve the efficiency in energy and water consumption at the UOS and help them reduce costs as well as benchmarking energy consumption against best practice guidelines.

Scope

This policy applies to the Energy Management Section, Head, engineers, and designers, which fall under the Facilities Management and Planning Department (FMPD), in coordination with the relevant stakeholders to carry out the aforementioned activities in a coordinated, efficient, and streamlined manner.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Streamline the process for initiating, approving, and executing various energy efficiency programs taken up by the Energy Management Section.

Abbreviations and Definitions

FMPD: Facilities Management and Planning Department

DoA: Delegation of Authority

FM (O&M): Facilities Management (Operations & Maintenance)

Policy

- The Energy Management Section must consider energy efficiency as a factor in product development and process, facility design, and procurement of goods and services.
- The Cost-benefit analysis should be prepared by the Energy/ Water Engineer and shared with the Head of the Energy Management Section for each planned energy efficiency project. The cost-benefit analysis, along with the budget, should be reviewed and approved by the Head of the Energy Management Section and the FMPD Director prior to initiating the project.
- The Energy/ Water Engineer must conduct regular monitoring of the project to ensure the timely execution of the project and the alignment within the specified budget.
- The Energy/ Water Engineer should conduct a post-implementation review to monitor the energy/ water cost efficiency plans achieved from the project. Any deviation from the targeted efficiency has to be discussed with the Head of the Energy Management Section to take adequate measures during the project.

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Energy Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

- Active participation and engagement of students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders in sustainability initiatives must be encouraged.
- Any unexpected cost of the project should be approved by the Head of the Energy Management Section and FMPD Director.
- The Head of the Energy Management Section must be responsible to undertake initiatives to reduce water consumption and maximize energy conversation.

Guidelines for Efficient Water Management:

- Regular inspection and maintenance of plumbing systems to prevent leaks and water wastage must be done.
- Water-efficient fixtures, such as low-flow toilets, faucets, and showerheads, should be utilized.
- Smart irrigation systems and landscape design that minimizes water consumption for outdoor areas should be utilized.
- Reuse of water for non-potable purposes, such as landscaping and cleaning, must be encouraged

Guidelines for Energy Conservation Practices:

- Energy-efficient lighting solutions, such as LED bulbs, in all areas of the institute should be installed.
- The use of natural light and implementing daylight harvesting techniques must be utilized, where applicable.
- HVAC systems should be optimized for energy efficiency through regular maintenance, insulation improvements, and thermostat programming.
- Energy-efficient appliances and equipment should be installed throughout the institute, including computers, printers, and kitchen appliances.

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Energy Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Procedure

A detailed description of how to carry out this process is shown in the below table and flowchart.

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
1	The Energy/ Water Engineer prepares the annual list of energy and water efficiency projects (in consultation with the Head of the Energy Management Section).	Energy/Water Engineer	-	-
2	The Energy/Water Engineer prepares the cost and benefit analysis for planned energy efficiency projects. <i>Note: Input is to be taken from various sections such as procurement, FM (O&M) Section, Projects Management Section, etc.</i>	Energy/Water Engineer	-	Cost-benefit analysis
3	The Head of the Energy Management Section reviews and approves the Cost-Benefit analysis for each project once it is aligned with the objectives of the Energy Management Section.	Head of Energy Management Section	-	-
D1	The Head of the Energy Management Section determines if any changes are required. In case any changes are “required”, proceed to Step 4. The Head of the Energy Management Section provides feedback and suggests the changes required. In case of any changes are not required, proceed to step 5. The Head of the Energy Management Section approves the cost and prepares a consolidated annual budget for energy efficiency projects.	Head of Energy Management Section	-	-
4	The Head of the Energy Management Section provides feedback on the Cost and Benefits Analysis based on the approved departmental standards and budget and suggests changes as and when required.	Head of Energy Management Section	-	-

