



CAP 2030 Cohort

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PARTNER UNIT: CAMPUS + COMMUNITY PLANNING

SUSTAINABILITY HUB MENTOR: KSHAMTA HUNTER

Introduction

Upon UBC's 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration, the Climate Action Plan 2030 (CAP 2030) was created in 2021 as a follow-up to previous Climate Action Plans created. CAP 2030 includes emission and circular economy targets (as well as references biodiversity action as significant to CAP 2030 goals, though not part of it) to help UBC to accelerate climate action (see Appendix). Achieving these goals has, and will continue to require, cross-disciplinary and intersectional collaboration and action across the campus.

We understand that capitalist and extractionist actions, deeply embedded in our current colonial societies, have led to biodiversity loss, rising temperatures, and inequity and injustice for those exposed to these physical environments and those reliant on these systems in any capacity. These consequences ultimately affect the resilience of our ecosystems, cities, communities, and all livelihoods, and further perpetuate harm and violence to people and the planet. Recognizing this, our cohort will focus on both **biodiversity** and **circular economy** in our curricula, projects, and workshops, as well as utilize these concepts to frame our understanding of the goals and action towards achieving CAP 2030. SDGs 13 and 15 encapsulate the biodiversity focus of the cohort, and SDGs 11 and 12 the circular economy focus (see Appendix).

Definitions

- As defined in CAP 2030, "**biodiversity** is manifested at all levels of the organization and functioning of biological life, from the micro to the macro level, including genetic diversity, diversity of species, ecosystems and biomes, and cultural diversity" (Campus and Community Planning, 2021, p. 51).
- **Circular economy** is understood as a reimagination of the current economic systems; it involves the reuse and recycling of materials and resources already existing, in efforts to decrease extraction and production as well as to move away from the mass consumption culture.



UBC Context

The cohort's goals align with Goals 7, 8, 13, and 15 of the **UBC Sustainability Hub Strategic Plan** (see Appendix). In addition to emphasizing the urgency of taking action for biodiversity and circular economy, the importance of taking collective action and ensuring the availability and accessibility of participation opportunities for all campus community members are highlighted throughout the Strategic Plan. As the Sustainability Hub is central to many campus initiatives working towards achieving CAP 2030, it is a crucial space to carry out the work of the cohort.

Moreover, Strategic Priorities V, VII, VIII, IX of the **UBC Climate Emergency Engagement: Final Report and Recommendations** (see Appendix) by the **Climate Emergency Task Force (CETF)** align with the cohort's goals. Plans in the works, such as the draft Campus Vision 2050 that was released in March 2023, encompass climate adaptation and mitigation goals focused on biodiversity conservation, waste reduction, and circular economy that also align with the cohort's objectives.

Learning Objectives

The foundation of the Sustainability Ambassadors program encompasses five key competencies: Self-Awareness, Systems Awareness, Interdisciplinary Integration, Interpersonal and Collaborative, and Strategic Application. It is important to encourage and facilitate spaces for interpersonal learning, feeling, experiencing, and reflection of lived experiences for each Sustainability Ambassador to understand themselves and their work in the context of their surrounding environments and systems. Following this, working with peers in the cohort, staff, and partners to facilitate community workshops and implement action-oriented projects will allow for Ambassadors to extend their personal experiences, interests, and knowledges to initiatives centered on community and collaboration.

1. Thinking about, visualizing, and reimagining a world of biodiversity and circular economies through honoring diverse knowledges and the just inclusion of people.
2. Critically reflecting on current systems that affect and are affected by biodiversity and circular economy through an intersectional and interdisciplinary lens.
3. Developing an understanding of the interconnections of biodiversity and circular economy to UBC's campus goals and visions, as well as other sustainability goals in our community.
4. Working together as a cohort to conduct projects and facilitate community workshops related to biodiversity and circular economy, through sharing knowledge, building upon strengths and developing new skillsets, and mutual respect.
5. Reflecting on one's growth throughout the year, including personal goals, worldviews, skills, competencies, and experiences gained.



Ambassador Projects

Biodiversity: Project option suitable for all Sustainability Ambassadors interested in biodiversity, regardless of prior experience and knowledge, will be available for Sustainability Ambassadors in this cohort. It will involve collaboration with Campus + Community Planning, the partner unit, and the project is currently being scoped out with them. More details to follow.

Circular Economy: Project option suitable for all Sustainability Ambassadors interested in circular economy, regardless of prior experience and knowledge, will be available for Sustainability Ambassadors in this cohort. It will involve collaboration with Campus + Community Planning, the partner unit, and the project is currently being scoped out with them. More details to follow.

Reference

Campus and Community Planning. (2021). *UBC Vancouver Campus - Climate Action Plan 2030*. https://planning.ubc.ca/sites/default/files/2021-12/UBCV_CAP2030_FINAL.pdf



Appendix

Plan	Goals
<p><u>Climate Action Plan 2030 (CAP 2030)</u></p>	<p>Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce campus operations emissions by 85% by 2030 • Net-zero operations emissions by 2035 • Reduce extended impact emissions by 45% by 2030 <p>Waste and Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target: By 2030, UBC will apply a circular economy lens to enable a 50% reduction in waste, progressing toward a zero-waste community
<p><u>UBC Sustainability Hub Strategic Plan 2022-2027</u></p>	<p>GOAL (7): Cultivate the use of transformative pedagogies, including a variety of enriched, experiential and applied learning approaches, for sustainability education across UBC and beyond.</p> <p>GOAL (8): Increase the number of students and other learners from diverse communities on and off campus who participate in UBC-wide co-curricular and curricular sustainability experiences every year.</p> <p>GOAL (13): Build strong diverse supportive and reciprocal relationships with local and regional communities to mobilize for climate action and sustainability.</p> <p>GOAL (15): Foster engagement that invites courageous dialogue and motivates urgent and intentional action to address pressing sustainability challenges.</p>



Plan	Goals
<p><u>UBC Climate Emergency Engagement: Final Recommendations Report 2021</u></p>	<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY V: Foster a culture of engagement & advocacy on climate action.</p> <p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY VII: Expand climate education opportunities and resources for the UBC community and broader public.</p> <p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY VIII: Develop new and strengthen existing partnerships to tackle the climate emergency.</p> <p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY IX: Accelerate emissions reductions at UBCV and UBCO in response to the climate emergency.</p>
<p>Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</p>	<p><u>SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities</u> <u>SDG 12: Responsible Production and Consumption</u> <u>SDG 13: Climate Action</u> <u>SDG 15: Life on Land</u></p>