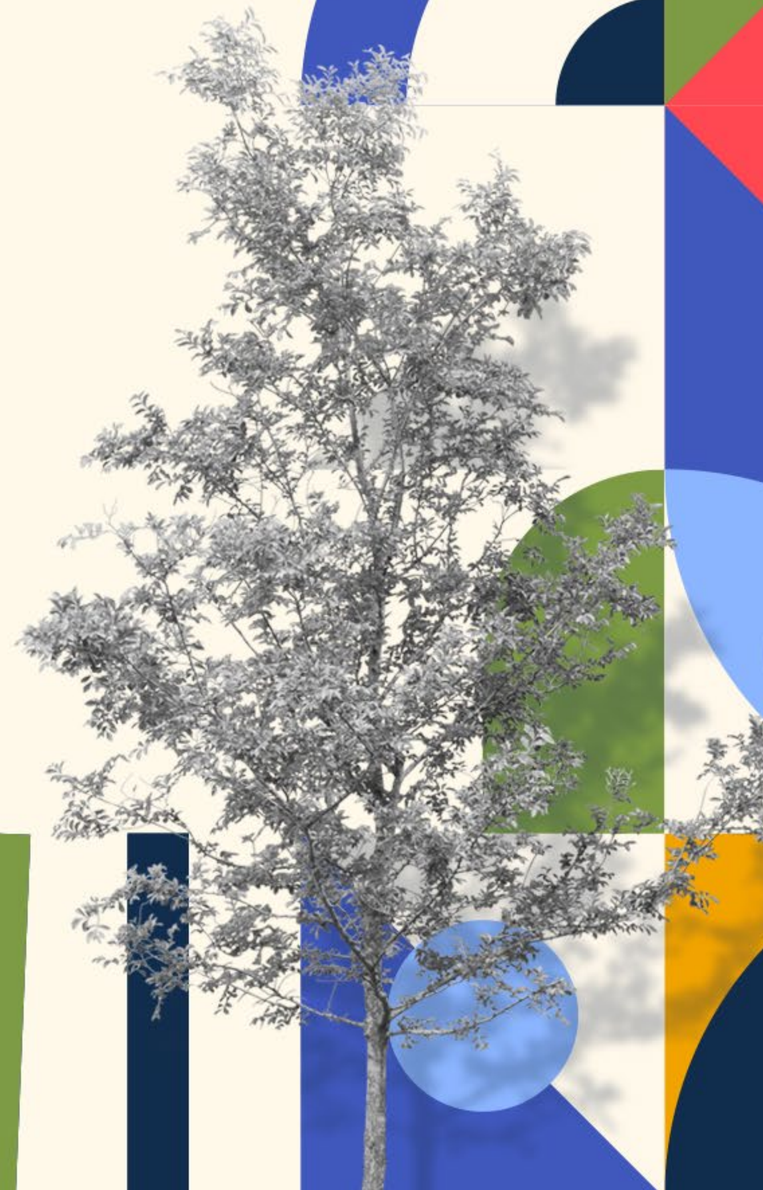
FACING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AT TEC:

2025 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN



Tecnológico de Monterrey

Version 1.0, April 2021

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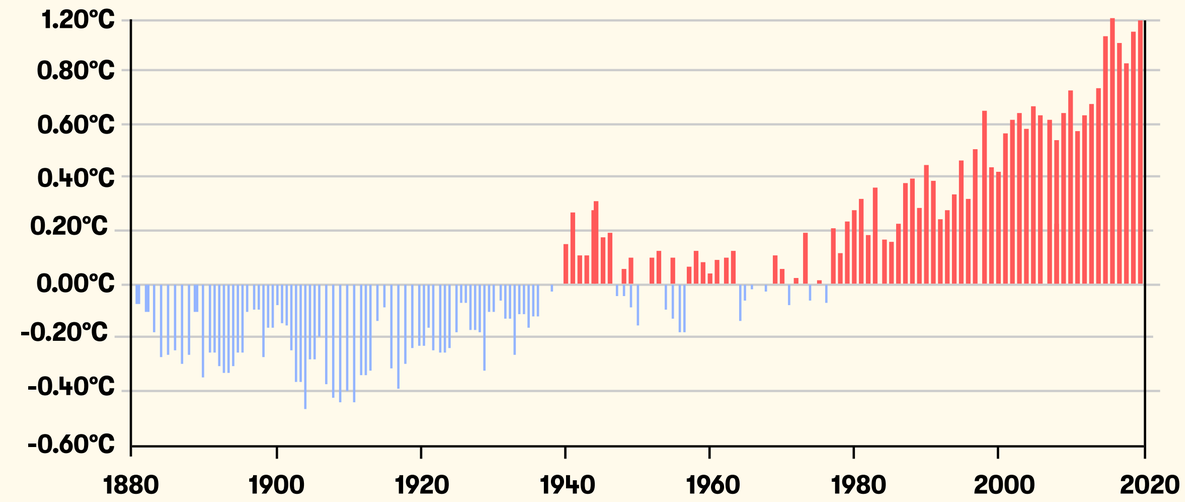
GLOBAL CLIMATE EMERGENCY

AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS

The global climate emergency and environmental crisis have become a threat to the existence of humankind. we have brought earth's natural systems to a critical point we can no longer ignore.

To thwart the worst impacts of climate change, the world's nations signed the Paris Agreement seeking to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels (UNFCCC, 2015). The global average temperature has already increased more than 1°C compared to pre-industrial era levels (NOAA, 2020). Therefore, in order to comply with the Paris Agreement, greenhouse gas emissions would need to fall 45% from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching net zero by 2050 (IPCC, 2018). However, the current policy pathways within the framework of the Paris Agreement have a greater than 97% probability of exceeding 2°C (CAT, 2020). There is an enormous difference between the impacts of 1.5oC global warming on natural and human systems than the impacts of 2°C above pre-industrial levels (IPCC, 2018).

Global January-December ocean and land surface average temperature anomaly for 1880 to 2020.



Source: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

"CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE SINGLE GREATEST THREAT TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE. BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE PRESENTS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE PROSPERITY, SECURITY AND A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL."

Ban Ki-moon, Former UN Secretary-General

Mexico's geographical characteristics make it a highly vulnerable country to climate change impacts. The country's location exposes it to extreme hydrometeorological phenomena. It also faces droughts that affect agriculture, livestock and the overall economy with consequences such as forest fires, among other impacts (INECC, 2018).

At the same time, the world is experiencing an unsustainability crisis, where we are rapidly overexploiting our natural resources and destroying the natural habitat. In addition, we are on the brink of a sixth mass species extinction: more than 1 million species are in danger of disappearing over the next few years (IPBES, 2019). On top of these grave problems, the world is also suffering from atmospheric pollution, land degradation, water stress, among other crises.

Nevertheless, we can address this situation if we act urgently and efficiently. Even though the road that lies ahead is uncertain, we know that the only way to achieve a change of direction is if each and every actor in society as a whole joins forces and commits to being part of the solution.

Importantly, institutions of higher education have an irrefutable responsibility in this effort. As a result, at Tecnológico de Monterrey we are continuing to generate significant change to improve our planet today and for the generations of the future.

Rector's Office Building, Campus Monterrey

FACING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY **AT TEC**

Tecnológico de Monterrey

Committed to sustainable development and concerned about the global climate emergency, Tecnológico de Monterrey seeks to have a national and international impact through decisive actions to address climate change and the global environmental crisis.

Across the years, the institution has implemented important efforts at the different campuses and in research. In December 2019, Tec de Monterrey became a signatory of the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges[1]. By signing this declaration, Tec committed to the following three actions:

1 **Achieve carbon neutrality by 2040**

2 **Mobilize resources for action-oriented climate change research and skills creation**

3 **Support the creation of environmental and sustainability education on the campuses, both in the classroom and in the community**

Through the current 2025 Sustainability and Climate Change Plan, Tecnológico de Monterrey assumes its joint responsibility with the country and the world to face the current crisis. Through the urgent mobilization of our capacities, we are seeking to minimize risks and mitigate impacts, contributing as far as possible to the fulfillment of Mexico's pledges under the Paris Agreement.

The Plan, described further on, is a framework document that charts the start of a path towards sustainability. This strategy will be a process of continuous creation, based on dialogue, cooperation and the collective efforts of the Tec community to achieve its goals.

[1] The declaration of a climate emergency, Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges, published on July 10, 2019, seeks to rally leadership and support from universities, colleges, students and global educational networks to achieve sustainable development with net-zero carbon emissions to address climate change. The organizers of this initiative are the Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education (EAUC), Second Nature and the UN Environment Program (UNEP). This document has been signed by 611 higher and further education institutions, which represent approximately 8.072.205 students, and 71 networks representing 34.157 educational institutions. Tecnológico de Monterrey is 1 of 5 signatory universities in Mexico.

