



# **Environmental Sustainability Policy**

**European University**

**2023**



## About University

The European University is development-oriented higher education institution operating in Georgia, since 2012.

The University comprises three faculties and 15 academic programs with up to 1000 local and 2500 international students from over 70 countries.

In addition to teaching and learning, university is committed to support research in academia with four scientific-research institutes: Institute of Law, Scientific Research Institute of Economic and Social Issues of Globalization, Medical Research Institute and Andria Apakidze Institute of Archeology.

The European University upholds the principles of sustainable development and social responsibility declared in its strategic and action plans. For engaging in sustainable goals, university received first recognition by Times Higher Education (THE) being ranked among 1406 universities from 106 countries.

## Description and Purpose

University demonstrates high social responsibility commitments by actively engaging in sustainable development initiatives in multiples areas and takes social, environmental, and financial responsibilities.

The policy document serves to declare these responsibilities and outlines the key priorities to implement and reinforce environmental sustainability principles throughout its operations. Also, to ensure higher engagement of university community.

Activities are monitored at the end of the academic year and allows the university to assess the effectiveness of its sustainability efforts and identify areas for further development.

## Area of Implementation

The implementation of the policy document covers entire university society including academic, invited, and administrative staff and students. It encompasses not only teaching, learning and research, but also any other activities.

## Policy Principles

### Infrastructure Management

- Energy-efficient infrastructure for existing and new campuses.
- Renewal of existing infrastructure in line with energy efficiency policies.
- Greening of university campuses.

### Waste Management

- Waste reduction through the university's activities.
- Use of biodegradable materials, waste management, and recycling.



#### Renewal of vehicle fleet

- Renewal of fleet with eco-friendly and energy-efficient vehicles.

#### Education

- Dissemination of information related to the environment and sustainable development, raising awareness in the university community, and integrating relevant courses into curriculum.

#### Joining International Associations

- Join international associations aiming at sustainable development goals.

### Information on implemented and planned activities (2023-2026)

#### Infrastructure Management

##### Implemented

- The university is equipped with occupancy detector radars, ensuring efficient consumption of electric energy.
- Per the energy efficiency policy at university, during non-working hours electric appliances are switched off and during working hours work set to energy-efficient modes.
- Areas of both campuses and student dormitory have green spaces.

##### Planned

- The new campus will be constructed with energy-efficient materials and have completely green terrace.

#### Renewal of vehicle fleet

##### Implemented

- By the end of 2023, three electric vehicles will be added to the vehicle fleet to reduce gas consumption.

##### Planned

- Renewal of vehicle fleet with eco-friendly and electric vehicles, and adding a charging station at the campus.

#### Education

##### Implemented



- The university implements a higher educational program in Tourism with courses on climate changes, sustainability and climate sciences: Geography of Georgia, Ecotourism and Environmental Protection and Sustainable Tourism. Also, green economy and sustainable development is taught the Bachelor Program in International Relations with Green Economy course.
- within the Green Economy course at Bachelor Program in International Relations green economy and sustainable development is taught.

#### Planned

- At least two workshops or/and training modules to raise awareness at university community.

#### Joining International Associations

#### Planned

- To join ISCN Network.

### Sustainable Procurement Policy

The policy has been established to define guiding principles for the university's sustainable procurement of consumables and durable goods.

The primary aim of the document is to guide institution's procurement policy towards social responsibility and environmental sustainability. This includes to increase energy-efficiency and decrease ecological risks in purchasing, maintaining and recycling goods and services, to ensure healthy environment in campuses and dormitories.

To achieve the aim, university guide with the following principles:

- Ensure that procurement practices are in line with environmental sustainability policy.
- Implement procurement in line with waste management policy.
- Respect university's environmental sustainability principles and integrate into procurements and tenders, request relevant certificates and documentation from providers, if necessary.
- Comply with all environmental sustainability development policy principles.