SDG REPORT

WALAILAK UNIVERSITY 2022 – 2023

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

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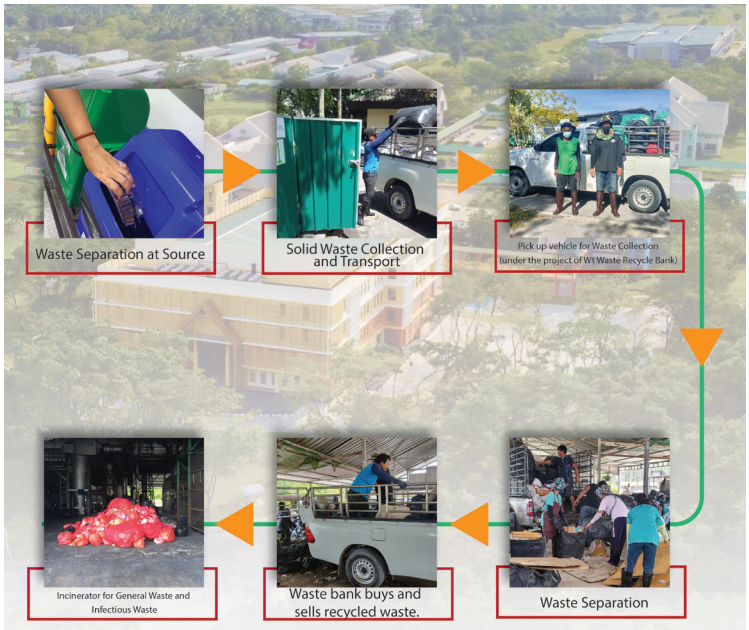
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Waste Tracking System for Enhanced Waste Reduction

Walailak University has taken proactive steps to institute a waste tracking system aimed at reducing the waste generation within the university. This comprehensive waste management approach unfolds in stages as outlined; step 1: the process begins with an awareness campaign that employs video media to sensitize the Walailak community to the importance of waste reduction. The focus is on preventing food waste and encouraging the segregation of waste into distinct categories for recycling. To further facilitate this, an online notification system alerts designated staff members when waste bins are nearing capacity. Subsequently, the staff ensures the separation and proper disposal of waste into dedicated collection points; step 2: with each type of waste properly arranged at designated locations, waste collection is organized efficiently. Garbage trucks follow a schedule tailored to the type of waste, ensuring effective management. The quantity of waste generated is meticulously tracked to optimize the collection route for garbage trucks; and the last: the final phase encompasses the assessment of waste quantities and their classification. The key criteria are 'recycle,' and 'disposal.' The 'recycle' category involves various processes, such as anaerobic composting to produce biogas and the creation of fertilizers for agricultural use. Moreover, food waste designated for 'recycle' is directed to the university's swine farm. Waste in the 'disposal' category, indicating it is no longer viable for use, undergoes incineration or is sent to a landfill.



Waste Tracking Methods to Track the Amount of Recycled Waste and Waste Sent to Landfills at WU

Walailak University has the process of waste tracking and waste sorting for the volume of waste implanted by the Division of Waste Management Landscape Architecture and Environment. Waste disposal at WU is implemented by various methods, depending on the types of waste. Moreover, Walailak University also employs five different colored bins for waste separation: Green, Blue, Yellow, Dark Red and Red.

At present, WU implements waste sorting with two methods, depending on the types of waste.

- **Recycled Waste Sorting**

Walailak University has a recycling waste process to turn the waste into something that can be used again. The waste might be the same or transformed into an other item for other functions. Most of the recycled waste at WU is inorganic waste. The inorganic waste that cannot be recycled at WU will be sold to the industrial plants of private companies. In addition, WU recycles the organic waste produced by all foot outlets at WU as animal feed and compost.

- **Non-recyclable Waste Sorting**

Non-recyclable waste, including metal, rubber, fabric or organic waste with long-term biodegradability, will be sent to landfills. However, Walailak University never supports sending waste to landfills but rather finds new technologies or solutions to recycle all types of waste as much as it can. Sending waste to landfills is the last resort for waste management at WU.

In 2022, each type of waste will contain various volumes collected from all waste collection points on campus.The total volume of waste in 2022 was 812.28 metric tons, or 2.25 metric tons per day, of which the recycled waste was 536.635 metric tons, or 1.49 metric tons per day, accounting for 66.06% of the total volume

of waste. Meanwhile, the amount of waste sent to landfills was 275.645 metric tons, or 0.77 metric tons per day, accounting for 33.94% of the total volume of waste.

The record suggests that the amount of recycled waste in 2022 increased significantly compared to 2021, meaning a 37.28% increase. Meanwhile, the amount of waste sent to landfills decreased by 27.28%. More importantly, the population at Walailak University tends to increase by 13.57%, which means the amount of waste might increase. However, since 2021, the volume of waste at WU has decreased significantly due to the consistent enforcement of the policy on waste reduction and waste reduction campaigns organized every year.

The Activities Under the Policy of Minimization Plastic Use at WU

Walailak University has a policy to reduce plastic waste. It was drafted as a practice guideline in 2019 and has been revised and implemented in 2022. Consequently, the University has a campaign for students and staff to “reject plastic bags” with the concept of reducing waste for a zero-waste life: carrying a cloth bag for shopping in the university market, and reducing plastic packaging in food and beverage shops for plastic waste reduction on campus.

The university has measures for shops to stop giving free plastic bags except for ready-to-eat food with plastic bags made from recycled raw materials, bioplastic bags or paper bags and cancel the use of foam containers and breakable plastic bags with handles. Others are switching from single-use plastic cups to bioplastic-coated paper cups, and the bring your own cup promotion at beverage shops. Also, food venders are required to reduce the use and distribution of single-use plastic spoons, forks and straws to shoppers unless requested by the buyer.

As a result of policies or campaigns, shops within the university are alert to comply and refuse to use single-use plastics or foams, opting for plastics or materials that are naturally biodegradable, such as wrapping with banana leaves, food containers from bagasse and drinking straws from paper. Besides, there is an effort to reduce plastic use in the project "Bring a cloth bag for your medicine, refrain from using plastic bags to help reduce global warming and reduce waste problems" at Walailak University Hospital.

The university instills students and staff to use the 7R principles (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Refuse, Refill, Repair and Return) to reduce waste on campus to zero or create as little waste as necessary. Additionally, Knowledge and practices are encouraged to be passed on to family members, colleagues and friends in the world to create a waste-free society and create a livable world, helping to preserve the environment in our world to remain sustainable forever.

policy:**https://cas.wu.ac.th/sdgs/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/11/Announcement-of-Walailak-University-Subject-Policy-on-SingleUse-Plastic-Waste-Reduction.pdf**