QUEZON CITY UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

From Commitment to Impact: QCU's Sustainability Journey 2025



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SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

Quezon City University
Research, Extension, Planning, and Linkages

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Quezon City University's sustainability journey in 2025 reflects a clear institutional direction: a local university advancing access, innovation, inclusion, and measurable social impact in service of Quezon City and the global Sustainable Development Goals.

At the center of QCU's sustainability story is its mandate to provide accessible and transformative higher education. In Academic Year 2024–2025, the University served 10,915 students in the first semester and 10,691 in the second. Demand for QCU education remained strong, with 16,699 applicants for QCUCAT 2025 and 2,305 passers qualifying for admission under the free tuition program. These figures underscore QCU's continuing role as a pathway of opportunity for students and families, particularly those who rely on public higher education as a means of upward mobility.

QCU strengthened its sustainability-driven curriculum, research agenda, urban agriculture initiatives, and local-to-global partnerships. Sustainability was not treated as a separate institutional concern, but as a unifying framework across teaching, research, extension, student development, governance, and community engagement.

The University's 2025 sustainability performance may be understood through four defining strengths.

First, **access and inclusion** remained QCU's most direct contribution to poverty reduction and social equity. Through free tuition, scholarship support, inclusive admissions, and sustained enrolment, QCU continued to make quality education reachable for thousands of learners.

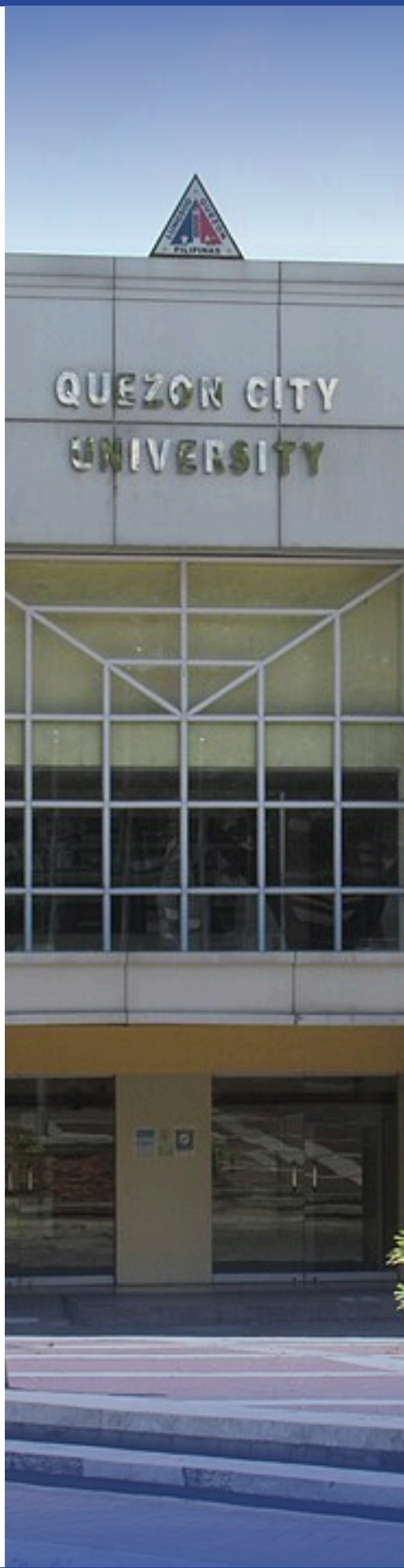
Second, **urban agriculture and community extension** emerged as one of QCU's strongest flagship narratives. Through the Center for Urban Agriculture and Innovation and initiatives such as Joy is a Farm, QCU connected food security, climate resilience, entrepreneurship, student learning, and city partnership in a visible and practical way.

Third, **innovation and partnership** capacity continued to expand. Intellectual property training, patent-search workshops, student innovation showcases, out-of-school youth development programs, international memoranda of understanding, and participation in global sustainability forums demonstrated QCU's growing role as a knowledge partner and innovation platform.

Fourth, **external recognition** reinforced the credibility of QCU's sustainability work. In 2025, the University received the Water Warrior Award for Water Education, student organizations earned recognition at the QC Green Awards, and QCU was recognized in the Sustainability Category for Local Universities and Colleges at CHED ICONS 2025. These recognitions show that QCU's initiatives are gaining visibility beyond the campus and are increasingly valued by external stakeholders.

