WATER CONSERVATION AND REUSE GUIDELINES

Definitions

- **Water Conservation**: Use of water efficiently to reduce wastage.
- **Water Reuse**: Use of treated wastewater for beneficial purposes.
- **Greywater:** Wastewater excluding sewage (e.g., from sinks, showers).
- **Blackwater:** Wastewater containing human waste (e.g., from toilets).
- **Non-potable Water**: Water not safe for drinking but usable for other purposes like irrigation.
- **Rainwater Harvesting**: Capturing and storing rainwater for reuse

Purpose

Support sustainable water management at Malawi University of Business and Applied Sciences (MUBAS) by promoting efficient water use, water reuse, and conservation practices campus-wide.

Scope

All staff, students, affiliates, and visitors, covering practical water-saving initiatives, infrastructure use, and behavioural practices to reduce consumption and encourage reuse.

Key Practices and Guidelines

1. Water Saving Initiatives
    - The university shall install water-efficient fixtures and technologies across campus to reduce consumption and improve efficiency.
    - Rainwater harvesting and greywater recycling systems shall be implemented for non-potable uses such as irrigation and toilet flushing.
    - Infrastructure shall be maintained to ensure prompt detection and repair of leaks.

- Behavioural change campaigns shall promote mindful water use, including shorter showers, full dishwasher loads, and avoidance of unnecessary water use.

2. Water Reuse Applications
    - Treated greywater shall be safely reused for landscape irrigation, HVAC cooling, cleaning, and other appropriate non-potable applications.
    - Blackwater shall undergo advanced treatment prior to reuse, in full compliance with public health and safety standards.
3. Infrastructure and Systems Use
    - Campus users shall engage responsibly with water reuse infrastructure and report any issues in a timely manner.
    - The university shall support the development, operation, and maintenance of water reuse systems to ensure long-term sustainability.
4. Prevention of Water Pollution
    - Measures shall be implemented to prevent contaminants such as chemicals, oils, and untreated waste from entering campus water systems and nearby natural water bodies.
    - Hazardous materials and chemicals shall be disposed of properly to avoid water contamination.
    - Water systems shall be regularly inspected to identify and rectify pollution risks.
    - Awareness campaigns shall educate the campus community on pollution risks and promote responsible behaviours that protect water quality.
5. Research and Innovation Participation
    - The university shall encourage active participation in water conservation and reuse research, pilot projects, and educational programs.
    - Campus-wide awareness campaigns and training initiatives shall be supported to foster innovation and community engagement in sustainable water practices.

Monitoring and Reporting

- Regular measurement and monitoring of total campus water consumption.
- Establishment of water reduction targets aligned with national and international sustainability goals.
- Regular reporting on water efficiency progress and success stories.

Responsibilities

- **University Management:** Should show commitment to resource allocation, policy enforcement, and continuous improvement.
- **All Campus Members:** Should show responsible water use, participation in training, and proactive issue reporting.