

## **Implementation of the Environmental Management System at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia.**

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**Abstract.** The Universidad Nacional de Colombia is a public educational institution founded in 1867. It has currently 8 seats located in different regions of the country, where 53,000 students are formed per year. The environmental management is an essential part of its foundations and it is reflected in the environmental training offered to all academic programs and the environmental policy, adopted since 2011. 25% of its seats has an environmental management system certified by the ISO 14001 regulation, and the remaining 75% is currently in the implementation process. The surface of the Universidad Nacional reaches 4,191,906 m<sup>2</sup>, out of which 28.67% is covered by forest vegetation and 48.97% by planted vegetation. The good environmental practices developed inside the Universidad Nacional include: the separation of organic waste, which is composted and then employed for the maintenance of gardens, thus reducing the use of fertilizers and chemicals; the implementation of programs to reduce the consumption of disposable cups by providing free reusable glasses; and the collection and treatment of hazardous waste, including those generated in more than 500 laboratories.

Likewise, the collection and use of rainwater and the generation of electrical energy from solar panels is carried out. The main seats of the University are integrated to the public transportation systems and cycling infrastructure of the cities, and there is also a bicycle loan service for the internal transit. Bioclimatic elements have been incorporated in the most recent buildings, where natural lighting and ventilation have been included since the design stage.

**Keywords:** Environmental Management System, Environment, and Good Practices.