TARGET FOR 2025

TO BECOME A MODEL SUSTAINABLE INSTITUTION BY ADOPTING A **PROACTIVE CULTURE,** IN THE FACE OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY, REFLECTED IN THE GENERATION OF IDEAS AND TECHNOLOGIES, **HIGH-IMPACT ACTIONS** AND THE PREPARATION OF LEADERS COMMITTED TO BUILDING A **SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.**

Tecnológico de Monterrey

La Carreta, Campus Monterrey.

2025 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

Tec is pleased to present its Sustainability and Climate Change Plan towards 2025 with six axes for strategic action:

Tecnológico de Monterrey

AXES FOR STRATEGIC ACTION

Culture: Implement an institution-wide culture of sustainability, in each and every operating, leadership and academic process.

Mitigation: Significantly reduce the institution's environmental impact, lessening our carbon footprint, and driving circular water management and integrated waste management.

Adaptation: Reduce vulnerability to the present and future impacts of climate change and grow our capacity for resilience and adaptation to conditions generated by the environmental crisis.

Education: Prepare Tecnológico de Monterrey students and faculty on climate change topics through education for sustainable development, in curricular and cocurricular activities within the Institution, assuring that everyone is knowledgeable about climate change and sustainable development.

Research: Drive interdisciplinary research to provide systemic solutions that will fully address the complexity of climate change and support sustainable development.

Outreach: Be an active player in local, national and global partnerships for sustainability and climate change, making our academic, scientific and technological capacities available to society and fomenting the acceleration of processes towards sustainability.

AXIS 1:

CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY

At Tecnológico de Monterrey, we are convinced that dealing with the ecological crisis requires transformation. This means going beyond the implementation of guidelines and regulations to foment a culture of sustainability among the members of the Tec community.

We also understand the importance of proposing this culture with a gender perspective in which everyone participates equitably in the efforts to defend and protect the most vulnerable in the face of climate impacts.

Therefore, fomenting a culture of sustainability requires designing and implementing the vision + perspective + knowledge + values + attitudes and behaviors that result in the preparation of people who are committed to sustainable development.

The axis of Culture holds a core position in this Sustainability and Climate Change Plan, since it directly articulates our decisions at every level of the institution. The fulfillment of the goals included in all the other axes will bring about a **cultural change towards sustainability.**

ike path, *Jardín de las Carreras* garden, Campus Monterrey

CULTURE

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

IMPLEMENT AN INSTITUTION-WIDE CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY, IN EACH AND EVERY OPERATING, LEADERSHIP AND ACADEMIC PROCESS.

Developing:

- Respect for and protection of nature.
- Savings and moderation in all our daily actions.
- Empowerment and shared responsibility towards sustainability.
- Compassion and the pursuit of the common good in relation to socioenvironmental issues.
- A vision of global change, recognizing the vulnerability of human beings and fomenting better planning for the future.
- Alignment of institutional sustainability policies and procedures.

Tec Volunteering 2019.

Tec Volunteering 2019.

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CULTURE

Actions towards 2025

1. Ensure environmental sustainability awareness among the Institution's students, collaborators, faculty and decision makers.
   - Create communication and awareness campaigns, conveying key concepts and actions, as well as the efforts completed, fostering pride in and positioning of the Tec community.
   - Offer experiential sustainability activities and programs in the diverse areas of internal community life.
2. To have measurement mechanisms to determine the rate of behavioral change resulting from actions aimed at the progressive reduction of office material consumption, waste generation and food waste in cafeterias.
3. Encourage, acknowledge and celebrate contributions in the different axes of the Plan.
4. Design and execute support systems for the acquisition of equipment and technologies that will contribute to sustainability for Tec collaborators.
5. Assure the responsible use and investment of institutional assets.

Water fountain with bottle filler, Campus Monterrey.

