



Port Said University Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Waste on Campus



Overview

Port Said University (PSU) is committed to reducing plastic waste across campus to support environmental sustainability, minimize pollution, and contribute to the global effort to reduce plastic dependency. This action plan outlines the steps PSU will take to reduce plastic use, promote alternatives, and manage plastic waste responsibly.

Objectives

1. **Reduce Single-Use Plastics:** Phase out the use of single-use plastics across campus facilities.
2. **Encourage Reusable Alternatives:** Promote the use of sustainable, reusable materials among students, faculty, and staff.
3. **Enhance Recycling Efforts:** Improve plastic waste collection and recycling infrastructure on campus.
4. **Raise Awareness:** Educate the PSU community about the impact of plastic waste and encourage sustainable practices.

Action Plan

1. Eliminate Single-Use Plastics

- **Phase Out Timeline:** Set a target to eliminate all single-use plastics on campus within the next two years.
- **Procurement Policies:** Adjust procurement policies to exclude single-use plastics, including items like plastic straws, cutlery, and plates, from campus vendors and food services.
- **Alternatives for Bottled Water:** Discontinue the sale of bottled water and install water refill stations across campus to encourage the use of reusable water bottles.
- **Campus Events:** Establish a guideline for campus events that prohibits the use of single-use plastics, requiring the use of sustainable alternatives instead.

2. Promote Reusable and Sustainable Alternatives

- **Reusable Bottle Campaign:** Launch a campaign to provide students, faculty, and staff with PSU-branded reusable water bottles at the beginning of each semester.
- **Subsidize Reusables:** Partner with campus vendors to offer discounts for students who use reusable containers, mugs, and bags.
- **Green Starter Kits:** Offer new students and staff a "Green Starter Kit" with items such as reusable bags, cutlery, and food containers to reduce the need for single-use plastics.

3. Expand Recycling Infrastructure

- **Waste Sorting Stations:** Install clearly labeled waste sorting stations for plastics, paper, and general waste in all campus buildings.
- **Comprehensive Recycling Bins:** Ensure that each bin includes information on which types of plastics can be recycled and how to prepare them (e.g., rinsing food containers).
- **Recycling Partnerships:** Establish partnerships with local recycling facilities to ensure that collected plastic waste is processed responsibly.

4. Implement Awareness and Educational Campaigns

- **Awareness Weeks:** Host "Plastic-Free Week" each semester to raise awareness and challenge students and staff to avoid single-use plastics.
- **Workshops and Seminars:** Conduct workshops to educate the campus community on the impact of plastic waste and sustainable alternatives.
- **Plastic Reduction Pledge:** Create a pledge for students and staff to commit to reducing their plastic use. Recognize those who take the pledge through a campus-wide campaign and social media.

5. Incentivize and Recognize Sustainable Behavior

- **Green Awards Program:** Recognize departments, student groups, or individuals who show exceptional commitment to reducing plastic waste, with awards or incentives each semester.
- **Eco-Friendly Clubs:** Encourage the formation of student-led eco-friendly clubs to support and promote plastic-free initiatives across campus.

6. Regular Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Plastic Waste Audit:** Conduct a biannual plastic waste audit to track the amount of plastic waste generated on campus and measure progress in reducing plastic use.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Gather feedback from students and staff to continuously improve initiatives and identify new opportunities to reduce plastic waste.
- **Report Progress:** Publish an annual sustainability report that includes data on plastic waste reduction and highlights successful initiatives.

Timeline

- **0–6 Months:** Begin plastic waste audits, install water refill stations, and launch the reusable bottle campaign.
- **6–12 Months:** Implement plastic-free policies for campus vendors, host the first “Plastic-Free Week,” and install waste sorting stations.
- **12–24 Months:** Phase out all single-use plastics, conduct the second plastic waste audit, and release the first annual sustainability report.

Accountability and Reporting

The PSU Environment and Sustainability Office, in collaboration with campus facilities and student organizations, will oversee the implementation of this action plan. Regular updates will be shared with the university community, and annual progress reports will be published to ensure transparency and accountability.

By implementing this action plan, Port Said University aims to significantly reduce plastic waste on campus and foster a culture of sustainability, demonstrating PSU’s commitment to protecting the environment and leading by example.