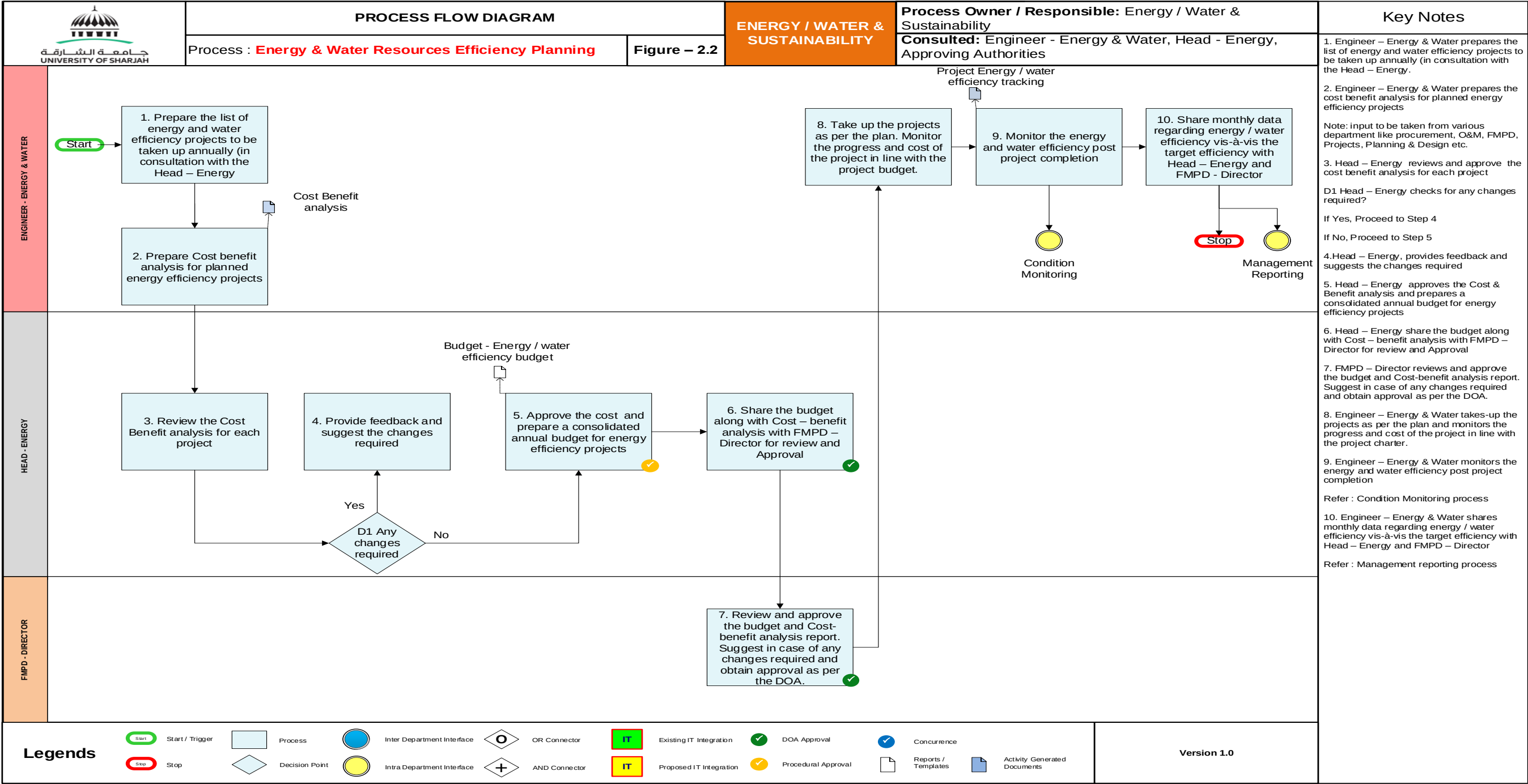
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	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-24	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Energy Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
5	The Head of the Energy Management Section approves the cost and prepares a consolidated annual budget for energy efficiency projects.	Head of Energy Management Section	-	Budget – Energy/water efficiency budget (EWS-UOS-001  Energy and Water Efficiency Budget.doc
6	The Head of the Energy Management Section shares the budget along with Cost – Benefit Analysis with FMPD Director for review and approval.	Head of Energy Management Section	-	-
7	The FMPD Director reviews and approves the budget and Cost-benefit analysis report. As and when required, the FMPD Director recommends changes and obtains approval as per the DoA.	FMPD Director	-	-
8	The Energy/Water Engineer executes the projects as per the approved plan and monitors the progress and cost of the project in line with the approved project budget.	Energy/Water Engineer	-	-
9	The Energy/Water Engineer monitors the energy and water efficiency implementation post-completion of the Project. Refer to the Process Output “PTR-FMP-23 Condition Monitoring” (from Energy, Water, and Sustainability Manual).	Energy/Water Engineer	-	Project energy/water efficiency tracking
10	PTR-FMP-23 Condition Monitoring shares monthly data on energy/ water efficiency and the target efficiency with the Head of the Energy Management Section for review. Refer	Energy/Water Engineer	-	-

