



The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

Integration of SDGs in

- Institutional governance/strategic level
- SDGs in research
- SDGs in campus operations
- SDGs in curriculum development
- SDGs in student engagement activities
- SDGs into community activities
- SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

- Goal 1 - No poverty
- Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4 - Quality education
- Goal 5 - Gender equality
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13 - Climate action
- Goal 14 - Life below water
- Goal 15 - Life on land
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

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Summary

The Fiji National University, FNU, supports its commitment to Environmental Sustainability initiatives; as part of the University Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026, Key area: Our Environment, KPI - the implementation of the 3 Rs: reduce, reuse, recycle.

The University is committed to sustainable waste management in order to reduce its environmental footprint by incorporating the principles of efficient waste management through its actions that support continuous improvement in environmental practices while complying with the relevant legal and statutory requirements relating to the management and disposal of the different waste streams.

The activities of the University community are guided by the following objectives:

- (i) Follow efficient waste management and recycling procedures.
- (ii) Use recyclable and recycled materials where possible.
- (iii) Prevent pollution.
- (iv) Reduce consumption of energy and fuels.
- (v) Reduce solid and hazardous waste.
- (vi) Reduce landfill waste disposal.
- (vii) Minimize emissions.

We need a transformative vision for our waste management system – one that is inclusive, more equitable, and reflects the urgency of climate change.

All members of the University community are expected to work together and utilize the waste recycle bins and promote the University's effort in managing waste disposals into the allocated waste recycle bins.

The University has adopted approved waste management plans and initiated the waste recycling plans as per the plan.

Outline the benefits of integrating this theme:

- 1.** Integrate sustainability-driven specifications that enforce sustainable procurement practices and require vendors to meet these specifications or standards.
- 2.** Promote procurement of products and services which causes the least harm to the environment.
- 3.** Partner with vendors to create supply chain partners centered around sustainable processes.
- 4.** Student engagement and partnership, creating awareness
- 5.** Promoting waste reduction at respective campuses and collecting data on waste disposal through recycling, reducing, and reusing initiatives.

Outline the barriers or challenges encountered in integrating this theme and how you overcame these:

1. Financial

- (i) Allocation of the required funds for the initial setup of the project and additional funds for the monthly disposals.
- (ii) Phase 1 of the project was implemented once funds were made available in the new financial year

2. Staffing

- (i) Recruitment of a qualified personnel who would drive this 3R initiative for the whole university at multiple campuses.
- (ii) Environmental Management Coordinator who will drive this activity is yet to be recruited.

Conclusions and recommendations

All members of the University community are expected to integrate into their activities and operations sustainable waste management practices that are based on the principles of the waste hierarchy as defined in the FNU Waste Management Policy and other procedure documents related to the management of waste.

The University recognizes that apart from the waste that is generated in the generic operational activities of the University, there are selected operational activities in the University which create waste that may be tied to specific activities or functions (for example food waste in cafeterias, demolition waste in construction, etc.). The responsibilities for the management of waste from such activities or functions is identified in Waste Management Plan for Specific Activities or Functions. This is not an exhaustive list and may not cover all such activities or functions.

The process for management of bulk waste and other waste such as batteries, electronic waste (e-waste), furniture, toner cartridges, tires, etc. is in principle guided by Management of Bulk Volume Waste and other waste. The specific method of waste management for these waste may be determined on need basis provided it is not in breach to the general principles of the Standard Operating Procedure and the waste hierarchy in place.

From the time this initiative was implemented almost a month back, two bulker bags of waste paper has been collected from one (1) campus. Although the initiative has been rolled out on five major campuses as Phase 1, interest has been shown by smaller campuses and centres to have similar setups. This will be accommodated in the second phase which is planned around the latter part of the year.

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