



SDG2- Zero Hunger

In 2024, the University of Poonch Rawalakot continued to advance its commitment to **Zero Hunger** by strengthening sustainable food systems, reducing waste, and ensuring year-round access to nutritious and affordable food for students, staff, and the surrounding community.

Food Waste Management and Sustainable Choices

UPR maintained an effective food waste handling and disposal system under its updated Food Waste Policy. Campus cafeterias, hostels, and food outlets served freshly prepared meals sourced from local fruits, vegetables, dairy, and meats. Emphasis remained on sustainable menus, including vegetarian and vegan options, supported by regular monitoring by the Food Safety and Quality Management Committee.

Support to Students and Staff

More than 30% of students continued to receive financial assistance to maintain uninterrupted access to meals on campus and in hostels. The University Food Bank/Pantry, supplied by produce from University Farms, ensured regular distribution of seasonal vegetables, fruits, grains, milk, and meat. Food Assistance Committees monitored the fair supply and distribution of these items, either free or at subsidized rates, especially for low-wage staff and marginalized students.

Community Nutrition and Skill Development

The Department of Food Science and Technology continued providing technical training to students, women groups, food processors, and restaurant workers. Hands-on sessions in value-added product development, food preservation, and safe processing practices supported entrepreneurship and community nutrition. Collaboration with national bodies and donor agencies further enhanced training and innovation in food products and marketing.

Campus Food Accessibility and Pricing

UPR ensured affordable access to balanced meals across all cafeterias. Menu development considered students' socio-economic conditions, cultural preferences, and dietary needs. University cafeterias offered healthy meals at prices significantly lower than market rates, with several items subsidized by up to 50%.

Support to Local Farmers and Producers

Throughout 2024, the Faculty of Agriculture continued its outreach program providing free, on-farm technical assistance to farmers. Services included seed selection, fertilizer optimization, integrated disease management, and soil, water, and milk testing. These interventions helped enhance crop productivity and supported small growers in improving fruit and vegetable yields, particularly apple production in local orchards.