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	Policy Subject	Energy and Water Efficiency Planning	Last Review date	12/06/2023
	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-24	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Energy Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
	to the Process Output “Management Reporting” (from Business Management Manual).			

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	Policy Subject	Energy and Water Efficiency Planning	Last Review date	12/06/2023
	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-24	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Energy Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs



Energy and Water Resources Efficiency Planning Process Flowchart



SDG 15.4.2

Policy on plastic waste reduction

The University of Sharjah maintains an institutional Waste Management Policy (*PTR-FMP-37*) that establishes structured requirements for how all waste generated on campus must be handled, including measures that directly support the reduction of plastic waste. The policy mandates proper segregation of waste streams, the use of appropriate containers, and clear procedures for minimizing environmental impact through reducing, reusing, and recycling materials. It also requires the University to coordinate with licensed waste management partners and to set targets for waste reduction, including plastics, as part of its annual Waste Management Action Plan.

The relevant policy is provided in the section below.

	Policy Main Title	Facilities Management & Planning	Effective Date	1/06/2023
	Policy Subject	Waste Management	Last Review date	12/06/2023
	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-37	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Overview

The Waste Management process is the process of the management of non-hazardous and hazardous waste, the generation, collecting, handling, storage, transportation, and disposal of materials deemed to be waste relevant in an environmentally sound manner and is in compliance with federal and local waste regulations.

Scope

This policy applies to all people, workplaces, and activities in the University of Sharjah, including students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors working, studying, or visiting UOS premises or performing UOS-related work in other premises. Other EHS requirements specific to Departments, colleges, and projects are detailed in their respective documents.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure that risks to the environment, health, and safety are identified, analyzed, assessed, and managed to eliminate or, so far as reasonably practicable, minimize adverse consequences to people's health and safety and the environment. This is achieved through a framework for the safe and responsible management of waste generated by the institutions.
- Achieve health and safety requirements compliance with applicable regulations and standards for creating a safe and healthy workplace and promoting a culture of responsible waste management.

Abbreviations and Definitions

EHS: Environmental, Health, and Safety.

UOS: University of Sharjah.

FM (O&M): Facilities Management.

FMPD: Facilities Management and Planning Department.

ALARP: As Low As Reasonably Practicable.

Control Measures: Actions and activities taken to prevent or eliminate a hazard and/or risk or reduce it to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP).

Hazard: Any substance, physical effect, or condition with the potential to harm people or property.

Hazard Management: The systemic process of Identifying the potential hazardous events and their potential consequences (hazard analysis); Evaluating the risk potential of the hazardous event. occurring (risk analysis); Managing the risk at an ALARP risk level, which may be achieved by reducing the probability of a hazardous event occurring or mitigating its potential consequences; and reviewing the hazards and risks on a periodic basis.

Job Hazard Analysis / Safety Hazard Analysis: A job hazard/safety analysis (JHA/ JSA) is a procedure that helps integrate accepted safety and health principles and practices into a particular task or job operation. In a JHA/ JSA, each basic step of the job is to identify potential hazards and recommend the safest way to do the job. The term "job" and "task" are commonly used interchangeably to mean

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

a specific work assignment. The four common stages in conducting a JHA/JSA are: Selecting the job to be analyzed; Breaking the job down into a sequence of steps; Identifying potential hazards; and Determining preventive measures to overcome these hazards.

