

# **Cyprus International University**

## **Energy Divestment Policy**

### Statement

Version	Approved by	Date	Update Date
v.2	CIU Executive Board	29.12.2020	20 Jan. 2023

At Cyprus International University, we recognize the critical role that our infrastructure and investment strategies play in our commitment to sustainability and climate action. Our divestment policy encompasses our existing and new buildings and financial investments in carbon-related energy sources, including coal and oil. Cyprus International University (CIU) acknowledges the urgent need to combat climate change and lead the transition to a low-carbon economy. This policy formalizes our commitment to responsible stewardship by ending financial support for carbon-intensive energy systems and actively championing a future powered by renewable, clean energy. Our actions encompass our financial endowment, operational infrastructure, and academic mission.

#### Divestment from Carbon-Related Energy Sources

- Comprehensive Investment Review: We will conduct a thorough review of our investment portfolio to identify and divest from companies and funds associated with fossil fuel extraction and production, explicitly targeting coal, oil, and natural gas industries.
- 2. **Gradual Divestment Strategy**: We are committed to fully divesting from carbon-intensive energy sources by 2030 and will implement our divestment gradually over a defined timeline. This process will be transparent and aligned with our broader sustainability goals.
- 3. **Reinvestment in Sustainable Alternatives**: As we divest from fossil fuels, we will actively seek opportunities to reinvest in renewable energy, sustainable infrastructure, and innovative technologies that support a low-carbon economy.

#### **Existing Buildings**

- 1. **Energy Efficiency Upgrades**: We will conduct comprehensive energy audits of all existing buildings to identify areas for improvement. We will invest in retrofitting facilities with energy-efficient systems, including lighting, HVAC, and insulation, significantly reducing our overall energy consumption.
- 2. **Renewable Energy Integration**: We will explore opportunities to integrate renewable energy sources, such as solar panels or wind turbines, into existing buildings to offset energy use and decrease reliance on fossil fuels.
- 3. **Sustainable Materials**: We will prioritize the use of sustainable and locally sourced materials in all renovation projects, minimizing the environmental impact of construction and maintenance.

#### **New Buildings**

- 1. **Sustainable Design Standards**: All new construction will adhere to rigorous sustainability standards, including LEED certification or equivalent, ensuring that new buildings are designed for energy efficiency, water conservation, and minimal environmental impact.
- 2. **Renewable Energy Infrastructure**: New buildings will be equipped with the necessary infrastructure to support renewable energy systems, allowing for on-site clean energy generation from the outset.
- 3. Long-term Planning: We will develop a comprehensive sustainability plan that includes strategies for future construction and renovation projects. We will ensure all developments align with our divestment goals and contribute to a carbon-neutral

campus.

- 4. **Life-Cycle Assessment**: The design process for new buildings will include a life-cycle carbon assessment to minimize embodied carbon in construction materials.
- 5. **Community Engagement**: We will involve students, faculty, and staff in new buildings' planning and design processes to foster a sense of ownership and awareness about sustainability practices.

#### **Transparency**

This policy, along with annual progress reports, will be publicly available on the CIU sustainability website.

By integrating these principles into our approach to existing and new buildings and our investment strategies, Cyprus International University is committed to reducing our carbon footprint, enhancing energy efficiency, and promoting a sustainable campus environment. Through these actions, we aim to serve as a model for responsible stewardship and environmental leadership.