



# Sustainability Plan 2022-2025



Parc Científic de Barcelona  
UNIVERSITAT DE BARCELONA



The Sustainability Plan consists of 7 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that Barcelona Science Park has identified as the most relevant to its activity. The plan consists of a total of 20 projects and 44 actions for the 2022-2025 period, which will have a bearing on all the institution's activities.



## Working towards excellence to improve the health and wellbeing of our people and society

PROJECTS

### Quality in the provision of services by offering first-rate spaces and technology

**To maintain quality standards in the provision of services and a commitment to continuous improvement.**

#### Related actions

- Periodic surveys to assess the satisfaction levels of clients based at the Park with regard to its spaces and technology. The organisation of activities to revitalise the PCB Community coordinated by the Park.
- Annual face-to-face meetings with entity managers to outline new features and listen to concerns and needs.
- Maintenance of quality certifications (ISO 9001) and environmental management certifications (ISO 14001).
- Obtention of AAALAC Accreditation (Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care) - a standard that endorses high animal welfare standards in the scientific activities of the Park's Animal Facility.

### Visibility of the PCB Community

**Increased news output regarding companies and entities based at the Park to gain specialised press and social network prominence.**

#### Related actions

- The creation of news bulletins and press releases reporting on the activities of Park-based entities and their research results.
- Making the activities Park-based entities known through multiple channels: via the website, social networks and internal newsletters. The publication and dissemination of press releases on the activities of Park-based entities, and a dedicated section in the Annual Report comprising a summary of the entities' and research centre's main contributions for the corresponding financial year.

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## Personal wellbeing

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**To continue to promote initiatives for the physical and mental wellbeing of the Community and the PCB Team.**

### Related actions

- Face-to-face activities for promoting physical and mental wellbeing, geared towards the entire Community and the PCB Team.
  - Elaboration of a health and quality of life plan to promote healthy habits aimed at the PCB Team.
  - Actions for the prevention and management of work overload, and the implementation of a digital disconnection protocol.
  - Promoting the health -and wellness- related benefits offered by the UB (UB card).
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## A commitment to training and scientific vocation both now and in the future

PROJECTS

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### Sustainability training and awareness

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**Sustainability training programme for the PCB Team.**

### Related actions

- Sustainability training initiatives for the PCB Team.
  - Sustainability-driven initiatives to promote social cohesion and awareness
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### Initiatives aimed at fostering scientific vocation

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**The Park continues to promote activities aimed at nurturing scientific vocation. These initiatives are implemented throughout the whole of Catalonia.**

### Related actions

- The application of Bioethics to the activities and materials involved in the Research in Society (RESSÒ) programme.
  - Educational materials for the PCB's youth science camps.
  - Raising awareness on sustainability among participants in the activities organised by the RESSÒ programme, which address issues that go further beyond climate change.
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# To promote innovation and scientific research, and integrate SDGs and sustainability into the PCB's business culture

## Activation of sustainability at the PCB

To establish mechanisms for activating sustainability at the PCB, by defining annual improvement objectives, the means of measuring and monitoring sustainability and performing global risk assessments, including those linked to ESG aspects (environmental, social and governance).

### Related actions

- Approval of the PCB's strategic sustainability policy.
- Incorporation of strategic sustainability-related indicators into management systems.
- Instillation of the sustainability culture throughout the entire organisation, via social cohesion activities and periodic team meetings. The implementation of various initiatives (team meetings, training activities, informative materials etc.), in order for sustainability culture to be completely instilled and form part of the PCB Team's everyday life.

## Communication strategy

Defining and implementing a communication strategy that positions the PCB as an organisation that contributes to sustainable development.

### Related actions

- Publication of a dedicated sustainability page on the PCB website.
- Incorporating a chapter on environmental and social issues in the Park's annual income statement.
- Convey sustainability to the brand of the Barcelona Science Park.

## The promotion of innovation and scientific research

Technological surveillance to continue offering pointer services and facilities to favour innovation and scientific research; investments in infrastructure and technology to enable new spaces and to increase the capacity for scientific research.

### Related action

- Elaboration of a new strategic plan for the Park, to strengthen its role as a driving force in the research and life sciences sector.