Injury: Physical harm or damage to a person resulting from traumatic contact between the body of the person and an outside agency.

Risk: OSHAD defines risk as The product of the measure of the likelihood of occurrence of an undesired event and the potential adverse consequences that this event may have upon people – injury or harm to physical or psychological health. Risk = Likelihood x Consequence. ISO 31000 defines risk as the effect of uncertainty on objectives.

Risk Management: A coordinated set of activities and methods that is used to direct an organization and to control the many risks that can affect its ability to achieve its objectives. It also refers to the program that is used to manage risk, including management principles, the framework, and the process.

P&P: Policies and Procedures.

Procedure: A documented series of steps to be carried out in a logical order for a defined operation or a given situation.

PPE: Any device, appliance, or equipment (including clothing or sunscreen affording protection against the weather) designed to be worked or held by an individual for protection against one or more health and safety hazards or to minimize their exposure to workplace risks. It includes but is not limited to items such as eye and face protection, respiratory, head protection, foot protection, fall from height protection, hand protection, and hearing protection

SPSA: Sharjah Prevention and Safety Authority.

Policy

- All activities carried out under Waste Management must comply with the SPSA Code of Practice – Waste Management (OSHJ-CoP-19).
- Waste generation/collection guidelines should be provided that include segregation, appropriate containers, PPE, and employee training/supervision.
- Waste must be stored in a secure designated area with separate areas for hazardous and non-hazardous waste, and records shall be maintained.
- Waste should be collected by licensed external agencies responsible for transportation and disposal.

Procedure

A detailed description of how to carry out this process is shown in the below table and flowchart.

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
1	Identify the waste the Facility creates by coordinating with respective units and faculty members annually to figure out the type of waste each	EHS Specialist and respective units	-	-

