UNIVERSITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (USR)

NED UNIVERSITY OF
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
1. **Preamble:**

   NED University being one of the oldest engineering institutions of the Country is having more than 12000 students enrolled in different undergraduate, masters and PhD programmes. Majority of the students admitted in this institution come from middle and lower middle-income group families. The University being based in the mega city of the Country which is also industrial and economical hub of Pakistan has always had its high level of commitment for providing good quality education and producing capable graduates. The University apart from being engaged in academic and research activities is also investing in other social activities mainly pertaining towards extending support to its employees, students, community and improving environment which are being managed under its University Social Responsibility (USR) programme. NED Alumni and several philanthropists are playing vital role for success of this NED USR.

2. **University Social Responsibility:**

   Several institutions around the globe have established their USR which are mainly focused on inculcating ethics to the students, providing support to the Community and working for the environment. Some of these institutions include University of Manchester (UK), University of South Wales (Australia), Kyoto University (Japan), Peking University (China), Simon Fraser University (Canada), Washington University in St. Louis (USA) and Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

   NED University while realizing this important aspect and its influential role decided to act and establish similar USR. Three focused areas of NED University Social Responsibility (USR) programme with their sub-domains are described as under:

**A- STUDENTS CENTRED ACTIVITIES**

i. **Inculcating Ethical Values in the Students**

   While teaching the students core subjects relevant to their respective degree programmes, they are also taught ethics. The purpose is to make them responsible citizen and let them realize that they are the future of the nation and the progress of the nation depends upon their act. Along with teaching ethics seminars, workshops and walks are also arranged on regular basis whereby students and employees are informed about anti-social activities. They are also encouraged to convey the message to their fellows and friends in the community. All such extracurricular activities are arranged under the USR programme of the University by the Student Affairs Department through its various societies.

ii. **Scholarships for Students**

   The students admitted in this University do have very high merit in their HSC. Majority of them however, come from the families belonging to middle and lower-middle income group. Therefore, most of them are even unable to pay their semester fee. The University under its USR programme arranges scholarships for
such brilliant students. The scholarships mainly come from NED alumni and HEC with some portion received from philanthropists. More than 1400 students (around 15.5% of the total) do get benefitted under this USR programme whereby an amount of around Rs. 150 million per year is disbursed to the needy students against scholarship.

iii. Transport Facility for the students

Due to severe transport problem in the City, students face problem reaching the University on time which adversely affect their education. While realizing this fact, the University is plying shuttle service for the students. Currently, there are 20 shuttles which might be further increased in days to come so as to handle the increased students’ population. A nominal fee is charged from the students for availing this facility. The University however, pays the additional amount under its USR programme so as to get these shuttles running on regular basis twice a day i.e. in the morning and then later in the evening.

iv. In-Campus Shuttle Service

The University under its USR has dedicated two shuttles which ply within campus so as to facilitate the students and making their within-campus mobility comfortable. These shuttles are arranged in collaboration with Institution of Engineers, Pakistan, Karachi Centre.

B- COMMUNITY AND SOCIETY FOCUSED SERVICES

i. Providing Clean Drinking Water to Students and Employees

The tap water supplied in the City is undrinkable. Hence, the University under its USR has established two water filtering Units with the capacity of 10,000 gallons per day and 5,000 gallons per day respectively. All students and employees get facilitated with this treated water. Along with that the residents of University Staff Colony also get benefitted by these filter plants. The University under its USR programme make these plants fully functional throughout the year.

ii. Providing support for Daycare Centre

A reasonable number of female University employees have small and infant children which they prefer keeping in a safe place while they are at work. In order
to facilitate such employees, the University has established one ‘Daycare Centre’. Currently, there are five caretakers along with one support staff employed but in view of gradual increase in number of children, more caretakers will be employed. Although, the employees are being charged a nominal fee against each baby but the amount is insufficient to manage the Centre, therefore, the University under its USR programme is contributing certain amount (as approved by Syndicate) against the utility charges and other recurring costs of the Centre.

iii. Cowasjee School

NED University under its USR programme has also established one school ‘Cowasjee School’ with a reasonable investment which include donation from Cowasjee Foundation. The school is meant for providing high quality basic education to the students so as they may be able to get admission in renowned higher education institutions. The school is charging a very nominal fee from the employees’ children. The School is providing education from class-I up to matriculation with its current enrolment being around 400. Along with the children of employees who are charged a nominal fee, outsiders are also admitted in the school (around 32%) who are charged the normal fee.

iv. Shuttle Service for School Children

The University ply one shuttle for the employees’ children for pick and drop to their schools. This service is being managed with zero additional cost on the University as the parents of these children are charged for this facility.

v. Arranging Blood Donation Camps

The University under its USR programme arranges Blood Camps on regular basis. Renowned blood banks and hospitals are facilitated for collecting bloods in campus. While arranging such camps it is ensured that only those blood banks and hospitals are facilitated which have strong credibility and they are engaged in providing treatment and blood to less privileged people on discounted cost. Such camps are arranged at least once during each quarter of the year.
vi. Extending Community Service through Students

NED University has made it mandatory for all the students to spend at least 20 hours during the entire degree programme for community service. This service helps the university to play its role under the domain of social responsivity as well as making the students realize about the on-ground issues/problems that they should be aware about and then contribute to address such issues. A set mechanism is being used for monitoring the performance of students engaged in community service.

C- IMPROVING ENVIRONMENT

i. Improving Environment Targeting Carbon Neutrality

The University under its USR is trying to reduce its carbon footprints. This is being done by minimizing carbon emissions which is obtained through following triple modes:

a. Conversion of Lights to LED: All existing light within the University are gradually being converted to LEDs so as to reduce the electricity consumption which will help reducing the level of fuel used for producing electricity.

b. Plantation: Moreover, hundreds of trees are being planted for improving the environment within campus and surrounding area. Trees suitable with local environment including neem trees and some fruit bearing trees (*Date-Palm, Guava, Chikoo, Custard-Apple*) are mainly planted. Currently, there are more than 7,000 trees in the campus (*excluding other small plants and green patches*) which comes out to be 70 trees per acre. The number of trees is continuously growing.

c. Use of Renewable Energy: Transition to renewable energy is also underway in the campus. Some of the buildings of the University have already been converted on solar energy and gradually the remaining buildings will also be converted.

Several philanthropists and the university alumni are extending their support for achieving the target set by the University for getting its campus becoming carbon neutral by 2021.
ii. **Save Water Initiative:**

NED University has established sewage treatment plant whereby all waste water of the campus and staff colony is being treated and then used for the trees and plants in the campus. This system with having its current capacity of 20,000 gallons per day help saving similar amount of fresh water without compromising the plea of making the campus a ‘Green Campus’. This system is further being expanded with an addition of 15,000 gallons per day capacity.

Under this programme, the vidoo water (grey water) collected from the University mosque is also stored and then used for plantation.

iii. **Tree plantation in remote areas**

Under USR programme, the University is also helping plantation of trees in remote areas so as to contribute for the improvement in environment. Initially, the University in collaboration with Engro Foundation has planted trees within campus followed by planting trees in Tharparker District. School children are also engaged for this activity. Similar activities will be initiated in other localities as well.

3. **Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism**

All the activities carried out under NED USR will be monitored by the University Advancement and Financial Assistant Office (UAFA). Directorate of Industrial Liaison and Student Affairs Department will also extend support to UAFA where needed. The same will be reported in the University Annual Report.