



Title: Reduction of Plastic Waste Policy

Code: GU-PL60RPW

Version: 1.1

Date of Issue: 2024

Effective Date: July 2024

Approval Authority: Board of Trustees

Document Owner: Chief Operation Officer (COO)

Review: The policy is subject to a periodic review every 4 years or in a shorter cycle as per amendments of University policies

1. Purpose

Gulf University is committed to reducing plastic waste by limiting the procurement, distribution, and consumption of single-use plastics on campus. This policy aims to formalize these initiatives and ensure their effective implementation.

2. Scope

The document applies to all Gulf University operations and facilities and purchasing.

3. Acronyms

BQA	Education and Training Quality Authority
COO	Chief Operating Officer
HEC	Higher Education Council
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization

4. Definitions

- **Plastic Waste:** Refers to any discarded synthetic material derived from polymers like polyethylene, PVC, nylon, etc., which includes single-use items such as bottles, utensils, containers, bags, and packaging materials.
- **Disposable Foodservice Products:** Encompasses a variety of items used in conjunction with food consumption, including but not limited to cutlery, cups, straws, lids, trays, and food packaging.
- **Reusable Alternatives:** Denotes durable items designed for repeated use, such as containers, bottles, and utensils, which offer sustainable alternatives to single-use plastics.
- **Compostable Packaging:** Refers to packaging materials that can be broken down into natural elements in composting conditions, reducing environmental impact

5. Policy Details:

- 5.1. **Elimination of Single-Use Plastics:** All members of the Gulf University community are encouraged to use reusable alternatives instead of single-use plastics like bottles, food containers, and utensils.
- 5.2. **Adoption of Reusable and Compostable Alternatives:** GU ensures that foodservice facilities, events, and meetings on campus prioritize the use of reusable or locally compostable alternatives for disposable foodservice products to reduce plastic waste.
- 5.3. **Promotion of Reusable Water and Beverage Containers:** GU commits that instead of distributing or selling single-use plastic bottles, reusable options are made available at indoor events with fewer than 100 attendees, promoting sustainable practices among participants.
- 5.4. **Availability of Reusable Alternatives:** GU ensures that larger events and gatherings exceeding 100 attendees provide reusable alternatives for water and beverages, discouraging the use of single-use plastic containers and promoting eco-friendly practices.
- 5.5. **Vendor Compliance:** GU ensures that the vendors supplying prepared food items on campus use locally compostable or recyclable packaging, excluding packaged snacks and frozen meals, to reduce plastic waste and support sustainability efforts.
- 5.6. **Community Engagement:** All members of the Gulf University community are responsible for adhering to this policy, actively identifying and reducing unnecessary plastic waste across campus premises.

6. Procedures

6.1 Employee Engagement:

- Provide reusable alternatives like coffee cups to staff members.
- Orient new employees on the Plastic Waste Reduction Policy and encourage compliance.
- Conduct awareness campaigns to promote sustainable practices among employees.

6.2 Collaboration with Suppliers:

- Educate suppliers on the university's plastic waste reduction goals.
- Encourage suppliers to adopt sustainable packaging practices in line with the university's objectives.

7. Responsibilities

Board of Trustees is responsible for:

- Ensuring appropriate implementation of this policy.

President is responsible for:

- Ensuring appropriate implementation of this policy.

Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for:

- Appropriate implementation of this policy.

Chief Operating Officer is responsible for:

- Appropriate implementation of this policy.

Facilities and Purchasing Manager

- Following this policy appropriately.

Vendors and Suppliers

- Appropriate compliance with the policy.

University Policy Development and Review Committee is responsible for:

- Systematic review of the effectiveness of this policy.

8. Related Policies

- All University Policies

9. Related Procedures

- All University Procedures

10. Related References and Standards

BQA	Institutional Review Handbook
BQA	National Qualifications Framework Handbook
BQA	Programs-within-College Reviews Handbook
HEC	Regulations and Resolutions

President Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Al-Faraj", with a large flourish underneath.