Girne University

Water Quality Policy

September 2024

Purpose

This policy aims to protect water quality, ensure the sustainable use of water resources, and manage water discharges in accordance with national and international environmental standards across all campuses, laboratories, facilities, and maritime activity areas of Girne University.

The fundamental objective of the policy is to ensure the ***monitoring, control, and continuous improvement of water quality*** in order to protect ecosystems, wildlife, human health, and community welfare.

Scope

This policy covers

All ***water usage*** on Girne University campuses***, including tap water, laboratory discharges, rainwater drainage systems, and maritime application areas,***

University-affiliated ***dormitories, canteens, workshops, and maritime training centres***, ***Groundwater and surface water sources*** (sea, ponds, wells, municipal water supply, etc.), Relevant ***national and international environmental*** legislation.

Basis

The policy is based on the following legislation, standards and guidelines:

National Legislation

- ***TRNC Environmental Law (39/2012)*** *and related water quality regulations,*
- ***Turkish Water Pollution Control Regulation (SKKY)****,*
- ***Technical Procedures for Urban Water Treatment Plants****,*
- ***Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulation****.*

International Standards and Guidelines

- ***European Union Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC),***
- ***World Health Organisation (WHO) Drinking Water Quality Guidelines,***
- ***UNEP Global Freshwater Quality Guidelines,***
- ***ISO 14046 Water Footprint Standard,***
- ***IMO MARPOL Annex IV – Water Management in Shipping.***

Responsibility

Dean's Office / Faculty Management

Coordinates the implementation, monitoring and annual review of the policy.

Quality Management Unit

Verifies the accuracy of water analysis reports and develops improvement plans.

Technical Services / Construction Works Directorate

Responsible for the maintenance, repair and operation of water treatment and discharge systems.

Laboratory Supervisors

Ensures the collection of samples, testing, and the safe disposal of wastewater.

All Academic and Administrative Staff

Practise water-saving and environmentally conscious behaviour.

Students

Are required to comply with campus water usage guidelines.

Policy Principles

Recognises ***the protection of water quality*** as an integral part of institutional sustainability objectives.

Ensures that wastewater ***discharged*** into the receiving environment complies with national/international standards.

The analysis and disposal of water used ***in laboratories, workshops, and ship simulators*** is carried out in a controlled manner.

In maritime activities, environmentally friendly discharge protocols are implemented in accordance with IMO and STCW standards.

Rainwater management *and* ***grey water recovery*** systems support water reuse.

Water quality ***is analysed periodically*** and the results are reported to the Quality Management Unit.

Preventive action plans are in place for ***emergencies*** (spills, contamination, treatment plant failure, etc.).

Promotes the sustainable use of water through ***training, awareness and research projects***.

Education and Awareness

The university organises ***training programmes*** on ***sustainable nutrition and environmental awareness*** for students, academic and administrative staff.

Informative labelling systems are implemented in cafeterias (e.g. "Sustainably sourced fish", "Locally produced vegetables").

Campus-wide awareness campaigns on food waste and sustainable consumption are conducted.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Water quality analyses are conducted at least twice a year by ***accredited laboratories***.

Measurement parameters: ***pH, dissolved oxygen, BOD, COD, nitrogen, phosphate, heavy metals, microbiological values***.

In the event of limit exceedances, a ***preventive/corrective action (PCA/CA)*** process is initiated. All data is recorded in the Quality Unit archive using the ***"Water Quality Monitoring Form"***.

Objectives and Performance Indicators

Indicators	Target Value	Measurement Frequency
Pre-discharge water samples exceeding limits ratio	≤ 2%	Every 6 months
Recovered water rate	≥ 20%	Once a year
Participation rate in training and awareness programme	≥ 80%	Once a year
Number of reported water analyses	100% (all units)	Once a year

Effective date

This policy shall enter into force on the date it is approved by the Girne University Senate.

