

## **SDG 7 - Leading the Charge: UST's Holistic Approach to Affordable and Clean Energy**

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) has continuously demonstrated its commitment to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7, Affordable and Clean Energy. Through groundbreaking research, innovative campus projects, strategic partnerships, and community initiatives, UST has positioned itself as a leader in promoting sustainable and equitable energy solutions. This report highlights the -pronged approach to achieving SDG 7 while fostering a culture of innovation, environmental stewardship, and community engagement.

### **1. Fostering Campus Energy Sustainability**

**Energy Forum** in May 2024 underscored its commitment to energy efficiency, featuring programs such as **POWERWISE**, **Luntiang Tomasino**, and **GRT-76** panel installations on campus, with plans for expansion to other facilities. Tools like the **Energy Online Dashboard** enable precise monitoring and prediction of energy usage, ensuring that efficiency gains are measurable and actionable.

The identification of high-Centers (EACs) emphasized the need for tailored solutions, such as addressing "phantom load" and mitigating heat-related consumption challenges. These initiatives reflect the university's proactive stance on operational sustainability, reducing its carbon footprint while achieving cost savings.

### **2. Empowering Underserved Communities through Renewable Energy**

In line with its mission to extend sustainability efforts beyond its campus, UST spearheaded community-focused projects such as [GALILEEWANAG](#) and [Liwanag ng Paq-ibig](#). These initiatives provide solar-powered lighting solutions to underserved areas, fostering energy independence and environmental awareness in marginalized communities.

By equipping residents with skills in maintenance and implementation, these projects ensure long-term sustainability while addressing immediate energy inequities. This capacity building, and community upliftment.

### **3. Research Excellence in Green Energy and Circular Economy**

UST has earned recognition for its pioneering research in renewable energy and



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collaboration among academic institutions, industries, and policymakers.