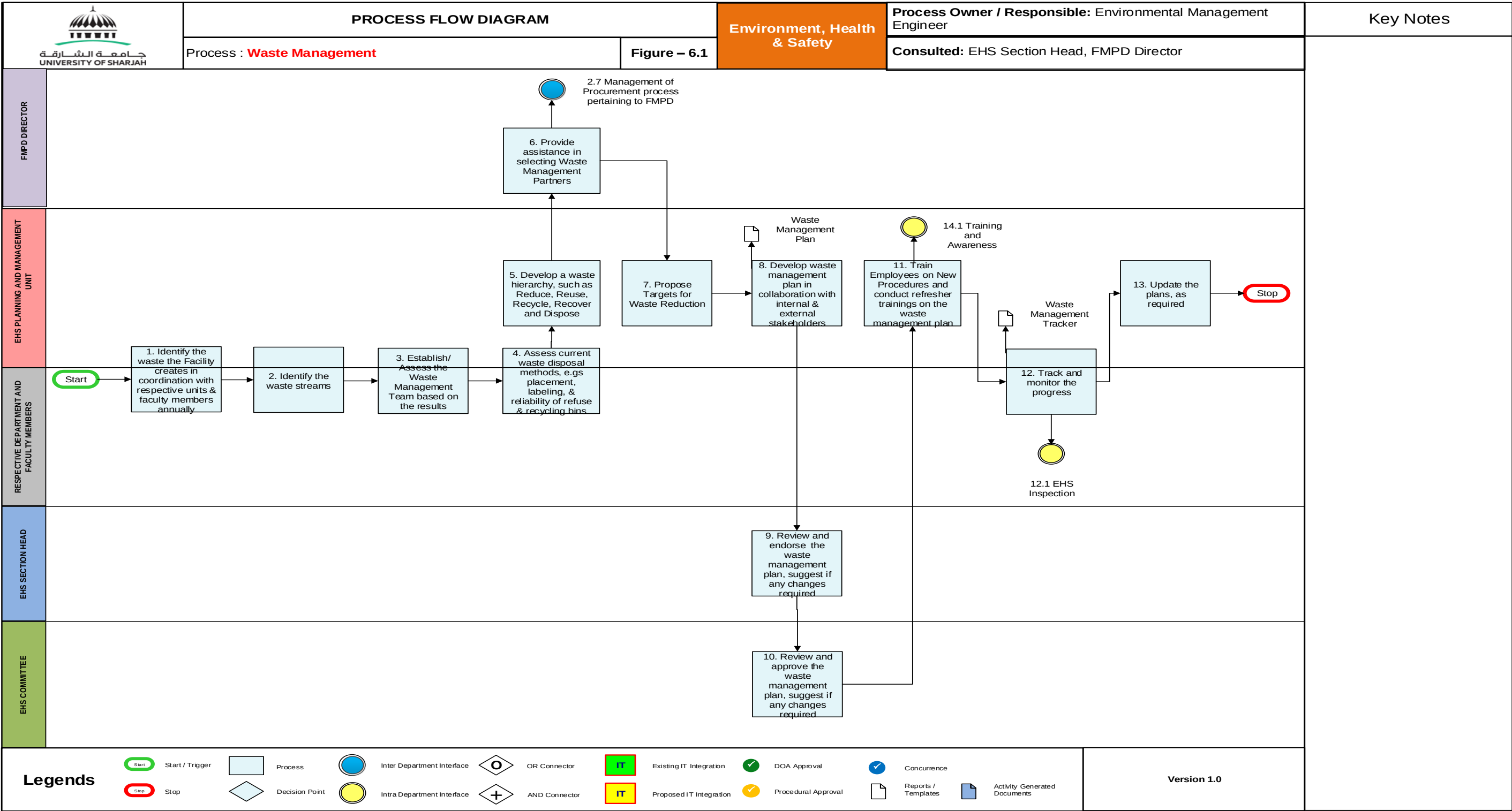
	Policy Main Title	Facilities Management & Planning	Effective Date	1/06/2023
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	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-37	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
	facility generates and the volumes of the waste each facility produces.			
2	In coordination with respective units, identify the waste streams to categorize hazardous waste and non-hazardous waste, and/or liquid and solid waste.	EHS Specialist and respective units	-	-
3	Assess current waste disposal practices, placement, labeling, and reliability of refuse and recycling bins.	EHS Specialist and respective units	-	-
4	In coordination with the Head of the FM Section, the Head of the EH&S Section reviews the list of Waste Management Partners proposed by the FM Section in selecting Waste Management Partners, including, but not limited to, chemical waste management, environmental waste management, industrial wastewater treatment, liquid waste solidification, sludge and solvent management, waste-to-energy services, waste transportation. Refer to the process “Management of Procurement process pertaining from FMPD” from the Business Management P&P Manual. Refer to the process “Contract Management from FMPD” from Business Management P&P Manual and Waste Collection & Disposal from FM(O&M) P&P.	EHS Section Head and FM Section Head	-	-
5	Set Targets for Waste Reduction.	EHS Specialist	-	-
6	Develop a waste management plan in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders.	EHS Specialist	-	Waste Management Tracker (EHS-

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
				UOS-003)  Waste Management Action Plan.xlsx
7	Review and endorse the waste management plan, and suggest if any changes are required.	EHS Section Head	-	-
8	Review and approve the waste management plan, and suggest if any changes are required.	EHS Committee	-	-
9	Train Employees on New Procedures and conduct refresher training on the waste management plan. Refer to the process "Training and Awareness" process from EHS P&P Manual.	EHS Specialist	-	-
10	In coordination with Respective Department and Faculty members, track and monitor the progress. Refer to the process "EHS Inspection" process from EHS P&P Manual.	EHS Specialist and Respective Department and Faculty member	-	Waste Management Tracker (EHS-UOS-003)  Waste Management Action Plan.xlsx
12	Update the plan as required.	EHS Specialist	-	-

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs



Waste Management Process Flowchart



SDG 15.4.3

Policy on hazardous waste disposal

The University of Sharjah has a formal institutional policy that governs the safe management and disposal of hazardous materials across all its campuses. This is established through the **Management of Hazardous Substances Policy (PTR-FMP-36)**, issued by the Facilities Management & Planning Department and approved on **1 June 2023**, with its most recent review on **12 June 2023**.

