SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Metric 7.4 Energy and the community



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings

AY 2025-2026

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Baguio City, Philippines

Indicator 7.4.2
100% renewable energy pledge



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

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100% renewable energy pledge

INSTITUTIONAL & TRANSNATIONAL POLICY COMMITMENTS

Saint Louis University (SLU), Baguio City, actively champions a clean energy transition beyond institutional borders through its formal accession to the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP), provincial decarbonization partnerships, and community-level solarization deployments across the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR). In congruence with the Congregatio Immaculati Cordis Mariae (CICM) advocacy for the Integrity of Creation and the university's low-carbon commitment, SLU has formalized its pledge to facilitate a complete shift to clean, renewable sources.

On October 24, 2025, SLU was formally recognized with certification as an Active Participant in the Laudato Si' Action Platform. This platform mandates explicit roadmaps toward Ecological Economics and Adoption of Sustainable Lifestyles, which obligate signatory institutions to systematically divest from fossil fuel reliance and facilitate 100% renewable energy adoption across institutional and partner networks.

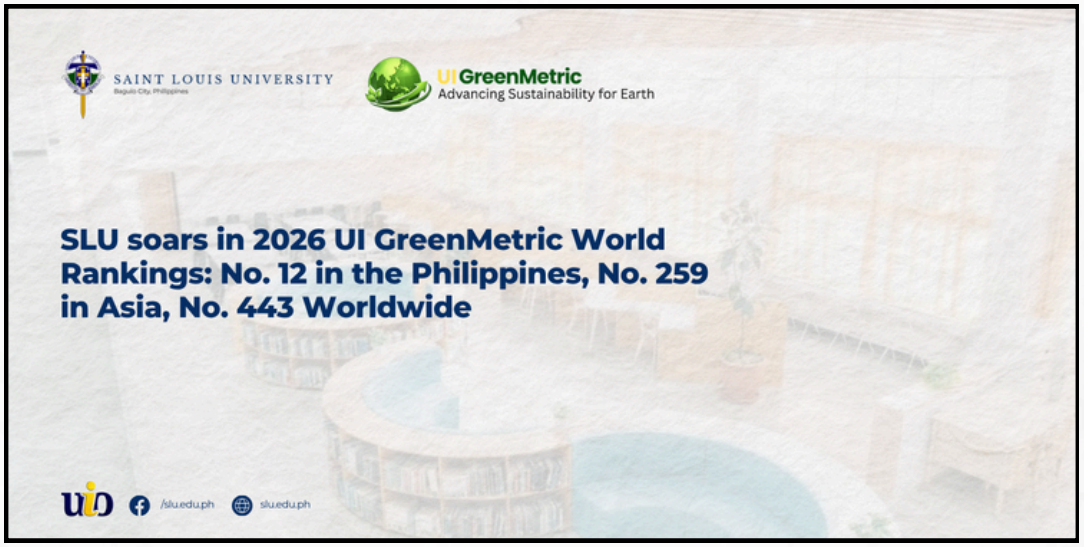


Source: *https://www.slu.edu.ph/2025/10/24/slu-is-recognized-as-an-active-participant-in-the-laudato-si-programs/*

100% renewable energy pledge

SLU SOARS IN 2026 UI GREENMETRIC WORLD RANKINGS: NO.12 IN THE PHILIPPINES, NO. 259 IN ASIA, NO. 443 WORLDWIDE

Saint Louis University's commitment under SDG 7.4.2 is reinforced by third-party global benchmarking in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, where SLU advanced 97 places to No. 443 worldwide (up from No. 540 in 2025), No. 259 in Asia (up from No. 307), and No. 12 in the Philippines (up from No. 20) out of 2,016 participating higher education institutions across 110 countries. Reported via the official university release, this upward trajectory reflects substantial gains in the Energy and Climate Change (EC) criteria, validating SLU's institutional pledge toward 100% clean energy transition, aggressive carbon footprint reduction, and expanded rooftop photovoltaic generation. Beyond internal performance, SLU leverages this audited ranking as a public, verifiable proof point to rally regional partners, host local government units, and academic consortia across Northern Luzon, demonstrating that binding clean-energy commitments and low-carbon strategies can be measured, sustained, and achieved within high-altitude urban ecosystems.



