



# CAMPUS + COMMUNITY PLANNING (C+CP) CLIMATE ACTION COHORT

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## Introduction

In response to UBC's 2019 Climate Emergency Declaration, the Climate Action Plan 2030 (CAP 2030) was developed in 2021, building on previous Climate Action Plans. CAP 2030 includes emission reduction targets for both indirect campus operations emissions (scope 2) and extended impact emissions (scope 3). Achieving these goals will require continuous cross-campus engagement rooted in an intersectional understanding that the climate crisis stems from historic and ongoing settler colonialism, capitalism, and white supremacy.

Climate change is a threat multiplier, exacerbating existing injustices amidst biodiversity loss and ecological crises. Meaningful climate action centers the voices of systemically marginalized communities and catalyzes climate crisis mitigation through education, research, and engagement. This year, the C+CP cohort will focus on community engagement with campus **scope 2 emissions** and **scope 3 emissions** in our curricula, projects, and workshops. For scope 2 emissions, the goal is to engage graduate students, labs, and staff to reduce emissions through implementing the 2025 international freezer challenge, which aims to improve energy efficiency through energy conservation targeting cold storage in labs. For scope 3, the goal is to work towards 75% engagement of students, faculty, and staff by raising awareness of these emissions. We will coalesce critical climate perspectives with CAP 2030 emission reduction targets. SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and SDG 13: Climate Action encapsulate the cohort's efforts.

## Definitions

- **Scope 2 emissions** are indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from electricity purchased and consumed by UBC. This energy is produced outside of campus but is used within campus operations. The goal is to reduce these emissions through improving energy efficiency.
- **Scope 3 emissions** are extended impact emissions from activities that are outside of UBC's direct control but related to operations. Some examples include commuting, business travel, and waste disposal. The goal is to reduce these emissions through broad community engagement with sustainable practices and policies.



## UBC Context

The cohort's goals align with Goals 2, 7, 8, 12, 15, and 16 of the UBC SustainabilityHub Strategic Plan(see Appendix). This strategic plan supports emission reduction targets while emphasizing critical climate perspectives. 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. The cohort's goals also align with the following CAP 2030 targets: Reduce campus operations emissions by 85% by 2030; Net-zero operations emissions by 2035; Reduce extended impact emissions by 45% by 2030; 75% of UBC faculty, staff and students will be aware of UBC's climate action goals and participating in UBC's evolving and expanding culture of sustainability by 2030.

## Learning Objectives

The Sustainability Ambassadors program focuses on five key competencies: Self-Awareness, Systems Awareness, Interdisciplinary Integration, Interpersonal and Collaborative, and Strategic Application. The program creates space to face the intellectual, affective, and relational elements of the climate crisis through unlearning and relearning, as well as implementation climate action projects. Ambassadors will cultivate climate action and collaborate with peers and partners to host community workshops and implement projects focused on campus Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions reduction.

Thinking about, visualizing, and reimagining carbon emission reduction targets through honoring diverse knowledge and the just inclusion of people.

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

## Ambassador Projects

**Scope 2 Emissions:** Project option suitable for all Sustainability Ambassadors in this cohort interested in energy conservation and scope 2 emissions reduction through community engagement and event planning, regardless of prior experience and knowledge. This project will involve collaboration with Campus + Community Planning and Green Labs to implement the 2025 International Freezer Challenge, the annual campaign run by My Green Lab and the International Institute for Sustainable Labs to promote wise practices in labs around cold storage.



The objective of this project is to foster friendly competition amongst UBC labs to encourage participation in the challenge, to motivate optimal cold storage management across Point Grey campus labs, and ultimately to achieve energy conservation and emissions reduction in alignment with CAP2030. Ambassadors will develop an internal competition plan and implement competition communication and events.

**Scope 3 Emissions:** Project option suitable for all Sustainability Ambassadors interested in scope 3 emissions reduction through community engagement and awareness, regardless of prior experience and knowledge. It will involve collaboration with Campus + Community Planning to assess students on CAP 2030 awareness and engagement through on-the-ground surveys, pop-ups, and focus groups; development of engagement strategies; and implementation and evaluation of associated activities.

## 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](https://planning.ubc.ca/sites/default/files/2021-12/UBCV_CAP2030_FINAL.pdf)



## Appendix

### Organization

### Goal

Climate Action Plan 2030 (CAP 2030)

Targets:  
 Reduce campus operations emissions by 85% by 2030  
 Net-zero operations emissions by 2035  
 Reduce extended impact emissions by 45% by 2030  
 75% of UBC faculty, staff and students will be aware of UBC's climate action goals and participating in UBC's evolving and expanding culture of sustainability by 2030

UBC Sustainability Hub Strategic Plan 2022-2027

GOAL (2): Catalyze and support the development of sustainability-focused policy and practice at UBC, related to campus operations and institutional commitments.

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.

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.

GOAL (12) Advance the Climate Emergency Task Force (CETF) report recommendations, including embedding climate justice in UBC-wide policies and plans.

GOAL (15): Foster engagement that invites courageous dialogue and motivates urgent and intentional action to address pressing sustainability challenges.

GOAL (16) Through research, learning and engagement, work in service with equity seeking individuals, communities and groups to reduce risk and accelerate climate and sustainability solutions for collective local and global wellbeing.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities  
 SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production  
 SDG 13: Climate Action

Green Labs

Researcher engagement & education  
 Resource conservation  
 Continuous improvement & innovation