

The SDG Accord

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

Student Project on Campus Food Waste



SDG focus

- ☒ Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- ☒ Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production

What did you do?

At HIM we work with KITRO to collect and analyse food waste in our main student restaurant. This works well, however there is a lack of awareness/understanding in the broader school community. The students in the statistics class were given the assignment of "Creating a Data Story with Food Waste Data at HIM" with the aim of raising awareness about food waste at HIM. The students had access to the "management information webpage" and also an excel spreadsheet giving several years of data.

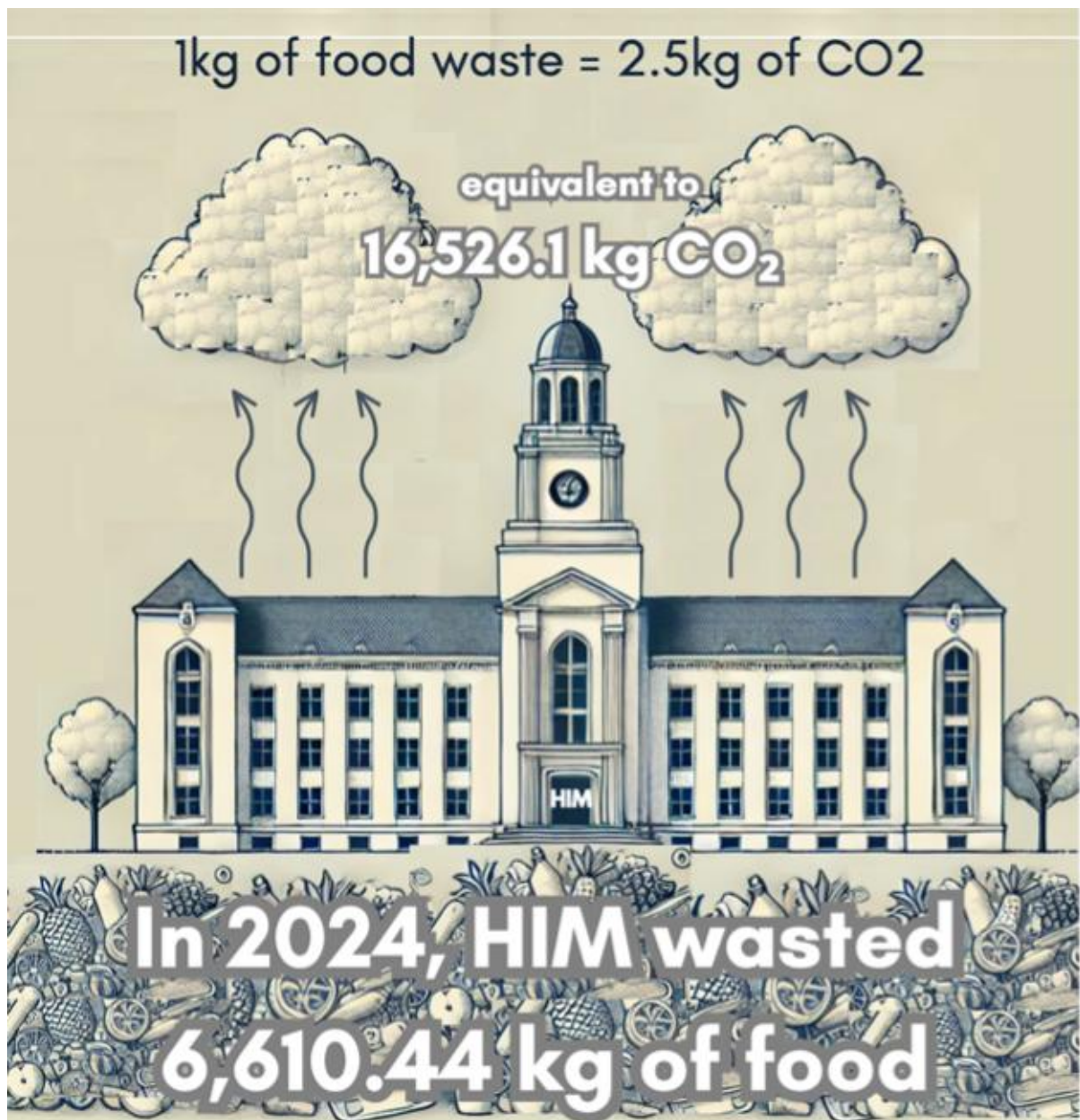


Image: Example data infographic

Image: Example of data infographic

What were the benefits and outcomes?

1. Increased awareness of the significance of food waste amongst the students.
2. Closer ties with KITRO (new relationships built). Partnership with Kitro to promote the initiative on social media.
3. New ideas about how to decrease food waste (implementation in progress).

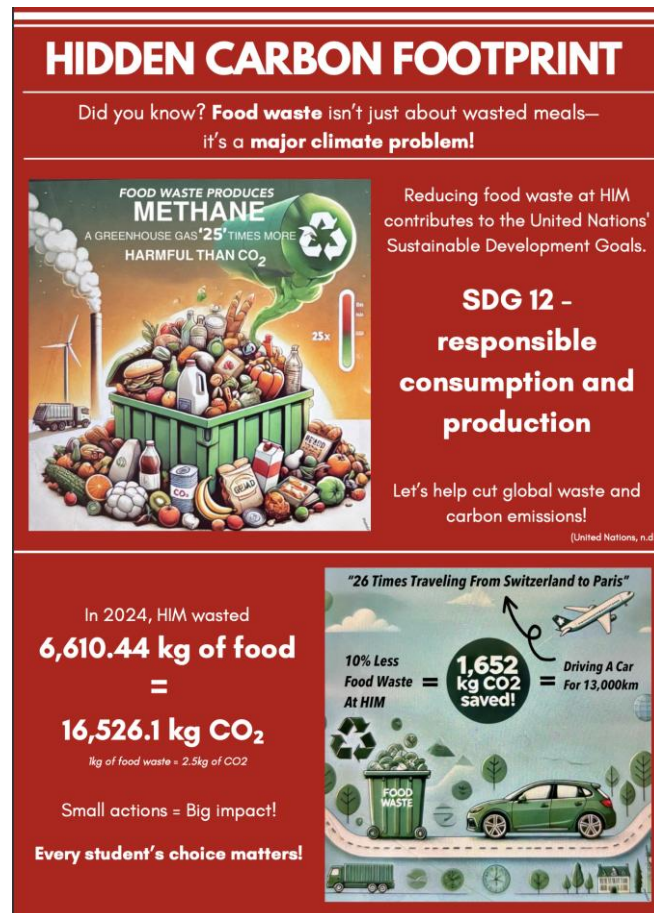


Image: Example of a student insight

What barriers or challenges did you encounter in embedding sustainability into your learning and teaching practice and how did you overcome them?

Embedding sustainability is fine – the difficult is always in a) getting help from other departments and b) maintaining the enthusiasm to implement changes. Certainly the objective was met in terms of building awareness in the immediate student cohort (unavoidable as they were confronted with the data!) but it is harder to spread this awareness.

What are your conclusions and recommendations for others?

I am treating this like a pilot study, and will repeat a similar exercise in the autumn – and try and build in more follow-on activities – perhaps involve other student groups in thinking about how these data stories can be more effectively communicated.

On a plus side, the KITRO organization liked the student work very much so sometimes that was an added unintended benefit.