



**STRATEGY OF MASARYK UNIVERSITY
FOR SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT
AND PREVENTION OF WASTE 2023-2028**

1. INTRODUCTION

Creating waste, as well as wasting it, is not only uneconomic but also inefficient and unsustainable. Masaryk University aims to introduce a "zero waste" concept based on three pillars - prevention and reuse, sustainable design of purchased products, and waste sorting and recycling. While some segments of the concept are the responsibility of specific administrative units at Masaryk University, the personal responsibility of students and employees themselves and the responsible internal culture they create together play a crucial role. For this reason, an integral part of this strategy is to engage and educate members of the university community in order to minimise the university's ecological footprint and move towards a circular economy system.

2. LINK TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF MU 2021-2028

MISSION OF MASARYK UNIVERSITY

The mission of Masaryk University is **to contribute** through its scientific activities, student education and social activities **to the high quality and healthy life of all generations**, and to a free, cohesive and secure society.

VALUES OF MASARYK UNIVERSITY

One of the three values of Masaryk University is responsibility, emphasising the role of the university as a co-creator of public opinion, a solver of local and society-wide issues and a provider of a public service open to all. Also, **the individual responsibility of students and staff reflected** in respect for university rules and belonging to the university.

RELEVANT PART OF MASARYK UNIVERSITY VISION 2028

In 2028, Masaryk University will be a university that is an inspiring community which, in its principles and daily activities, **fully respects and fulfils the principles of social responsibility and contributes to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals**, in accordance with which it leads its students and employees.

STRATEGIC GOAL:

6.3 In accordance **with the principles of sustainable development, manage energy resources, water and waste** and strengthen informed management enabling the efficient use of the built premises as well as property management.

MEASURES:

- **Creation and implementation of strategies for energy, water and waste management**
- **Implementation of systemic measures to reduce the volume of non-recyclable waste produced**, to increase the share renewable energy sources used, for saving water, the use of rainwater and the use of grey water.

3. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

The theoretical basis of the MU Strategy for Sustainable Waste Management and Waste Prevention is the concept of "zero waste". In accordance with this concept, Masaryk University will strive for the most effective waste prevention, reuse, maximum waste sorting and recycling, other ways of using potential waste (composting, etc.) and minimisation of landfill waste in the period 2023-2028. In order to achieve this ambition, an effective link to the MU Responsible Purchasing Strategy and the active participation of the whole academic community will be crucial.