Implementation

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

Appendices

Appendix–1: Water Sampling and Analysis Procedure

Appendix–2: Water Discharge Limits Table (in accordance with SKKY, EU, and WHO standards)

Appendix–3: Emergency Response Plan

Appendix–4: Water Quality Annual Report Format

Appendix 5: Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting Form

Appendix 1: Water Sampling and Analysis Procedure

This procedure has been prepared to standardise the processes of sampling, storing, transporting and analysing water samples at Girne University.

- Sampling points (network, treatment plant outlet, laboratory discharge, seawater, etc.) are determined.
- Samples are stored in sterile containers at the appropriate temperature (below 4°C).
- Sample label: date, time, person taking the sample, location, type.
- Analysis parameters: pH, BOD, COD, dissolved oxygen, suspended solids, nitrate, phosphate, heavy metals, microbiological analysis.
- Results are recorded in the Water Quality Reporting Form and submitted to the Quality Management Unit.

Appendix 2: Water Discharge Limits Table (according to SKKY, EU, and WHO standards)

Parameter	Legal Limit (SKKY/EU/WHO)	Measured Value
pH	*6.5 – 8.5*	
BOD5 (mg/L)	*≤ 30*	
COD (mg/L)	*≤ 100*	
Total Suspended Solids (mg/L)	*≤ 35*	
Total Nitrogen (mg/L)	*≤ 15*	
Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	*≤ 2*	
Heavy Metals (Pb, Cd, Hg, etc.)	*≤ 0.1*	

Appendix 3: Emergency Response Plan

Purpose

To ensure rapid and effective response in the event of water pollution, leakage, wastewater system failure, or hazardous material spillage.

- Detection of the incident and immediate notification to relevant departments (Technical Services, Quality Management, Security).
- Isolation of the affected area.
- Samples are taken to determine the level of contamination.
- If necessary, external support (Municipality, Environment Department, Water Works Department) is called in.
- An incident report is prepared and submitted to the Water Quality Commission.

Appendix 4: Water Quality Annual Report Format

This report is prepared to document the annual results of water quality analyses and improvement activities.

Period :

Sampling Points :

Analysis Parameters :

Limit Exceedances and Reasons :

Measures Taken :

Training and Awareness Activities :

Improvement Plan :

Approving Authority :

Appendix 5: Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting Form

Date	Sample Point	Parameter	Result

Appendix 1: ***Sustainable Food Supplier Information Form***

This form shall be completed to assess the compliance of all companies supplying food to Girne University with sustainability criteria.

Company Name	
Product Group ***(Plant-based, Animal-based, Aquatic, Processed)***	
Certifications ***(Organic, MSC, ASC, Global G.A.P., etc.)***	
Production Location ***(Local/Regional/Imported)***	
Sustainability Practices ***(Energy, Water, Air Management)***	
Authorised Person / Contact Information	

Appendix 2: *Certificate Checklist*

This list will be used to verify suppliers' sustainable production certificates.

Certificate Type	Validity Date	Verification Status
MSC ***Marine Stewardship Council***		
ASC ***Aquaculture Stewardship Council***		
Global G.A.P. ***Good Agricultural Practices***		
Fair Trade ***Organic Certification***		
ISO 22000 ***HACCP Food Safety***		

Appendix 3: ***Annual Food Sustainability Report Template***

To be completed by the Quality Management Unit of Girne University at the end of each academic year.

- ***Period and Scope***
- ***Total Food Purchases (tonnes/litres/units)***
- ***Local Product Ratio (%)***
- ***Certified Product Ratio (%)***
- ***Food Waste Ratio (%)***
- ***Sustainable Menu Implementation Ratio (%)***
- ***Summary of Training and Awareness Activities***
- ***Improvement Recommendations***
- ***Responsible Unit and Approval***

Appendix 4: *Performance Indicators Table*

The performance indicators to be used for monitoring the policy are listed below:

Indicators	Target Value	Actual Value
Local procurement rate (%)	***≥ 60%***	
Certified product ratio (%)	***≥ 40%***	
MSC/ASC ratio in seafood products (%)	***100%uj***	
Food waste ratio (%)	***≤ 5%***	
Sustainable menu ratio (%)	***≥ 50%***	
Education participation rate (%)	***≥ 80%***	