



URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY'S POLICY ON PLASTIC USE MINIMISATION IN SUPPORT OF SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Urdaneta City University (UCU) demonstrates its strong commitment to environmental sustainability through the implementation of its **Plastic Use Minimisation Policy**, created in 2023 and reviewed in 2024. This policy aligns with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)**, emphasizing the responsible use of materials and the reduction of plastic waste within the university community.

The policy aims to **minimise the generation and use of single-use plastics** across all university operations, including cafeterias, offices, events, and student activities. UCU recognizes that reducing plastic consumption is essential to preventing environmental degradation, conserving resources, and fostering a culture of sustainability among students, faculty, and staff.

Under this policy, UCU prohibits or discourages the use of disposable plastic products such as straws, cutlery, cups, and bags within campus premises. Instead, the university encourages the use of **eco-friendly alternatives** such as reusable containers, biodegradable packaging, and refillable water bottles. The **Procurement Office** is also mandated to prioritise suppliers who provide environmentally sustainable materials and comply with the university's green purchasing standards.

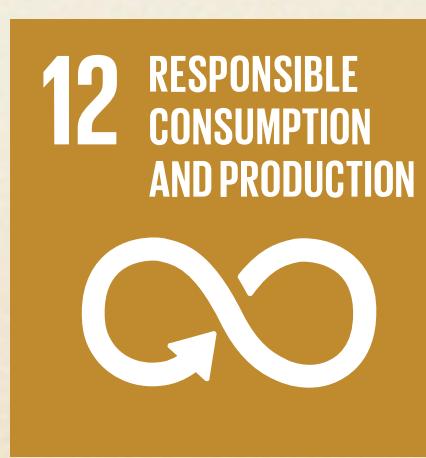
To ensure compliance and awareness, UCU conducts **information campaigns, clean-up drives, and seminars** on waste reduction and plastic minimisation. These activities promote responsible consumption habits and strengthen the environmental consciousness of the entire academic community.

Furthermore, the university integrates **plastic reduction practices** into its daily operations such as paperless transactions, refill stations for water bottles, and recycling initiatives to support a circular economy and reduce dependency on non-biodegradable materials.

Through continuous monitoring and improvement of this policy, **Urdaneta City University** ensures that its actions contribute to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable environment. By aligning its operations with **SDG 12**, UCU not only minimises plastic waste but also empowers its community to be active participants in global sustainability efforts.



MAKE SDG#12 A REALITY





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URDANETA CITY UNIVERSITY

Plastic Use Minimisation Policy

Policy Created: 2023

Policy Reviewed: 2024

1. Policy Statement

Urdaneta City University (UCU) is deeply committed to promoting environmental responsibility and sustainability across all areas of university operations. To minimize environmental pollution and contribute to global waste reduction efforts, the University has implemented a **Plastic Use Minimisation Policy**, aimed at reducing dependence on single-use plastics and promoting the use of sustainable alternatives.

This initiative supports **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**, ensuring that resources are used efficiently and responsibly.

2. Objectives

- To significantly reduce and, where possible, eliminate single-use plastics within the university campus.
- To encourage the use of eco-friendly, reusable, and biodegradable materials.
- To foster a culture of environmental consciousness among students, faculty, staff, and external partners.
- To extend the university's plastic minimisation standards to outsourced services and the supply chain.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all members of the UCU community, including faculty, staff, students, concessionaires, suppliers, and contractors operating within university grounds or during official university functions.

4. Policy Guidelines

1. Reduction of Single-Use Plastics

- The university prohibits the sale and use of single-use plastic items such as plastic straws, bags, cutlery, and cups within the campus.
- All campus food vendors and canteens must shift to reusable or biodegradable alternatives.

2. Sustainable Procurement

- All university procurement activities shall prioritize suppliers who use minimal or sustainable packaging.
- The use of plastics in office supplies, event materials, and catering must be limited and justified only when no sustainable alternative exists.

3. Waste Management and Recycling

- Waste segregation facilities shall be provided to separate recyclable plastics from non-recyclable waste.
- Recyclable plastics shall be collected and turned over to accredited recycling partners.

4. Awareness and Engagement

- Environmental awareness programs shall be conducted regularly to educate the university community about the harmful impacts of plastic pollution.
- Posters, signages, and campaigns shall be displayed throughout the campus promoting the use of reusable containers and utensils.

5. Outsourced Services and Supply Chain Compliance

- All contractors, food concessionaires, and suppliers are required to adhere to this policy.
- Contracts shall include provisions mandating compliance with UCU's plastic use minimisation standards.

5. Responsibilities

- The **Environmental and Sustainability Office** shall lead the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of this policy.
- The **Procurement Office** shall ensure that all purchases conform to sustainability standards.
- The **Facilities and Maintenance Office** shall oversee the proper placement and maintenance of waste segregation bins.
- All **students, faculty, and staff** are encouraged to bring reusable containers, bottles, and utensils as part of their daily practices.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

- The Environmental and Sustainability Office shall collect data on campus plastic consumption and waste reduction efforts.
- Annual progress reports shall be included in the university's **Sustainability Report**, highlighting improvements and identifying areas for further action.
- The university shall set measurable targets for reducing plastic use and monitor achievements each academic year.

7. Policy Review

This policy was **created in 2023** and **reviewed in 2024** to ensure its continued relevance, effectiveness, and compliance with national environmental laws and global sustainability standards.

8. Alignment with SDG 12

This policy supports **SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production** by promoting sustainable alternatives, reducing pollution, and ensuring responsible resource use within Urdaneta City University.

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