BiciTec Bicycle docking station, Campus Monterrey

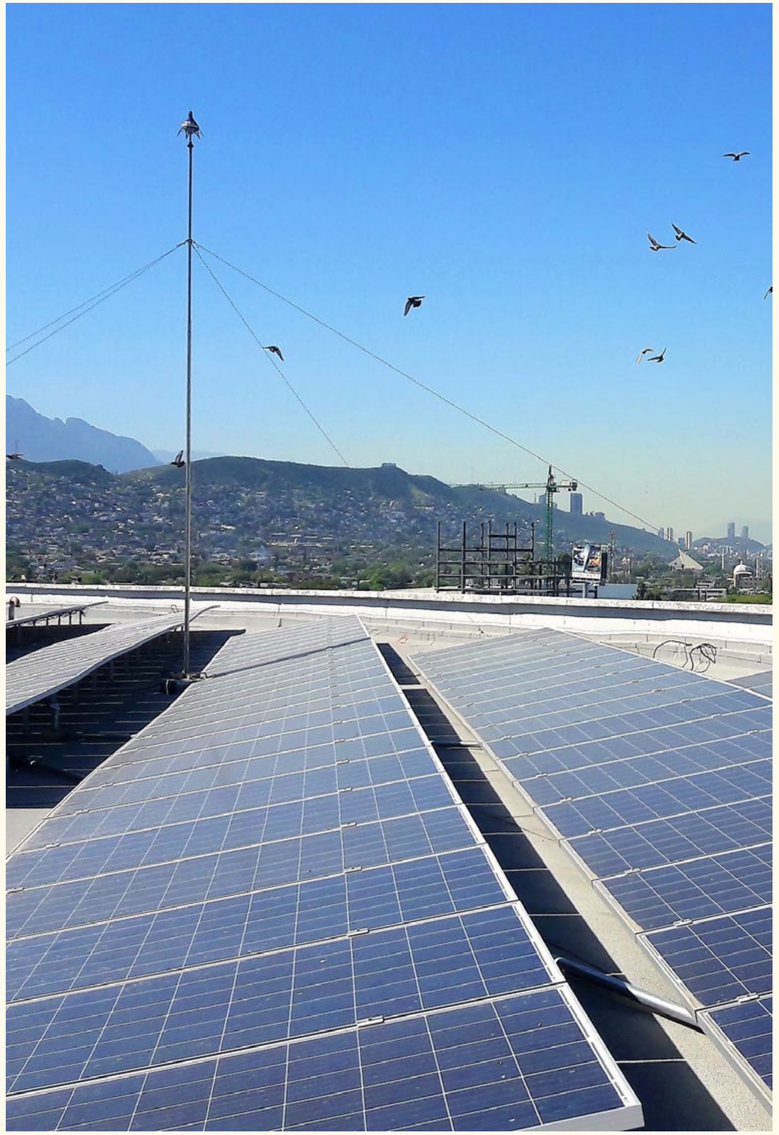
AXIS 2:

MITIGATION

To contribute to climate change mitigation, we have **committed carbon neutrality by 2040** under the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges, and to reducing the environmental impact of our operations and services.

Tec de Monterrey's 26 campuses and two hospitals are home to a community of over 92,000 students, and more than 24,000 collaborators and professors, who, every year, emit almost 55,000 tons of CO2, generate over 2,500 tons of waste, and consume approximately 2 million 700 thousand m^3 of water.

We have taken up the challenge of innovating our Campuses' operations, developing and implementing technologies, and designing policies and procedures with the best sustainability practices.



Solar cells, Halls of Residence, Campus Monterrey.

MITIGATION

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE INSTITUTION, LOWERING OUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT, PROMOTING CIRCULAR CIRCULAR WATER MANAGEMENT, AND INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT OF WASTE.

Goals towards 2025

ENERGY

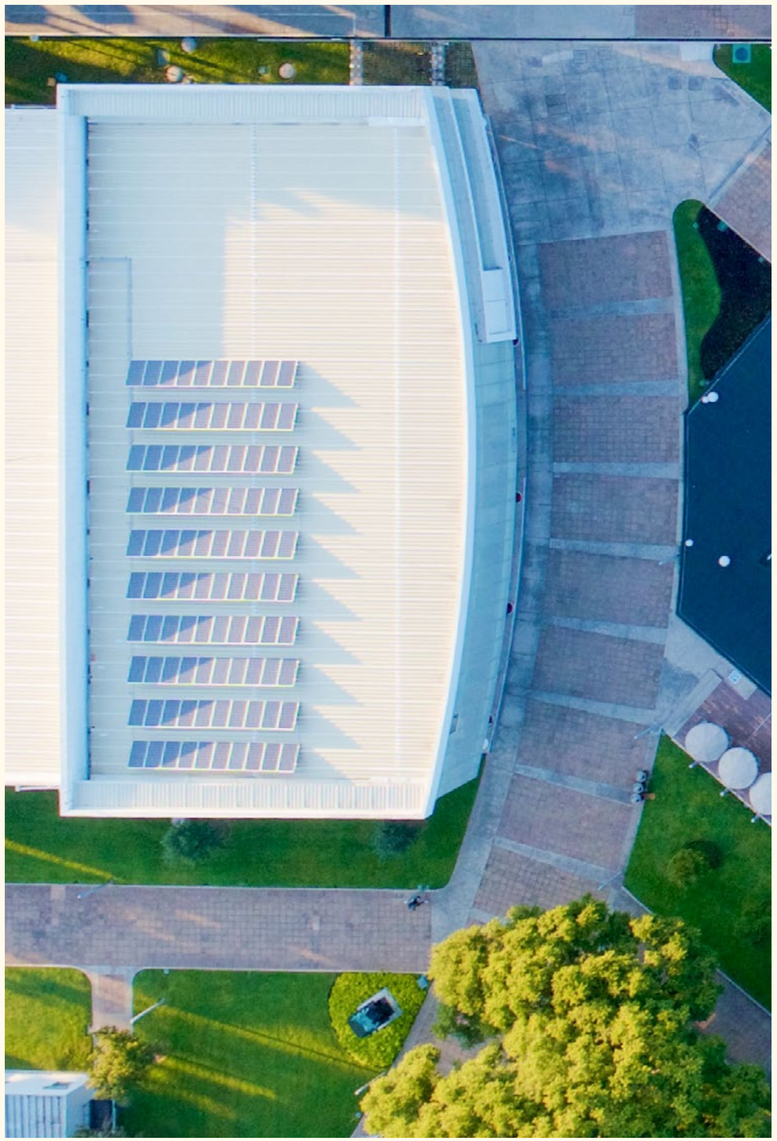
1. 80% of the energy consumed will come from renewable sources.
2. 20% reduction in energy consumption per m^2 (kWh/m^2).
3. 50% reduction in our greenhouse gas emissions.

