

Water Management Policy - ON and OFF campi

NOVA University Lisbon

Context

NOVA University Lisbon is based in the Lisbon metropolitan area with its teaching and research schools and institutes in the centre of Lisbon, Almada, Oeiras and Cascais. NOVA's commitment to sustainability best practices, complying with the Green Deal, the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals, motivates the present policy. The water management policy aims to provide strategic guidance to NOVA community to actively manage water resources, on and off campi, ensuring its availability and sustainable management.

Policy

NOVA University Lisbon defines the water management policy around the following strategic guidance:

1. Track water consumption from all sources, and communicate it in a transparent and understandable format to the campus community;
2. Monitor and prevent water losses through the network;
3. Whenever necessary, replace all equipments with water-efficient options;
4. Ensure that whenever new equipment's are purchased and/or new contracts are made, water efficiency criteria are considered;
5. Whenever possible, utilise sustainable water extraction technologies on university grounds, including water harvesting solutions;
6. Support water conservation initiatives on campi and on local communities;
7. Maximise water reuse across the university by promoting wastewater recycling;
8. Apply water-conscious building standards to maximise water efficiency;
9. Promote water-conscious planting and flora species, adapted to the local climate, to minimise water use in irrigation;
10. Prevent water system pollution, including pollution caused by accidents and incidents, at the university;
11. Provide accessible free drinking tap water, meeting quality standards, to students, staff, and visitors;
12. Conduct frequent quality analysis on drinking tap water, including faucets in buildings;
13. Promote conscious water usage on all campi and in the wider community;
14. Provide educational opportunities for local communities to learn about the importance of saving water and a good water management;
15. Cooperate with local, regional, national, or global private and public institutions on efficient water usage, management, and security.

Policy implementation

The successful implementation of the following policy is responsibility of each Academic Unit, by developing an adequate Implementation Guide according to each campus individual characteristics.

Approved in the Board of Deans on Nov 18th 2021.