QCU's 2025 sustainability profile is strongest where public education, city development, innovation, and community partnership intersect. Its story is not only about institutional participation in the SDGs; it is about making sustainability concrete through students served, communities engaged, food systems strengthened, policies advanced, and partnerships formed.

As QCU moves forward, its sustainability agenda enters a new phase: from visibility to deeper measurement, from program documentation to stronger impact tracking, and from individual initiatives to an integrated sustainability culture. The 2025 Sustainability Report therefore captures a university that is already active, credible, and distinct in its sustainability work—one that continues to grow as a city-facing, socially responsive, and globally engaged local university.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At Quezon City University, sustainability is not separate from our mission. It is how we fulfill our responsibility as a local university in the service of Quezon City, its people, and the larger community.

Guided by our vision to be an internationally recognized local university committed to innovation and sustainability to achieve positive social impact, QCU continues to advance accessible, inclusive, and transformative education. In 2024 and 2025, this commitment was reflected in our support for economically disadvantaged learners, strengthened urban agriculture and food security initiatives, expanded research and innovation efforts, and growing local and international partnerships.

Our sustainability journey is rooted in people. It is seen in the opportunities we open for students, the communities we serve, the knowledge we create, and the partnerships we build for the public good. While we are encouraged by our growing presence in sustainability rankings and the recognitions received by our students, faculty, and programs, we believe our true measure of impact lies in the everyday relevance of our work.



This Sustainability Report presents QCU as a university steadily widening its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. It tells the story of an institution growing not only in visibility but in purpose, responsibility, and social impact.

As we move forward, we remain committed to strengthening our programs, improving our systems, and expanding our partnerships so that QCU may continue to serve as a university of access, innovation, sustainability, and meaningful service for Quezon City and beyond.

Dr. Theresita V. Atienza
University President
Quezon City University



INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



BUILDING QCU'S INNOVATION PIPELINE

QCU VEX Robotics on the Global Stage

QCU's robotics achievements demonstrated the creativity, technical skill, and global competitiveness of students in engineering and technology.

Quezon City University made history as its Electronics Engineering and Information Technology students represented the Philippines at the **2025 VEX Robotics World Championship – VEX U Division**, held from May 9–11, 2025, at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas, Texas, USA. In their world championship debut, **Team QCU1 secured 15th place out of 63** international teams in the Skills Competition, achieving victories against teams from the United States, Mexico, and China after earning their spot through outstanding performances in national competitions, reflecting QCU's growing excellence in robotics, engineering, and technology education and proving that Filipino students can compete and thrive among the world's best.



QCU ON THE WORLD STAGE

15TH PLACE
OUT OF
63
INTERNATIONAL TEAMS
SKILLS COMPETITION



Team QCU1's performance at the 2025 VEX Robotics World Championship **reflects months of design, programming, testing, and collaboration**. Competing against leading university teams from around the world, the students showcased not only technical excellence but also the innovation, perseverance, and teamwork that define the University's commitment to engineering and technology education.

Their success **serves as an inspiration to future QCU innovators and demonstrates the growing capability of Filipino students** to compete and excel on the global stage.

TEAMWORK
Stronger together.

INNOVATION
Ideas that create impact.

PERSEVERANCE
Driven by passion, focused on goals.

GLOBAL IMPACT
Proudly representing the Philippines.

Digital Innovation for Sustainability: QCU Enhances EcoCycle Community Platform in Barangay Talipapa

On October 27, 2025, students from the BS Information Technology Program of Quezon City University (QCU), under the supervision of Asst. Prof. Joan Lawan, visited Barangay Talipapa to present updates on the Barangay Talipapa Website — **a community-driven platform developed through their NSTP-CWTS community immersion**.

The website supports the barangay's environmental advocacy, **EcoCycle**, which promotes sustainability and proper waste management.

Beyond serving as an informational hub, the site **features a solid waste trading system** where residents can exchange recyclable materials for points that can be redeemed for agricultural products grown within the barangay. This project **reflects how digitalization can empower communities**, showing that technology can play a vital role in urban agriculture, environmental conservation, and civic participation.

This initiative is part of the QCU SMILE Extension Program, particularly under the IANGAT (upliftment) and EKSPERTO (expertise sharing) pillars—highlighting the University's commitment to service-learning, innovation, and sustainable community development.



QUEZON CITY UNIVERSITY

SAN BARTOLOME | BATASAN | SAN FRANCISCO