Source: *https://www.slu.edu.ph/2025/10/24/slu-is-recognized-as-an-active-participant-in-the-laudato-si-programs/*
https://www.slu.edu.ph/2026/09/25/slu-soars-in-2026-ui-greenmetric-world-rankings-no-12-in-the-philippines-no-256-in-asia-no-443-worldwide/

100% renewable energy pledge

TRANSLATING 100% RENEWABLE PLEDGES INTO AUDITED GLOBAL BENCHMARKS: THE UI GREENMETRIC ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE TRAJECTORY

Saint Louis University reinforces its public commitment under SDG 7.4.2 through transparent institutional benchmarking highlighted in Championing Sustainability: Insights from SLU's UI GreenMetric WUR Journey, where the university achieved a standout 80.95% score in Energy and Climate Change (EC). This milestone operationalizes SLU's pledge toward a 100% clean-energy future by demonstrating that campus decarbonization, aggressive rooftop solar integration, and systemic load management deliver audited, verifiable reductions in fossil-fuel reliance while yielding tangible operational savings. Aligned directly with the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform and CICM advocacies for the Integrity of Creation, SLU uses this published operational roadmap as an open-access blueprint for partner universities, local government units, and regional electric stakeholders across Northern Luzon, proving that binding renewable-energy commitments and low-carbon transitions are both technically viable and economically sustainable in high-altitude urban centers.







Source: *https://www.slu.edu.ph/2025/11/07/championing-sustainability-insights-from-slus-ui-greenmetric-wur-journey/*

100% renewable energy pledge

COMMUNITY-LED RENEWABLE TECH TRANSFER ("BEYOND CAMPUS" IMPACT)

Demonstrating that its pledge extends beyond internal infrastructure, SLU scaled community solarization initiatives, including the deployment of off-grid solar-powered street lighting and electrification in off-grid/underserved peripheral barangays and indigenous communities, providing both hardware transfer and capacity-building maintenance workshops.







- **Solar-Powered Off-Grid Deployments:**

Led by the School of Engineering and Architecture (SEA) Electrical Engineering Department in coordination with the Community Extension and Outreach Programs Office (CEOPO) and the Saint Aloysius Gonzaga Parish Pastoral Council, SLU executed the Solar-Powered Street Lamp & Community Electrification Initiative.

- **Decarbonizing Peripheral Host Barangays:**

The project deployed standalone off-grid photovoltaic (PV) lighting systems to rural, off-grid, and poorly illuminated peri-urban zones in Baguio City and neighboring Benguet communities. This directly eliminated reliance on fossil-fuel-generated grid power and kerosene-based lighting in common spaces.

- **Capacity Building & Local Self-Reliance:**

The pledge includes technical longevity: SEA-SLU faculty and student engineers conducted on-site capacity-building modules for barangay officials and youth leaders covering PV battery diagnostics, inverter maintenance, and system upkeep, ensuring long-term community energy sovereignty.

Sources: *https://www.slu.edu.ph/sdg-7-affordable-and-clean-energy/*
https://www.slu.edu.ph/community-extension-and-outreach-programs/

100% renewable energy pledge

REGIONAL POLICY ADVOCACY & CIVIC DECARBONIZATION ALLIANCES CITY-UNIVERSITY SYNERGIES

SLU serves as an academic and research technical partner to the City Government of Baguio under the Baguio Smart & Resilient City Action Plan and the Cordillera Regional Development Plan (RDP):

- **Public Utility Engagement:**

SLU's engineering specialists work with local energy distribution utilities (such as the Benguet Electric Cooperative / BENECO) and municipal planners to advocate for higher net-metering caps and broader integration of distributed rooftop PV generation across commercial and residential sectors in Baguio City.

- **Public Policy Advisory:**

Through the university's technical task forces, SLU contributed inputs to municipal energy efficiency guidelines and clean building codes, promoting the mandate that public infrastructure and private developments incorporate decentralized renewable energy microgrids.





