



Girne University

Plastic Waste Policy

September 2024

Objective

The purpose of this policy is to regulate the strategies and actions to be implemented in order to minimise the generation of plastic waste, increase reuse and recycling rates, support environmental sustainability, and raise plastic awareness in the community across Girne University campuses and all affiliated units.

Scope

This policy covers the processes related to the procurement, use, recycling, and disposal of all types of plastic products used in all faculties, colleges, administrative units, dormitories, social facilities, canteens, cafeterias, and laboratories affiliated with Girne University.

Basis

This policy has been prepared based on the following national and international legislation and standards:

- Republic of Turkey **Packaging Management Regulation (RG: 02.04.2015/29314)**
- **Packaging Waste Control Regulation (Official Gazette: 24.08.2011/28035)**
- European Union **Single-Use Plastics Directive (EU 2019/904)**
- **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 12 – Responsible Production and Consumption, SDG 14 – Life Below Water)**
- Girne University **Environment and Sustainability Policy**

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2024

Definitions

Plastic Waste

Plastic materials that are single-use or multi-use, have reached the end of their useful life, and have become waste.

Single-use plastic

Products that are discarded after a single use (e.g. straws, plastic plates, cups, cutlery, bags, etc.).

Recyclable Plastic

Plastic types that can be reprocessed with the appropriate infrastructure.

Separation at Source

The process of collecting waste separately at the point of generation according to recycling types.

Action Plan

A plan that includes strategies, targets and implementation timelines for reducing plastic waste.

Responsibility

Rectorate

Ensures the implementation of the policy and allocation of resources.

Sustainability and Quality Coordination

Prepares monitoring, reporting, and annual evaluation reports.

Directorate of Administrative and Financial Affairs

Establishes supply chains that reduce plastic usage.

Cleaning Services

Monitors the separation of plastic waste at source.

Canteen and Cafeteria Operations

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Eliminates the use of single-use plastics and promotes reusable products.

Student Council and Clubs

Organises awareness campaigns and contributes to zero-waste projects.

Policy Principles

- Reducing plastic use across the university is fundamental.
- The use of single-use plastics will be phased out gradually.
- Plastic waste will be separated at source and included in the recycling chain.
- The use of alternative materials (biodegradable, compostable, glass, metal, etc.) will be encouraged.
- Priority will be given to environmentally friendly and recyclable packaging in procurement processes.
- Students, academic and administrative staff will be involved in regular training and awareness-raising activities.

Plastic Waste Reduction Action Plan

Action No	Activity	Target Date	Responsible Unit
1	<i>Eliminating the use of single-use plastic plates, cutlery, and straws on campus</i>	2026	<i>Administrative Affairs, Canteen</i>
2	<i>Placement of recycling bins in all units</i>	2025	<i>Cleaning Services</i>
3	<i>Phasing out plastic water bottle caps</i>	2027	<i>Social Facilities</i>
4	<i>Launch of "Bring your own bottle" campaigns</i>	2025	<i>Student Council</i>
5	<i>A 20% annual reduction in the amount of plastic bottles</i>	Ongoing	<i>Quality Unit</i>

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Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Plastic waste quantities are recorded monthly and **the "Plastic A2k Monitoring Report"** is prepared once a year.

The report results are evaluated by the quality unit and presented at sustainability committee meetings.

Corrective actions are planned when targets are not met.

Education and Awareness

Seminars, posters, online modules and information boards are prepared to raise awareness about plastic waste.

The "Zero A2k Information Brochure" is distributed to every newly enrolled student.

Sustainability training is provided to all employees at the beginning of the academic year.

Implementation and Revision

This policy comes into effect on the date it is approved by the Girne University Senate. The policy is reviewed every three years and necessary updates are made.

Implementation

The provisions of this policy are implemented by **the Sustainability and Quality Coordination Office**.

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Appendices

Appendix 1: Plastic Waste Reduction Action Plan Table

Appendix 2: Waste Separation and Recycling Points Map

Appendix 3: Education and Awareness Programme Content

Appendix 4: Annual Monitoring Report Format

Appendix 5: Implementation Schedule and Revision Timetable

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Appendix 1: Plastic Waste Reduction Action Plan Table

No	Action	Responsible Unit	Start Date	End Date	Monitoring Indicator	Status
1	Removal of single-use plastic bottles from sale across the campus	Administrative Affairs Department	01.01.2025	01.06.2025	100 Elimination rate	Ongoing
2	Transition to a reusable cup/container system in canteens	Health, Culture and Sports Directorate	01.03.2025	01.12.2025	Usage rate	Planned
3	Installation of recycling bins across the campus	Construction and Technical Affairs Directorate	01.01.2025	Ongoing	Recycling rate (%)	Active

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Appendix 2: Map of Waste Separation and Recycling Points

- The locations and types of recycling bins (Plastic, Paper, Metal, Glass) across the campus will be indicated.
- Separate bins and directional signs will be placed at each building entrance.
- The map visualisation may be added or shown with drawings.

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Appendix 3: Education and Awareness Programme Content

- Plastic waste and its environmental impacts
- Reducing single-use plastics and their alternatives
- Separation at source and recycling processes
- Zero Waste initiatives and campus projects
- Student and staff awareness activities (posters, seminars, online training)
- Educational materials and checklists

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Appendix 4: Annual Monitoring Report Format

Report Title:

Content :

- Total plastic waste amount (kg)
- Amount of recycled plastic (%)
- Waste reduction rate (%)
- Source separation data
- Education and awareness activities report
- Implementation issues and recommendations

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Appendix 5: Implementation Schedule and Revision Timetable

Period	Activity	Responsible Unit	Start Date	End Date	Revision Notes
Year 2025	Elimination of single-use plastics	Administrative Affairs	01.01.2025	01.06.2025	Initial implementation
Year 2025	Education and awareness programme	Sustainability Coordination	1 February 2025	31 December 2025	Planning phase
Year 2025	Installation of recycling bins	Cleaning Services	1 January 2025	Ongoing	Updates may be required

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