# Efficiency in the use of resources, boosting the circular economy and the promotion of responsible purchasing and sourcing

PROJECTS

## Promotion of green purchasing and responsible sourcing

We work to adapt and improve purchases and contracts taking into account sustainability criteria.

### Related actions

- The selection of products or services that possess ecolabels or other sustainability criteria.
- Incorporate new clauses and requirements into tenders that favour green purchasing and socially responsible sourcing.
- Training PCB staff involved in purchasing processes in sustainable tendering based on the models and standards currently promoted by the public administrations.

## Savings and efficiency in the use of natural resources

Continuous improvement of operational processes and the identification of improvements that result in greater control and a reduction in the use of resources (electricity, water and natural gas).

### Related actions

- Optimise energy consumption by analysing the data of internal metres.
- Improvements to buildings and facilities to save on air conditioning; the implementation of energy-efficient lighting and smart detection systems, among others.
- The renewal of large scientific equipment with a view to achieving maximum energy efficiency and low consumption.
- Assess the possibility of conducting an energy and water audit to identify opportunities for improvement.

## Promoting the circular economy

Continuation of the initiatives aimed at giving a second lease of life to used materials and reducing the use of raw materials.

### Related actions

- Donation to third parties of furniture or scientific equipment in need of replacement in order to give them a new lease of life and prevent them from becoming waste.
- Taking advantage of materials that can be reused, such as cold accumulators.

## Waste Management

Prevent waste production and ensure correct sorting practices to facilitate its subsequent recycling.

### Related actions

- Promoting the use of digital tools to reduce paper consumption.
- Salvaging recyclable materials: High-density polyethylene tops and boxes or disused furniture, among others.
- Collaboration with the cafeteria to find solutions that enable waste reduction.



## A commitment to the Park's people

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### Employee satisfaction

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PROJECTS

**The Park is committed to creating growth opportunities for its Team**

Related actions

- Enhancing different communication channels so that staff can offer proposals that contribute to their professional and emotional wellbeing, as well contributing towards improving the environment.
  - Periodic organisation of team building activities that contribute to strengthening relationships and generating an enhanced sense of belonging.
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### Policy for talent management and retention

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**Professional career planning as a tool for developing human talent**

Related actions

- Development of a Career Plan for the PCB Team.
  - Improvement of the protocol in the event of the voluntary resignation of PCB staff.
  - Retirement protocol and policy that recognises the commitment of those who remained a part of the team until the end of their working life.
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## Contribute to the fight against climate change

### Implementation of a greenhouse gas emission neutralisation strategy

**Define viable reduction measures and the greenhouse gas emissions neutralisation roadmap.**

Related actions

- Calculating the carbon footprint of both the PCB and its entities.
- Designing a strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

### Reduction of transport-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

**Promoting sustainable mobility linked to the workplace, taking into account the PCB Team and Community**

Related action

- Promoting the use of carpooling with the goal of reducing the use of private transport and its associated emissions.



## Establish strategic partnerships to facilitate the achievement of the SDGs

### Partnerships to contribute to SDG achievement in the PCB environment

**Establish partnerships with the entities of the PCB Community to work together on initiatives and share good practices.**

Related action

- Creating a PCB Sustainability Commission with Community members to carry out joint initiatives and share good practices.

### Potential affiliation to the United Nations Global Compact

**Promote partnerships with national or international organisations to foster development in different areas of health and life sciences.**

Related action

- Assessment of the project for the institution's future affiliation to the United Nations Global Compact, or other international initiatives.



# Barcelona Science Park's COMMITMENT to sustainability

Barcelona Science Park is a European benchmark for research, technological transfer and scientific innovation that is strongly committed to promoting the culture of sustainability.

Aware of its responsibility and its role in scientific progress, the Park wants to act as a transformative agent to face global challenges with a strategic vision, seeking to find a balance between financial profit and human welfare, in order to leave a positive mark on the planet.

To achieve this, the principles of sustainability and good governance have been incorporated into our institutional activity, and take shape in the form of various plans that will guide the organisation



<https://www.pcb.ub.edu/en/sustainability/>



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