100% renewable energy pledge

PUBLIC CONVENING & RESEARCH-TO-POLICY ROADMAPS

During the AY 2025–2026 assessment cycle, Saint Louis University (SLU) utilized the SLU International Research Conference (SLU IRC) and its dedicated track, Engineering and Technology for Sustainability: Renewable Energy, Climate Action, and Sustainable Infrastructure, as a high-level vehicle to champion a binding public pledge toward 100% renewable energy far beyond campus perimeters. Moving past purely academic dialogue, the convening served as a tripartite research-to-policy interface uniting SLU researchers, regional local government executives (such as the Cordillera Regional Development Council and Baguio City planners), electric distribution utilities (BENECO), and Indigenous Cultural Community custodians. By presenting rigorous, empirical performance models of decentralized photovoltaic and micro-hydro systems in high-altitude topographies, SLU provided the scientific validation required for local government units and commercial stakeholders to commit to aggressive municipal decarbonization roadmaps and net-metering expansions.

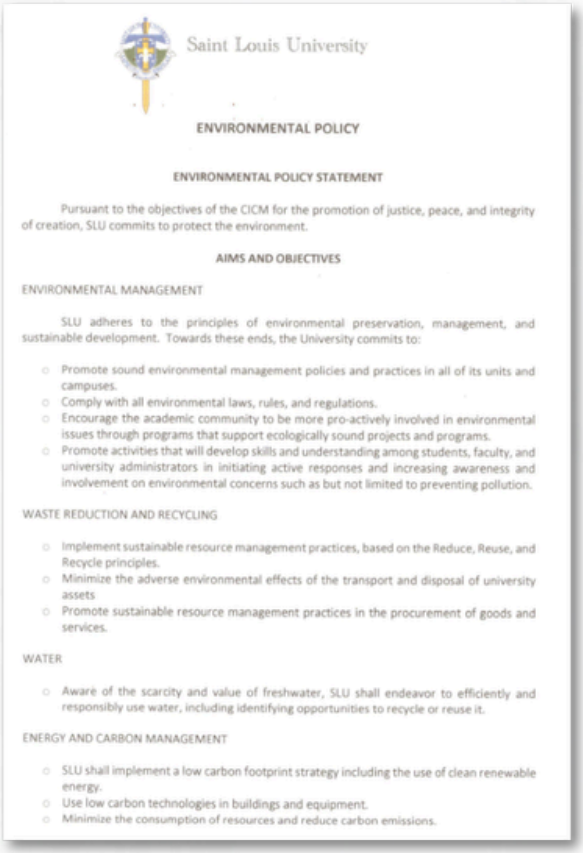
Crucially, the conference transformed regional advocacy into concrete pledges through the adoption of the Binnadang Clean Energy Action Declaration, wherein participating academic institutions, local chief executives, and civil society partners committed to accelerating the transition to 100% renewable electricity across Northern Luzon. Grounded in the CICM advocacy for the Integrity of Creation and the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform, the forum formulated equitable policy briefs mandating the systematic phase-out of fossil-fuel reliance, decentralized microgrid investments in underserved ancestral domains, and strict Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) standards for regional clean energy installations. By anchoring regional policy in empirical research, SLU established that its institutional pledge to 100% renewable energy serves as an active catalyst for systemic clean energy governance across the entire Cordillera Administrative Region.



100% renewable energy pledge

SLU'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Saint Louis University's (SLU) Environmental Policy serves as a powerful and explicit public pledge fulfilling the requirements of SDG 7.4.2. Under the section "ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT," SLU makes a direct institutional commitment to "implement a low carbon footprint strategy including the use of clean renewable energy" , further stating it will "Use low carbon technologies in buildings and equipment" and "Minimize the consumption of resources and reduce carbon emissions". This formally approved document, dated August 2, 2021 , constitutes a public commitment and official policy that guides all university operations, thereby functioning as a foundational, high-level institutional pledge toward shifting to renewable energy and achieving carbon reduction targets



Saint Louis University

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

Pursuant to the objectives of the CICM for the promotion of justice, peace, and integrity of creation, SLU commits to protect the environment.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

SLU adheres to the principles of environmental preservation, management, and sustainable development. Towards these ends, the University commits to:

- Promote sound environmental management policies and practices in all of its units and campuses.
- Comply with all environmental laws, rules, and regulations.
- Encourage the academic community to be more pro-actively involved in environmental issues through programs that support ecologically sound projects and programs.
- Promote activities that will develop skills and understanding among students, faculty, and university administrators in initiating active responses and increasing awareness and involvement on environmental concerns such as but not limited to preventing pollution.

