

Green Agenda of the Tbilisi Medical Academy (TMA)

Main Objectives of the TMA Green Agenda

The sustainability problems in general and the climate crisis more specifically, will remain the main challenge for societal development. At TMA, Institutional Social Responsibility is understood as primarily having the duty to further act and develop as an exemplary institution, especially in contributing to mitigate, adjust, and act towards a sustainable collective behavior through working on the SDG levels.

We therefore aim to equip our students to be knowledgeable practitioners of sustainability, by adhering to the TMA Green Agenda, to enhance and broaden its current activities throughout the coming years.

The primary aim of the TMA Green Agenda is to enhance a sustainable collective approach. “Greening” of TMA is aimed at modifying the institution’s awareness, behaviors, and activities and in the long run to address the broader challenges of sustainability.

The objectives of the Green Agenda, are currently addressed through the following directions:

1. Greening of the campus
2. Greening of the curriculum and training
3. Greening of the institutional culture

Main activities according to the directions:

1. Greening of the campus

- Minimization of the paper use through digital transformation, achieved through electronic management system for document processing - eDocument, electronic learning management systems emis.tma.edu.ge, students.tma.edu.ge Moodle, financial accounting programme Oris, financial parameter and ratio reporting system Power BI (Dashboard) and electronic signature platform Signify.
- Replacing incandescent bulbs with LED
- Availability of the vegan menu in the cafeteria
- Biodegradable lunch boxes in the cafeteria
- Recycling of the paper waste
- Recycling of the plastic waste

2. Greening of the curriculum and training

- Social and Environmental Health course in the curriculum of School of Medicine
- Planetary Health in the syllabus of the Public Health of the curriculum of the School of Medicine
- Planetary Health as a separate elective course in the curriculum of the School of Medicine
- Launch of the joint Master’s Program in “Applied Public Health”, with a focus on tackling UN SDGs and a separate course on Planetary Health
- Reduction of the carbon footprint of faculty members through virtual participation in local and international conferences, webinars

- Reduction of the carbon footprint of the administration through virtual participation in educational fairs to attract international students

3. Greening of the institutional culture

- Providing engagement opportunities for students and staff: awareness-raising activities such as meetings, lectures, and talks highlighting UN SDGs and environmental issues in particular
- Partnerships with actors from the non-governmental sector who work in environmental health (CENN, TENE, Sadagi, Vegan Georgia, Plant-Based Treaty)
- Green activities such as regular cleaning of different parts of the city
- Existence of Eco Club under TMA's Student Academy
- Launch of the Grant Commission for Social and Cultural Student projects to foster extra-curricular student initiatives and projects specifically aimed at Planetary Health and/or one of the UN SDGs as per applicants' choice
- Working with local and international networks and supporting volunteering