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## Cyprus International University Plastic Reduction Policy

### Purpose

This plastic Reduction Policy outlines Cyprus International University's (CIU) commitment to minimizing plastic use on campus. This policy aims to reduce the environmental impact of plastic waste, promote sustainability, and encourage a culture of responsibility among students, faculty, and staff.

### Scope

This policy applies to all departments, students, faculty, staff, and visitors of Cyprus International University.

### Policy Statement

Cyprus International University is dedicated to reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices. We recognize the environmental challenges of plastic pollution and are committed to implementing strategies that minimize plastic use, promote alternative materials, and encourage responsible consumption.

### Objectives

1. **Reduce Single-Use Plastics:** Eliminate or significantly reduce the use of single-use plastic items across campus.
2. **Promote Reusable Alternatives:** Encourage reusable products and materials, such as water bottles, bags, and containers.
3. **Increase Awareness and Education:** Raise awareness about the impact of plastic pollution and promote sustainable practices among the university community.
4. **Engage Stakeholders:** Involve students, faculty, staff, and suppliers in efforts to reduce plastic use and promote sustainability.

### Strategies for Implementation

#### 1. Assessment of Plastic Use

- Conduct an inventory of current plastic use across campus to identify critical areas for reduction and target specific items.

## 2. Elimination of Single-Use Plastics

- **Beverage Containers:** Phase out single-use plastic beverage containers in campus facilities and events. Promote the use of refillable water stations and provide incentives for using reusable bottles.
- **Dining Services:** Encourage dining services to replace plastic straws, cutlery, and containers with sustainable alternatives, such as compostable or biodegradable materials.
- **Events and Activities:** Implement guidelines for campus events that prohibit single-use plastics and promote sustainable practices, such as using real dishware or compostable options.

## 3. Promotion of Reusable Alternatives

- **Reusables Program:** Establish a program that provides students and staff with reusable bags, containers, and utensils and offers options for purchasing or borrowing items.
- **Campus Retailers:** Work with campus retailers to offer discounts for students and staff who bring their reusable containers or bags.

## 4. Education and Awareness Campaigns

- **Workshops and Seminars:** Organize educational events to inform the university community about the environmental impacts of plastic pollution and the benefits of reducing plastic use.
- **Marketing Materials:** Develop and distribute materials (posters, flyers, digital content) that promote the importance of plastic reduction and showcase alternative practices.

## 5. Collaboration with Stakeholders

- **Supplier Engagement:** Work with suppliers to identify and implement sustainable packaging solutions and reduce plastic use in the supply chain.
- **Student Involvement:** Encourage student organizations to participate in plastic reduction initiatives, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility within the community.

## 6. Monitoring and Reporting

- **Track Progress:** Monitor the effectiveness of plastic reduction efforts through regular assessments and reports, adjusting strategies as necessary to achieve goals.
- **Annual Review:** Conduct an annual review of this policy to assess its impact and identify areas for improvement.

## Responsibilities

- **Sustainability Committee:** This committee will oversee the implementation of this policy, monitor progress, and coordinate education and awareness initiatives.
- **All Employees and Students:** Expected to actively participate in reducing plastic use and promoting sustainable practices on campus.

- **University Management:** Support and promote this policy through resources and commitment to sustainability initiatives.

By adopting this Plastic Reduction Policy, Cyprus International University aims to contribute to a healthier environment and foster a culture of sustainability and responsibility among its community members.