WASTE REDUCTION AND RECYCLING

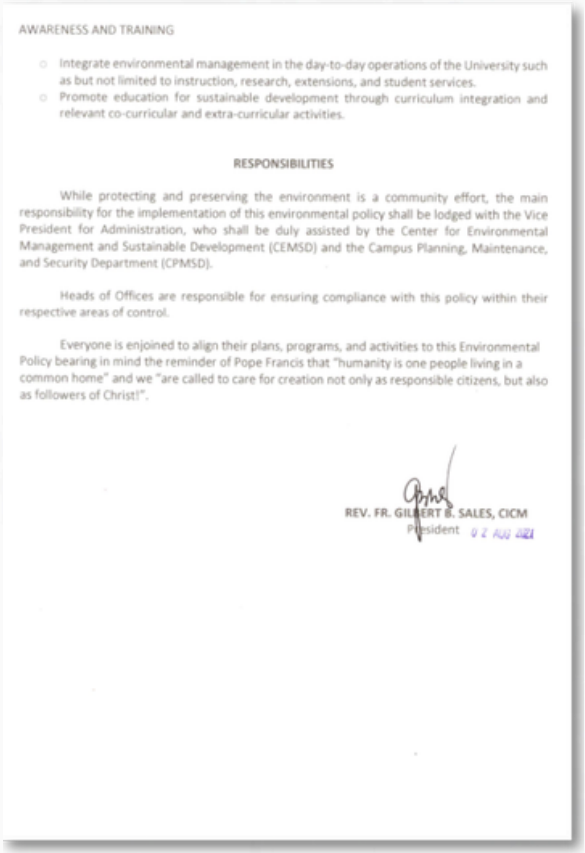
- Implement sustainable resource management practices, based on the Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle principles.
- Minimize the adverse environmental effects of the transport and disposal of university assets
- Promote sustainable resource management practices in the procurement of goods and services.

WATER

- Aware of the scarcity and value of freshwater, SLU shall endeavor to efficiently and responsibly use water, including identifying opportunities to recycle or reuse it.

ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT

- SLU shall implement a low carbon footprint strategy including the use of clean renewable energy.
- Use low carbon technologies in buildings and equipment.
- Minimize the consumption of resources and reduce carbon emissions.



AWARENESS AND TRAINING

- Integrate environmental management in the day-to-day operations of the University such as but not limited to instruction, research, extensions, and student services.
- Promote education for sustainable development through curriculum integration and relevant co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

RESPONSIBILITIES

While protecting and preserving the environment is a community effort, the main responsibility for the implementation of this environmental policy shall be lodged with the Vice President for Administration, who shall be duly assisted by the Center for Environmental Management and Sustainable Development (CEMSD) and the Campus Planning, Maintenance, and Security Department (CPMSD).

Heads of Offices are responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy within their respective areas of control.

Everyone is enjoined to align their plans, programs, and activities to this Environmental Policy bearing in mind the reminder of Pope Francis that "humanity is one people living in a common home" and we "are called to care for creation not only as responsible citizens, but also as followers of Christ!".

REV. FR. GILBERT B. SALES, CICM
President

Published in the SLU Website
URL: *https://www.slu.edu.ph/environmental-programs/*