WATER

4. Ahorro del 20% del consumo hídrico.
5. 80% de plantas de tratamiento y reutilización de agua en los campus Tec e instalaciones de TecSalud.

WASTE

6. Design an integrated waste management strategy and implement it institution wide.



Solar cells, Library, Campus Guadalajara.

MITIGATION

Actions towards 2025

ENERGY

1. Solar and wind power supply through contracts and self-generation infrastructure at our Campuses.
2. Administration of energy managers and equipment at the Campuses to reduce energy consumption.
3. Replacement of lights and air conditioning equipment, centralization of services, installation of sensors, and measurement/control systems that will improve energy efficiency.
4. Reduction in the number of plane trips at the institutional level.
5. To implement fuel consumption reduction strategies.

WATER

6. Establishment of a central management area.
7. Circular water resource management through the implementation of water treatment, use and reuse systems.
8. Strategies for reducing water consumption, such as the installation of low-flow water saving equipment, installations for the use of gray water and procedures to optimize its use.
9. Measurement of the results of campaigns to reduce water consumption.

WASTE

10. Design, prototyping, implementation of a national integrated waste management.

Wind turbines, School of Architecture and Design building, Campus Querétaro.

MITIGATION

Actions towards 2025

SELF-ASSESSMENT OF CAMPUSES

11. Periodical assessment of the campuses' level of operational sustainability to identify strengths and areas of opportunity, and set specific goals and working plans to improve their environmental performance.
12. Dissemination of the Campuses' progress, best practices and areas of opportunity in their operational sustainability.
13. Enabling the involvement of the Tec community at the Campuses (research - living labs, Tec 21 Challenges, entrepreneurship, volunteering, to name a few) in the design and implementation of sustainable actions.

Campus Cuernavaca.

GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

14. Application and continuous improvement of the campuses' internal operational sustainability guidelines and standards.

Campus Sonora Norte.

Campus Chihuahua.

AXIS 3:

ADAPTATION

In order to tackle the current environmental crisis, the effects of which are already observable in diverse forms, mitigation is not enough, while adapting to these changes is imperative. We understand adaptation to climate change as the initiatives and measures aimed at reducing the vulnerability of natural and human systems (IPCC, 2018).

Over the past few years, the ecosystems and communities where our facilities are located have been affected by flooding and the effects of high and low temperatures, suffering direct and indirect financial losses. We need to **consider the dimension of our infrastructure's vulnerability** and the economic and continuity impacts on our operations caused by extreme conditions and, in the long term, by climate change.

Location of our campuses in relation to the municipalities that are most vulnerable to climate change

1. Aguascalientes
2. Central de Veracruz
3. Chiapas
4. Chihuahua
5. Ciudad de México
6. Ciudad Juárez
7. Ciudad Obregón
8. Cuernavaca
9. Estado de México
10. Guadalajara
11. Hidalgo
12. Irapuato
13. Laguna
14. León
15. Monterrey
16. Morelia
17. Puebla
18. Querétaro
19. Saltillo
20. San Luis Potosí
21. Santa Fe
22. Sinaloa
23. Sonora Norte
24. Tampico
25. Toluca
26. Zacatecas

Tecnológico de Monterrey

ADAPTATION

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY TO THE PRESENT AND FUTURE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND GROW OUR CAPACITY FOR RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION TO CONDITIONS GENERATED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS.