The policy sets out a detailed framework for the **identification, assessment, handling, storage, and disposal** of hazardous substances, ensuring that risks to human health and the environment are minimized. It applies to **all university personnel**, including students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors engaged in any activity that involves hazardous materials.

The relevant policy is provided in the section below.

	Policy Main Title	Facilities Management & Planning	Effective Date	1/06/2023
	Policy Subject	Management of Hazardous Substances	Last Review date	12/06/2023
	Policy Number	PTR-FMP-36	Next Review date	1/09/2025
	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Overview

Management of the Hazardous Substance process involves providing information and guidelines for the storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials through UOS campuses in order to reduce the quantity and toxicity of hazardous materials that are used, stored, or disposed of. The Management of Hazardous Substances can be achieved by a Hazardous Materials Management Plan and should reflect the level of potential risks associated with the quantity, toxicity, handling, storage, and use of hazardous materials.

Scope

This policy applies to all people, workplaces, and activities in the University of Sharjah, including students, faculty, staff, contractors, and visitors working, studying, or visiting UOS premises or performing UOS-related work in other premises. Other EHS requirements specific to Departments, colleges, and projects are detailed in their respective documents.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Ensure all risks associated with the selection, transport, handling, use, storage, and disposal of hazardous substances are mitigated to prevent harm to people and the environment.
- Provide a framework for identifying, assessing, controlling, and managing hazardous substances within the workplace.

Abbreviations and Definitions

EHS: Environmental, Health, and Safety.

UOS: University of Sharjah.

ALARP: As Low As Reasonably Practicable.

Control Measures: Actions and activities taken to prevent or eliminate a hazard and/or risk or reduce it to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP).

Hazard: Any substance, physical effect, or condition with the potential to harm people or property.

Hazard Management: The systemic process of Identifying the potential hazardous events and their potential consequences (hazard analysis); Evaluating the risk potential of the hazardous event occurring (risk analysis); Managing the risk at an ALARP risk level, which may be achieved by reducing the probability of a hazardous event occurring or mitigating its potential consequences; and reviewing the hazards and risks on a periodic basis.

Job Hazard Analysis / Safety Hazard Analysis: A job hazard/safety analysis (JHA/ JSA) is a procedure that helps integrate accepted safety and health principles and practices into a particular task or job operation. In a JHA/ JSA, each basic step of the job is to identify potential hazards and recommend the safest way to do the job. The term “job” and “task” are commonly used interchangeably to mean a specific work assignment. The four common stages in conducting a JHA/JSA are: Selecting the job to be analyzed; Breaking the job down into a sequence of steps; Identifying potential hazards; and

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Determining preventive measures to overcome these hazards.

Incident: An incident is a work-related event or a chain of events that has caused or could have caused fatality, injury, illness, and/or damage (loss) to assets, reputation, or third parties.

Injury: Physical harm or damage to a person resulting from traumatic contact between the body of the person and an outside agency.

Risk: OSHAD defines risk as The product of the measure of the likelihood of occurrence of an undesired event and the potential adverse consequences that this event may have upon people – injury or harm to physical or psychological health. Risk = Likelihood x Consequence. ISO 31000 defines risk as the effect of uncertainty on objectives.

Risk Management: A coordinated set of activities and methods that is used to direct an organization and to control the many risks that can affect its ability to achieve its objectives. It also refers to the program that is used to manage risk, including management principles, the framework, and the process.

PPE: Any device, appliance, or equipment (including clothing or sunscreen affording protection against the weather) designed to be worked or held by an individual for protection against one or more health and safety hazards or to minimize their exposure to workplace risks. It includes but is not limited to, items such as eye and face protection, respiratory, head protection, foot protection, fall-from-height protection, hand protection, and hearing protection.

