SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Metric 6.3
Water usage and care



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Times Higher Education
Sustainability
Impact Ratings

AY 2025-2026

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Indicator 6.3.5
Water-conscious planting



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From Seed to Harvest: SLU's Water-Wise Planting Journey (2023-2026)

HYDROPONICS: FROM TRAINING TO A SUSTAINED PRACTICE



SLU's hydroponics journey began as an offshoot of a training workshop in September 2023, run with the University Libraries and American Corner Baguio. In June 2024, SLU Basic Education School harvested its first produce from the Hydroponics Gardening Project, led by the Junior High School-TLE Department.

In early 2025 the work expanded into a university-wide Hydroponics Initiative. On 18 January 2025, students and faculty visited an established community hydroponics facility in Aurora Hill, Baguio City, to learn best practices. A week later, a barangay captain spoke on hydroponics development in the barangay and on public-private-academic collaboration. The initiative then became Project PEY-AS (Productive Ecological Yield in Agriculture towards Sustainability). It has grown from a capacity-building and learning initiative into a sustained institutional practice, with harvests continuing through December 2025. The latest harvest was held on 29 May 2026. Project PEY-AS is run every semester with students, teaching personnel, and non-teaching employees, under the University Outreach Programs Office.

Because hydroponic systems recirculate water, they use far less than soil-based farming. SLU's own 6.3.5 evidence document estimates up to 90% less water than soil for its nutrient-film leafy-green systems.

Sources: https://www.slu.edu.ph/2024/03/13/slu-yce-embarks-on-project-moss-promoting-sustainability-one-plant-at-a-time/
https://www.slu.edu.ph/2024/04/02/yce-initiates-change-through-environmental-action-with-project-greenify/
https://www.slu.edu.ph/2024/06/07/bougainvilleas-adorn-the-slu-shmc-medical-arts-parking-building/
https://www.slu.edu.ph/2025/05/28/slu-hydroponics-initiative-cultivates-sustainability-and-community-empowerment/

Alongside hydroponics, SLU has adopted low-water plants across its campuses:

- Bougainvillea at the SHMC Medical Arts Parking Building (June 2024), which SLU's document describes as low-maintenance and using about 70% less water than turf
- Snake plants in comfort rooms under Project Greenify (April 2024), watered about once a month
- Spanish moss under Project Moss (March 2024), which needs no soil or irrigation
- Native pine, bamboo and coffee trees through regreening and tree-planting projects, including the BILIG regreening project in November 2024





At the campus level, SLU maintains 17,965.84 m^2 of planted vegetation, preserves 49,213.53 m^2 of forest (43% of campus land), and has 92,763.47 m^2 of water-absorbent surfaces such as grasslands, rain gardens, and vegetated pathways.

Together, these efforts show that SLU grows food and greens its campuses with minimal irrigation, and that it has done so consistently from 2023 to the present.





The SLU SDG Report 2026