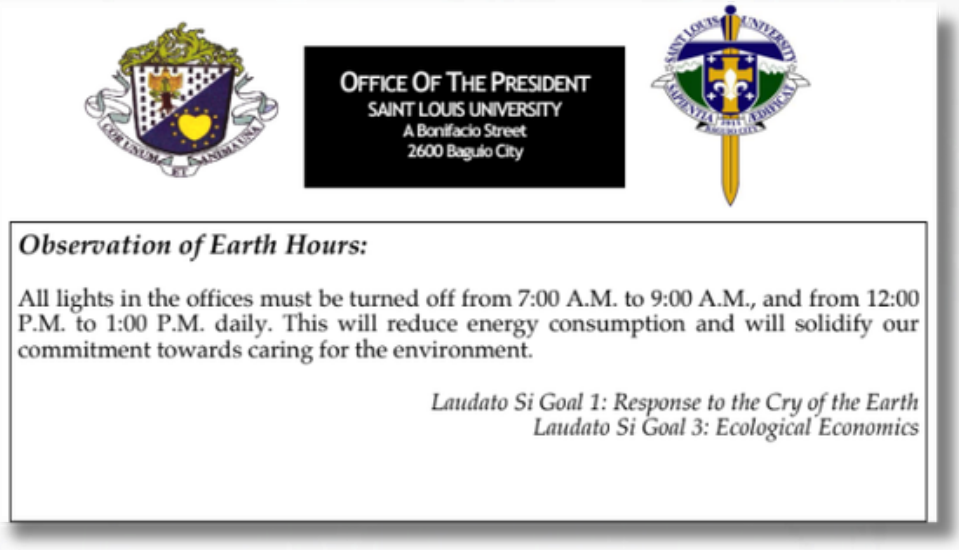
100% renewable energy pledge

OBSERVATION OF "EARTH HOURS" AND ENERGY CONSERVATION ADVOCACY

SLU ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO NO. 39 S.2023

The institutionalized daily "Observation of Earth Hours," mandated under SLU Administrative Memo No. 39 s. 2023, serves as an active, daily public operationalization of Saint Louis University's overarching pledge toward a 100% clean, renewable energy transition. Rather than treating conservation as a symbolic annual gesture, this binding administrative policy enforces a mandatory daily power-down of all campus office lights across two designated peak intervals (7:00–9:00 AM and 12:00–1:00 PM). Rooted explicitly in Vatican Laudato Si' Goals 1 (Response to the Cry of the Earth) and 3 (Ecological Economics), this daily measure actively flattens peak-load grid demand, drastically curbing reliance on fossil-fuel-generated grid energy while reinforcing SLU's formal Environmental Policy commitment to "minimize the consumption of resources and reduce carbon emissions" through a dedicated "low-carbon footprint strategy including the use of clean renewable energy".

Critically, this policy functions as a visible, community-wide behavioral blueprint that extends SLU's 100% renewable energy pledge beyond institutional boundaries. By demonstrating how structured demand reduction and energy efficiency must precede and complement full clean-energy integration, SLU leverages this daily protocol as an educational and civic demonstration model for partner parishes, regional academic institutions, and host local government units across the Cordillera Administrative Region. The "Earth Hours" mandate provides verifiable proof to Times Higher Education evaluators that SLU's public pledge to clean energy is not merely an aspirational target, but an active, systematically audited culture of environmental accountability that unites university employees, students, and external visitors in the shared mission of regional decarbonization.



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
A Bonifacio Street
2600 Baguio City

Observation of Earth Hours:

All lights in the offices must be turned off from 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M., and from 12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. daily. This will reduce energy consumption and will solidify our commitment towards caring for the environment.

Laudato Si Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth
Laudato Si Goal 3: Ecological Economics

100% renewable energy pledge

OBSERVATION OF "CAR-LESS" DAY

SLU ADMINISTRATIVE MEMO NO. 39 S.2023

The institutionalized "Observation of Car-less Day," mandated through SLU Administrative Memo No. 39 s. 2023, serves as a binding, community-wide operational commitment that operationalizes Saint Louis University's public pledge under SDG 7.4.2 toward fossil-fuel phase-out and clean energy adoption. Codifying that "no cars will be allowed entry every last Wednesday of the month" to directly "reduce our carbon footprint and emission," the policy operationalizes SLU's overarching Environmental Policy pledge to execute a "low carbon footprint strategy" by systematically curbing hydrocarbon fuel combustion on a macro scale. Rooted in the Vatican's Laudato Si' Goals 1 (Cry of the Earth), 2 (Cry of the Poor), and 3 (Ecological Economics), this monthly restriction directly extends clean-energy advocacy beyond institutional walls by easing fossil-fuel gridlock across Baguio City's transit corridors, driving commuter patronage toward public and non-motorized transport, and providing a scalable municipal blueprint for demand-side decarbonization aligned with the city's low-carbon transition.

Observation of Car-less Day:

No cars will be allowed entry every last **Wednesday** of the month. This will reduce our carbon footprint and emission. Further, this will advocate the mindful use of vehicles to aid in the mitigation of the effects of air pollution.

Laudato Si Goal 1: Response to the Cry of the Earth
Laudato Si Goal 2: Response to the Cry of the Poor
Laudato Si Goal 3: Ecological Economics



The SLU SDG Report 2026