SPSA: Sharjah Prevention and Safety Authority.

Policy

- All activities carried out under the Management of Hazardous Substances should comply with the SPSA Code of Practice – Management of Hazardous Substances (OSHJ-CoP-11).
- No prohibited hazardous substances should be procured or used in the University.
- Prior to procuring hazardous substances, users must contact the concerned parties to ensure that relevant controls must be designed and implemented prior to the receipt of these substances, including fire and safety systems, training, procedures, engineering controls, signage, storage arrangements, and PPE.
- When selecting PPE, user requirements, routes of exposure, type of hazard, and other relevant factors should be considered.
- The classification, description, hazards, risks, SDS issue date, and amount of hazardous substances should be listed in a central registry.
- Designing spaces for storing hazardous substances should be taken into account ventilation, fire detection and fighting, lighting, flooring, spills, and emergencies.

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Procedure

A detailed description of how to carry out this process is shown in the below table and flowchart.

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
1	Procurement of new hazardous substances			
1.1	Prior to procuring any hazardous substance that is not listed in the Central Hazardous Substance Registry, a Hazardous Substance Risk Assessment shall be completed, the respective SDS attached, and all of them sent to the EHS Planning and Management Unit.	User		Hazardous Substance Risk Assessment
1.2	Review the Hazardous Substance Risk Assessment in light of existing arrangements and advise the user regarding additional requirements.	Team Leader – EHS Planning and Management Unit		Hazardous Substance Risk Assessment
1.3	Coordinate with the respective functions to ensure that recommended arrangements are in place prior to receiving the Hazardous Substances.	Users		Hazardous Substance Risk Assessment
1.4	Confirm that agreed arrangements are in place and sign off on the risk assessment.	EHS Officer		
1.5	If Procurement is involved, ensure that the Hazardous Substances Risk Assessment is filled and all required arrangements are signed off prior to processing.	Procurement Department		Hazardous Substance Risk Assessment
2	Hazardous Substances Survey			
2.1	Plan for the workplace to be surveyed and wear PPE while conducting the survey.	Team Leader – EHS Operations Unit	-	-
2.2	Survey the workplace and discuss with the users the risks of hazardous	EHS Officer	-	-