Goals towards 2025

I. CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT STUDIES

- To have 100% of Tec's facilities have current and future vulnerability to climate change impacts assessment studies.

II. ADAPTATION PLANS BY CAMPUS

- Formulation of adaptation plans for each campus, identifying the portfolio of adaptation measures with three focal points:
  a. **Disaster risk reduction:** the Institution's facilities will have master plans and/or roadmaps that consider elements of sustainability, adaptation and resilience to extreme climate phenomena.
  b. **Ecosystem-based adaptation:** To have 100% of Tec's facilities have an ongoing reforestation strategy with terrestrial ecosystem restoration plans.
  c. **Community-based adaptation:** promote the adaptive capacity of the vulnerable communities in which our campuses are located.
- Economic assessment of the priority lines of action/ adaptation measures.
- Design of a strategy to implement and monitor the adaptation plan measures for the five highest-risk Campuses and/or facilities.

III. TRAINING FOR IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING THE ADAPTATION MEASURES FOR EACH CAMPUS

- Train personnel in the correct operation of the adaptation measures for each campus.
- Develop metrics for the lines of action/adaptation measures, and a reporting platform (monitoring and assessment).

ADAPTATION

Goals towards 2025

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT STUDIES

1. Execution of assessments to identify climate risks at the Campuses and their terrestrial ecosystems and analyze the current economic impacts of climate change and future scenarios.
2. Design and installation of monitoring and evaluation systems based on the development of relevant indicators for climate change adaptation.
3. Design of master plans, taking into account the factors studied and modeled for climate change adaptation.

CLIMATE CHANGE TRAINING

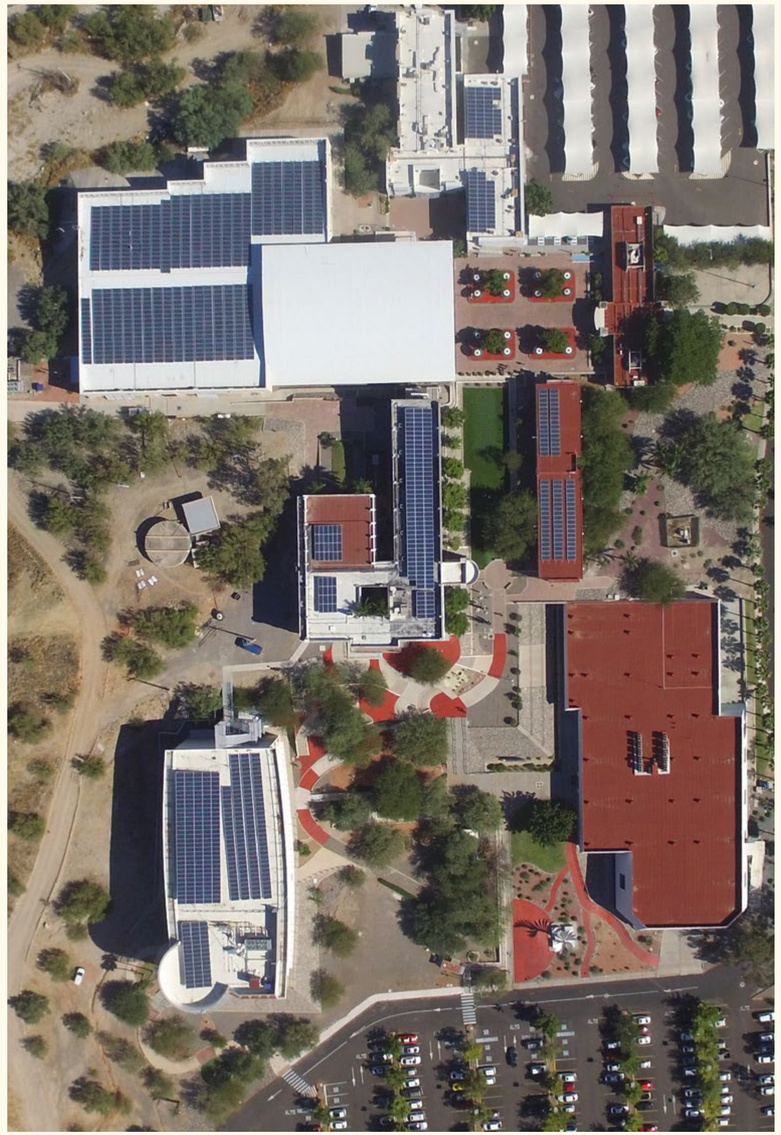
4. Consolidation of adaptation capacities through team workshops for Operations, Infrastructure, Security, Energy and the Environment, Master Plans, and Urban Planning.

TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND RESILIENCE

5. Formulation of an inventory of trees at all the Campuses, facilities and property assets for their management in terms of restoration and resilience.
6. Implementation of terrestrial ecosystem restoration and resilience actions, based on risk assessments.

RESILIENCE OF THE CAMPUSES

7. Consolidation and application of design, materials, construction system, maintenance and sustainable operation standards that consider the climate risks of each region.



Solar-cell Modules at Campus Sonora Norte.

AXIS 4:

EDUCATION

As an educational institution, Tec de Monterrey prepares people for life and to face the future, not just their own, but also of society. Educating people in environmental, sustainability and climate change issues is a priority. Therefore, offering students and faculty the conceptual, attitudinal and problem-solving tools required to **prepare people with the capacity to tackle the enormous complexity of the climate crisis and transforming the world** towards sustainable development is crucial.

One of the three pledges signed by Tecnológico de Monterrey in 2019 under the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges is related to education: “Support for the creation of environmental and sustainability education at the Campuses, both in the classroom and in community outreach”.

Driving education for sustainable development, within the framework of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in Tecnológico de Monterrey’s academic activities, provides a comprehensive perspective of sustainability to prepare agents of change capable of addressing the global climate emergency and ecological crisis. This educational perspective is inclusive, considering not only each and every student, but also the reeducation of the entire faculty.

EDUCATION

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

TO INSTRUCT TECNOLÓGICO DE MONTERREY STUDENTS AND FACULTY ON CLIMATE CHANGE TOPICS THROUGH EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, IN CURRICULAR AND COCURRICULAR ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE INSTITUTION, ASSURING THAT EVERYONE IS KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

Actions towards 2025

EDUCATIONAL INCLUSION IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1. Training design teams and faculty in sustainable development education, using a standardized methodological framework for its curricular implementation in courses and educational units.
2. Curricular inclusion of education for sustainable development, prioritizing topics related to sustainability and the ecological crisis through diverse modalities in courses, educational units, blocks, Tec weeks and challenges using the Campuses/settings (i.e. Distrito Tec) as laboratories and/or education partners.
3. Evaluation and certification: Evaluate the incorporation of the SDGs and award “seals” or “certificates” to the projects that comply with the characteristics of the methodology in which they received training.

4. Mapping the curricular inclusion of the SDGs in courses and educational units, and creating a database of certified faculty, courses and projects.

AXIS 5:
RESEARCH

Research is a key area of this plan, promoting the production of practical, relevant knowledge for decision making and offering comprehensive solutions for issues stemming from climate change.

One of the three pledges signed by Tecnológico de Monterrey in 2019 under the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges is directly related to research: “Mobilize resources for applied climate change research and techniques.”

Promoting climate change research requires **sustained access to financing and interdisciplinary work** to understand the relationships between the issues and observe interconnections through an integrated perspective.

Research, Campus Querétaro.


Student in a research laboratory.

RESEARCH

GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

DRIVE INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH TO PROVIDE SYSTEMIC SOLUTIONS THAT WILL FULLY ADDRESS THE COMPLEXITY OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Actions towards 2025

1. FUNDING TO ENCOURAGE INTERDISCIPLINARY SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH

Create a long-term fund for climate change research.

2. CAMPUSES AS LIVING LABS FOR RESEARCH

Facilitate the availability of the Campus facilities to encourage research and student projects aimed at solving climate change and sustainability problems. The Campuses become living labs where innovation forms part of the daily activities of our students and researchers.

Students in a research laboratory, Campus Monterrey.

Bioengineering Building, Campus Querétaro.

AXIS 6:

OUTREACH

Tackling climate change requires rapid, profound, far-reaching and unprecedented change at every level of society. This necessarily implies **close cooperation between academia, the public sector, private sector and civil society.**

At Tecnológico de Monterrey, our aim is to join forces with local, national and global agendas. As a university, we have assumed our role as a social actor, and underscore the importance of collaborating with other universities and society as a whole.

Event at the Conference Center, Campus Monterrey.

CIAP (International Center for Advanced Learning) Building, main entrance, Campus Monterrey.