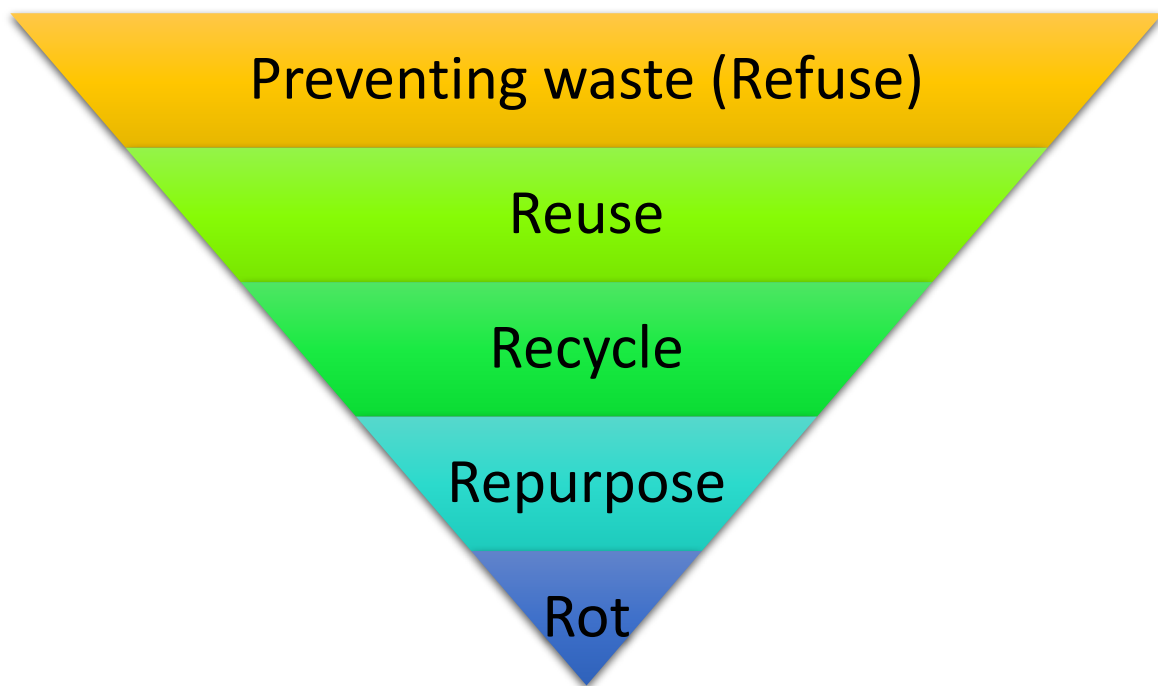


Fig. 1: Waste management hierarchy

The "**Analysis of the efficiency of Masaryk University's waste management**" for the period 2016-2020 **pointed out** the following selected **bottlenecks and opportunities**, which were used as a **basis** for the formulation of **the strategy**:

- **The reported amount of waste** at Masaryk University **is based on the number and capacity of containers**, not on its actual volume.
- There is a **significant reluctance/ignorance** of people **to separate waste**.
- It is appropriate to **use more information tools**.
- It is recommended to **introduce participatory elements** to involve students and staff (bottom-up approach to find effective solutions).
- It is necessary to take into account the **specificity of the composition of waste produced** at the university compared to other waste producers (businesses, households).

4. GOALS AND MEASURES - „5 R“



1. Minimising waste including prevention (REFUSE - ROT)

Goal: To create conditions for a gradual reduction in the consumption of primary resources and the production of hazardous and unusable waste.

Measures:

- 1.1. In accordance with the Responsible Purchasing Strategy, take into account the life cycle of the goods purchased.
- 1.2. Promote the introduction of efficient, environmentally friendly and innovative solutions at Masaryk University that save input materials and gradually optimize related processes.
- 1.3. Reduce the amount of solid and hazardous waste generated, including waste from food service operations and from cleaning chemicals.
- 1.4. Increase student and staff awareness of opportunities to minimise waste, including awareness of legal obligations in waste management.

2. Maximising waste sorting and reuse (REUSE - RECYCLE - REPURPOSE)

Goal: Strive to increase the proportion of recycled and composted waste and to maximise the reuse of university assets while respecting socio-economic aspects.

Measures:

- 2.1. When selecting contractors to deal with waste management at Masaryk University, give preference to contractors guaranteeing both maximum reuse of waste, while ensuring its efficient and measurable collection, and enabling the purchase of waste.
- 2.2. Create conditions for effective sharing and reuse of university assets, especially furniture, ICT and selected laboratory and scientific equipment, both within and outside the university, for example by using a dedicated application, a virtual marketplace or an open system using a detailed list of relevant assets while respecting the primary places of origin and the stage of the investment process.
- 2.3. Analyse and further improve the accessibility and visibility of separated waste bins and composters, taking into account their availability both in terms of the expected place of generation and in the design and technical evaluation of infrastructure.
- 2.4. Significantly increase the awareness and motivation of students and staff on the possibilities of waste sorting, recycling, composting and reuse, including the promotion of a participatory approach.

5. INDICATORS, MONITORING AND REPORTING



5.1 Indicators:

1. Minimising waste including prevention (REFUSE - ROT)

- Procurements that take into account the life cycle of the goods procured..
- Number of efficient, environmentally friendly and innovative solutions implemented to save raw materials and inputs (or weight of raw materials saved).
- Conditions in place for effective reduction of non-recyclable solid and hazardous waste.
- Number of measures (training, information materials) leading to increased awareness among students and staff of waste minimisation opportunities, including awareness of legal obligations in waste management, number of persons trained.

2. Maximising waste sorting and reuse (REUSE - RECYCLE - REPURPOSE)

- Selected contractors dealing with waste management at Masaryk University, who guarantee maximum reuse (recycling, composting, energy recovery) of weighed waste and enable its eventual purchase.
- Created platform to enable efficient and measurable sharing and reuse of university assets.
- Increase the number of new or more accessible sorted waste bins and composters.
- Number of information materials and measures to raise awareness and motivate students and staff about the possibilities of sorting, recycling, composting and reusing waste.

5.2 Monitoring, reporting and following strategy

Monitoring of the strategy will be carried out at least once a year, with the results of the monitoring being presented in particular at the MU management meeting, at the Sustainable Development Council, at the Secretaries' meeting, or at other relevant platforms of economic centres, and will be reflected in the Masaryk University Annual Report on Sustainable Development. The Bursar is responsible for monitoring and reporting on this strategy. During the implementation of this strategy, it will be evaluated to enable possible refinement or adjustment of its sub-objectives and indicators.