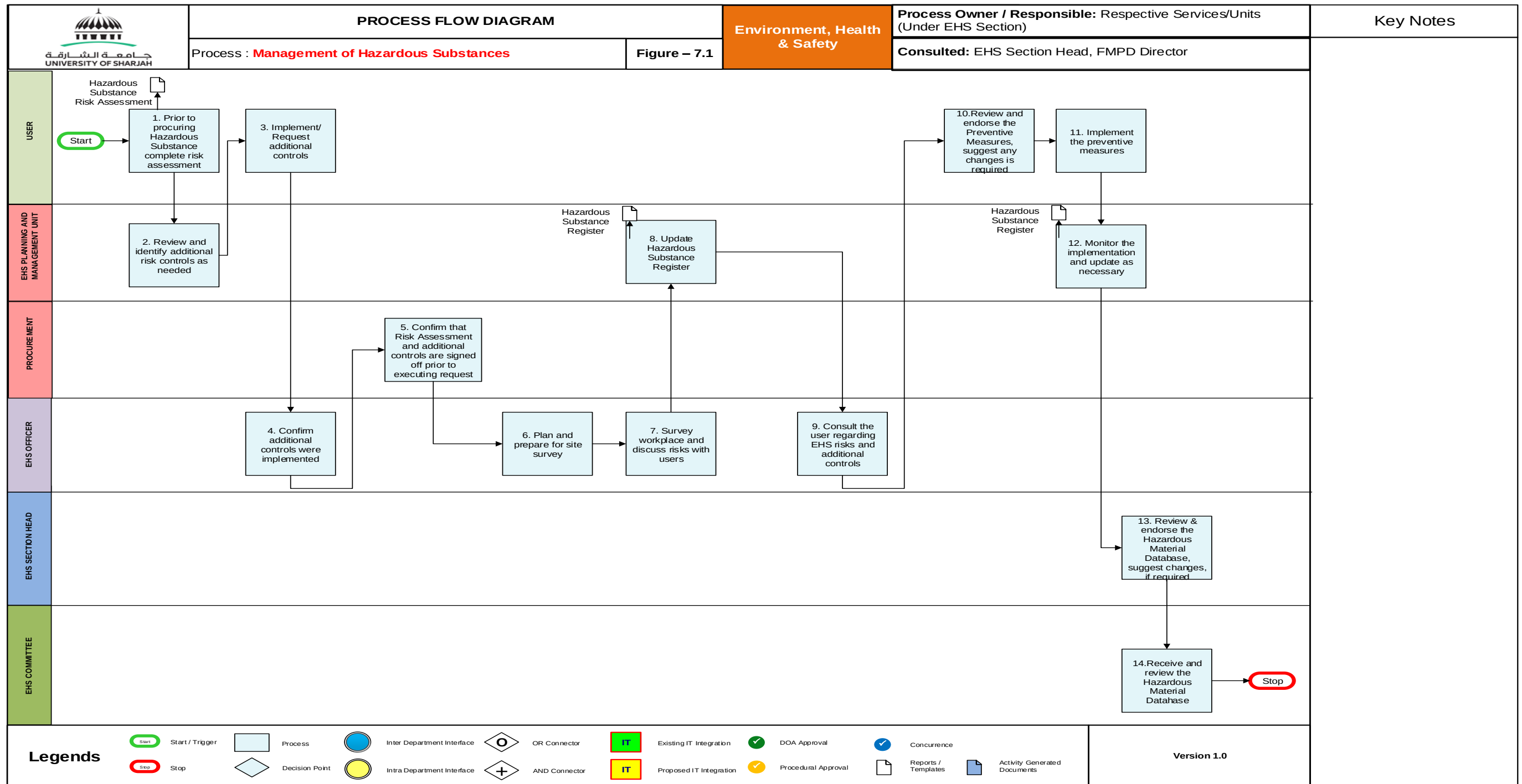
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Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
	substances, how they are stored, transported, used, and disposed of, and provide the survey results to the EHS Specialist.			
2.3	Identify all hazardous substances and log them in the Hazardous Substances Register.	EHS Specialist	-	Hazardous Substances Register (EHS-UOS-004)  Chemical and Hazardous Materials I
2.4	Consult with the user to determine the type of hazards.	EHS Officer	-	-
2.5	Consult the User(s) to determine if any substances can be eliminated or substituted with safer products. If it can be eliminated, proceed to step 2.13; if the User(s) identify safer alternatives, proceed to step 2.6; if not, proceed to 2,8.	EHS Officer User(s)	-	-
2.6	Identify safer alternatives.	User(s) EHS Officer	-	-
2.7	Identify additional controls needed to control hazardous substance risks.	User(s) EHS Officer	-	-
2.8	Undertakes an evaluation of the risk.	Respective Services/Units (Under EHS Section)	-	Safety Material Datasheet
2.9	Review and endorse the Preventive Measures, and suggest any required changes.	EHS Officer	-	-
2.10	Review and endorse the Preventive measures and suggest any changes, if required.	EHS Section Head	-	-
2.12	Implement preventive measures.	User(s)	-	-

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs

Step	Process Activity	Responsibility	Inputs	Outputs
2.13	Monitor the implementation and update as necessary.	EHS Officer	-	-
2.14	Maintain the Hazardous Substance Register.	EHS Specialist	-	Hazardous Substance Register (EHS-UOS-004)  Chemical and Hazardous Materials I
2.15	Provide updates regarding the status of the hazardous substances to the EHS Section Head.	EHS Section Head	-	-
2.16	Provide updates to the EHS Committee regarding hazardous substances.	EHS Section Head	-	-

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	Responsible Entity	Head of Environmental, Health and Safety Management Section	Approved By	VC for Financial & Admin. Affairs



Management of Hazardous Substance Process Flowchart