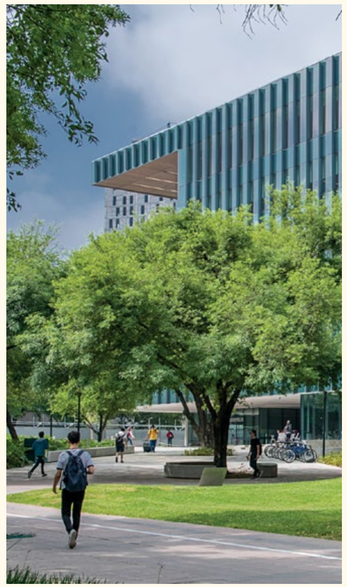
OUTREACH

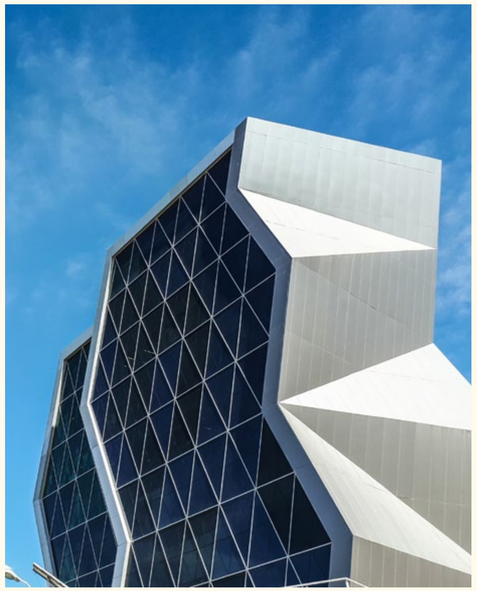
GENERAL OBJECTIVE:

BE AN ACTIVE PLAYER IN LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE, MAKING OUR ACADEMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CAPACITIES AVAILABLE TO SOCIETY AND FOMENTING THE ACCELERATION OF PROCESSES TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY.

Actions towards 2025

1. Foster intersectoral cooperation to co-design solutions directed towards sustainable development.
   - Strengthen alliances with local, national and international universities to drive research, curricular and cocurricular activities, and projects to drive climate action.
   - Promote the national interuniversity climate change network, combining forces to fulfill Mexico's goals under the Paris Agreement.
   - Collaborate closely with the private sector to generate ideas and develop technologies that will accelerate the transition towards sustainability.
   - Participate actively in local networks (for example, the WWF Alliances for Climate Action) that make it possible to form local sustainable development agendas.
   - Collaborate with the public sector to codesign public policies and legislation directed towards sustainable development.
   - Involve the Tec and EXATEC (Tec alumni) internal community in the Sustainability efforts
2. Define institutional positioning regarding the most relevant and important climate change topics nationwide.
3. Provide climate consulting services for diverse industrial sectors and offer short programs for companies, thereby helping individuals and organizations to understand this phenomenon and the adjustments needed to transition to sustainability.
4. Promote educational programs on climate change for the community, related to the SDGs, circular economy, recycling, education in sustainability, among others.





ROADMAP

TO 2040

Tecnológico de Monterrey

Given the current climate landscape, the outlook is extremely challenging. However, it is not too late to avoid the worst impacts, but we must act with a sense of urgency. The transition to sustainability must be an ongoing, progressive effort with no deadline for completion.

The progress made in our goals must be reviewed periodically and our level of ambition gradually increased in order to be equal to national and global circumstances.

We are aware that the only way to tackle the ecological crisis is for everyone to work together to build the path towards sustainability. This Plan is a reference framework for the community to adopt the initiative, according to each member's own context and needs. Our objective is for the community to contribute with its knowledge, creativity, and projects for its fulfillment and constant improvement.

The type of future we will experience depends on our current actions as a society. In this way, Tecnológico de Monterrey has made a commitment to the present and future generations to fight for a prosperous, sustainable planet that will permit human flourishing for each and every one of us.

"YOU MUST TAKE ACTION. YOU MUST DO THE IMPOSSIBLE. BECAUSE GIVING UP IS NEVER AN OPTION."

Greta Thunberg, climate activist.

We visualize Tec de Monterrey in 2040 as a carbon-neutral institution that has embraced the culture of sustainability and whose students will become transformational leaders of society in pursuit of sustainable development and human flourishing.

Tecnológico de Monterrey

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https://tec.mx/es/florecimiento-humano/impacto-social/sostenibilidad

2025 SUSTAINABILITY
AND CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN

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APRIL 2021

FACING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AT TEC:

2025 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN