

University of Pécs

Green University Program

Sustainability Report

2022



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<http://greenmetric.ui.ac.id>

[Stratégia \(pte.hu\)](http://strategia.pte.hu)

<http://zoldegyetem.pte.hu>

<https://univpecs.com/>

Program Coordinator: Tünde Kulcsár

Professional contributor: Fanni Bianka Navreczki

Professional leader: Dávid Siptár, Zoltán Kovács

Introduction

The University of Pécs strives to design and implement a sustainable campus, where students and employees of the University of Pécs are responsible for bringing it to life through participation and action. The target group concerned is the citizens of the university, including students and staff from the entire hierarchy of the higher education institution. The sustainability unit of the University of Pécs is the Green University Program of the UP. The Green University Program of the UP has chosen a bottom-up approach to start this transformation from the grass roots, focusing first on the needs of the university and second on its perspectives, by activating all key stakeholders.

The Green University Program of the UP aims not only to disseminate sustainability good practices and make sustainability more visible and feasible, but also to develop an innovative methodology that, when piloted and modelled, can be adapted and empower the community of other higher education institutions to actively support the implementation of their own institution's strategic plan.

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Contact: Tünde Kulcsár

Green University Program of the
University of Pécs

Program Coordinator

zoldegyetem@pte.hu

1. The core values and mission of the University of Pécs

The University of Pécs is an autonomous institution of higher education, faithful to its past, traditions and values, with a modern approach, providing quality-oriented services, an efficient and flexible faculty and central university organization, providing competitive knowledge, and operating as a student- and community-friendly international campus. As a university of applied sciences, the UP is a catalyst for innovation and economic development, with an entrepreneurial approach and a reliable partner for the international and national higher education community, as well as for economic, social and artistic institutions.

The core values of the University of Pécs are tradition and innovation, which are also the basis for shaping the organizational culture of the university communities. The University's national training, research and artistic programs are based on its traditional base, which is highly usable in practice, and the decisions of its leaders, who are able to respond effectively to constantly changing circumstances with openness and by effectively filling their responsibilities and scope, create the possibility for value-based, proportionate future growth in the national and international higher education market. The UP aims to contribute to the sustainable development of Hungary and the European Union in the fields of education, research, science, arts and health. The UP aims to play a key role in the intellectual performance, well-being of citizens and economic development of its region; it is committed to creating an environment where innovative thinking and creativity in all its forms can flourish across a broad range of basic and applied sciences and arts. The institution's priority is to strengthen university-centred innovation and research, involving the arts to improve the quality of life of university citizens.

The university is investing considerable energy in developing applications of data science to respond to the challenges, threats and opportunities that the emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) creates in everyday life. The University of Pécs, as the leading higher education institution of the South Transdanubian Region, is the most important site for local intellectual training and lifelong learning, a strategically unavoidable research and innovation partner for the region's industrial clients, and a centre of vibrant sports life for Pécs and its surrounding area, supporting the development of both mass and competitive sports in the region.

The University of Pécs is also a creative, inspiring intellectual space that encourages pathways to success based on creativity, individual diligence and community cooperation. As a basis for achieving success, it is cohesive, collaborative, driven by the need for professional development, with international experience and active links, and based on constantly renewed methods of training, research development and related service delivery, a team of teachers, researchers and staff capable of excelling in their work and in their lives, an innovative teaching, research and cultural environment mediated by the arts, and an inclusive and open student community that values both individual development and the prestige of a knowledge-transferring alma mater.

In the organization and quality development of its entire training portfolio, the UP places particular emphasis on the consistent application of the principles set out by the European Standards and Guidelines (ESG), and aims to train highly qualified professionals with practical knowledge, professional and personal competences, who meet the needs and expectations of the constantly changing labour market, and who will become active and effective players in the domestic and international labour market and the entrepreneurial sphere after graduation and during the course of their studies. In addition, graduates of the University of Pécs will contribute to the well-being of their wider and narrower environment by sharing and using the knowledge they have acquired. It is important for the UP to operate and inspire a network of open professional workshops in order to create value at individual and community level by exploiting synergies between different disciplines and by bringing together people from a wide range of fields.

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The University is a national priority in the health care of the region, with a focus on patient and person-centred care, primarily through improving access to health care. The UP rejects any form of discrimination in order to ensure equal opportunities and pays particular attention to social inclusion, to helping disadvantaged groups and to empowering women in its training, research and third mission activities.

*In the future, the University of Pécs aims to
become a regional leader,
a national determinant
and internationally significant.*

In order to achieve this vision, the University's governing bodies and its citizens will do their utmost to maintain an internationally visible and dominant institution, in line with the expectations set by the maintainer, serving the national and regional economy, and responsive to the challenges of the future and the changing needs of the labour market, thus attracting investment capital through a portfolio of training and research. To achieve this vision, they will also help the UP to play a leading role in cross-border and regional economic development and innovation, and to train digitally literate and technologically advanced workers for the economic development zone.

The vision of the University of Pécs offers every university citizen and every organizational unit the opportunity for personal and organizational development, while at the same time committing everyone to find the goals they can do their best to achieve within the framework of the Strategy of the UP, among the individual strategic goals [1].

2. The University of Pécs in terms of numbers (2022) (Figure 1.)



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Photo: 10 Faculties of the University of Pécs



22490 university students
(4778 from abroad)



1558
lecturers



209
researchers



300
specializations



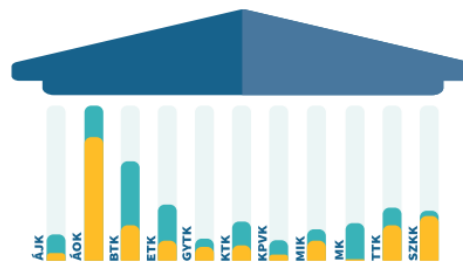
21
doctoral schools

Duális képzés



kb. 83.000 fő fekvőbetegellátás
kb. 1.500.000 eset járóbetegellátás

3773 fő egészségügyi dolgozó
1069 fő orvos



Publikációs teljesítmények (2022)

KAR	Összes	Idegen nyelvű
Állam- és Jogtudományi Kar	253	65
Általános Orvostudományi Kar	1164	805
Bölcsészeti- és Társadalomtudományi Kar	719	317
Egészségtudományi Kar	572	366
Gyógyszerésztudományi Kar	133	114
Közgazdaságtudományi Kar	234	69
Kultúratudományi, Pedagógusképző és Vidékfejlesztési Kar	160	25
Műszaki és Informatikai Kar	227	125
Művészeti Kar	501	36
Természettudományi Kar	362	283
Szentágotthai János Kutatóközpont	334	300



136

Megadott szabadalom

14

Bejegyzett védjegy

559

Partner

27

Folyamatban lévő szabadalmi eljárás

3

Használati mintaoltalom

507

Ipari kapcsolat

5,9 mrd Ft

Piaci szereplővel közösen elnyert projekt



500

külföldi egyetemi kapcsolat (100 Európán kívül)

Figure 1. The University of Pécs in terms of numbers (2022)

3. Strategic goals of the University of Pécs

The strategic goals of the University and their indicators are partly defined by the requirements of the Universitas Quinqueecclesiensis Foundation, and partly - with regard to the expectations of the state - by the public task financing contract concluded with the Ministry of Culture and Innovation, which are complemented by the University's own expectations, mission and vision, the faculty strategies, as well as the national and international - primarily EU - expectations.



Figure 2. Sustainability goals of the UP

The figure clearly shows that **Sustainability is a flagship objective of the UP.**

Environmental, social, economic and cultural sustainability must be mainstreamed in all dimensions of higher education and in the own operations of the University of Pécs.

4. Results

4.1. Environmental responsibility results

The UP has achieved significant national and international success in the field of environmental sustainability. In addition to the success of the UP's mitigation, adaptation and awareness-raising efforts at local and regional level, the achievements are highly accepted by society.

In 2022, the University of Pécs has been awarded the title of "**Cyclist Friendly Workplace**" by the **Ministry of Construction and Transport** in the category of public institutions.



Photo: UP - Cycling Friendly Workplace 2022 - category winner

In 2022, the University of Pécs was ranked for the seventh time in the "UI GreenMetric World University Rankings" international program and was ranked 21st in the world's "green universities", achieved a prominent position in Central Europe and was ranked 1st among Hungarian universities for the third year in a row, earning the title of the "Greenest Hungarian University" (Figure 3. Its exemplary role in higher education further commits the UP to continue its efforts for sustainability, to initiate the networking process and to promote the importance of achieving the SDGs as widely as possible in cooperation with other Hungarian universities committed to sustainability.

3. WORLD RANKINGS HISTORY



Figure 3.1 World Rankings History Diagram

Figure 3. The UP's position in the "UI GreenMetric World University Rankings"

Serious efforts have been made to achieve results, such as the implementation of the PET-free University concept, the use of renewable energy sources, the regular use of electric cars, and the "rethinking" of selective waste collection and the use of energy and water saving solutions. In addition, the number of training courses, research and publications on sustainability is increasing year by year, with a strong emphasis on individual and community awareness-raising.

On the initiative of the University of Pécs, the Sustainability Platform of Hungarian Universities was established in Pécs, based on the framework agreement of fourteen Hungarian universities in 2022. The aim of the alliance is to share good practices in the field of sustainability, to organize regular joint actions and to develop closer cooperation in the interest of sustainability development [3].



Photo: Foundation of the Sustainability Platform of Hungarian Universities - signing ceremony

Under the **Modern Cities Program**, HUF 30.5 billion has been invested in our university since 2016. The implemented developments will enable the strengthening of the competitiveness of the UP, the development of the educational and service portfolio, the increase of the number of foreign students and the provision of the necessary infrastructure. One of these is the development of the new theoretical block of the Medical School, which will provide 12,000 square metres of new teaching and research space with a budget of nearly HUF 24 billion. However, the improvements did not stop at the building alone, a 10,000 square metre green space renovation and park was established too [4]. The percentage of planted area on UP sites is above 40%. In addition to increasing green areas, regular park maintenance is a priority.



Photo: ultramodern wing of the Medical School - University of Pécs

The possibility of planting trees on the UP sites is limited due to the characteristics of the area. However, **the University of Pécs has set a priority goal for the greening of its sites, increasing the proportion of vegetated and wooded areas [5].**

Why the UP considers tree planting important:

- For clean air: in 1 year, an average tree inhales 12 kg of carbon dioxide and exhales enough oxygen for a family of four.
- Community building: tree planting is a great community-building event, which is also a symbol of working together for a green environment.
- Green environment: conserves water reserves, protects against desertification, stops erosion, preserves biodiversity, is good for the soul, the colour green has a calming effect.

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The UP has signed an agreement with Mecsekerdő Ltd. and the Danube-Drava National Park Directorate. The cooperation agreement was concluded between the Parties with the aim of developing long-term cooperation by coordinating their activities, primarily in line with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The main areas of cooperation are:

- Tree Planting Program
- Joint organization of a voluntary (e.g. YouPick) litter collection campaign on forest land managed by the company or organization
- Joint implementation of programs related to the Bird-Friendly University initiative
- Development of a nature trail, related program planning
- Organizing joint annual actions and events, with a special focus on knowledge transfer on forest issues
- Exploring and developing cooperation opportunities in the areas of competence of the Parties, including joint participation in tenders, research, integration of knowledge into education
- Dissemination of good practices in relation to sustainability efforts
- The University of Pécs has been and will continue to cooperate with the 10 Million Tree Community of Pécs, Mecsekerdő Ltd. and the Danube-Drava National Park Directorate, in the framework of which it organizes tree planting activities.

On Earth Day, the Green University Program of the UP encouraged university citizens to green their environment, plant trees, flowers and herbs, join the community working for the sustainability of the Earth, protect the air, water, plants, birds and animals, or even dress symbolically green on this celebration [6].



Photo: Being green is good. Dress green, or dress your environment green!

The National Energy and Climate Plan and the National Energy Strategy emphasize decarbonization targets. In order for Hungary to become a winner in the "Green Economy", it is necessary to create the knowledge base and the competence cluster that will enable domestic economic actors to be competitive in the various decarbonisation technologies. A new national laboratory will consolidate and dynamize domestic research and development in the field of renewable energies. The University of Pécs launched a project worth HUF 6,304 billion with ten consortium partners. This is **the National Laboratory of Renewable Energies (NLRE)**, which is the third priority national-level organization, after the National Laboratory of Human Reproduction and the National Laboratory of Virology, to contribute to the development of Hungary under the leadership of the University of Pécs. The "National Laboratory of Renewable Energies" project is implemented under the Széchenyi Plan Plus program, with two main thematic areas, hydrogen technologies and carbon dioxide recovery. Researches at the Faculty of Sciences of the UP are focused on the electrochemical production of hydrogen. The Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology of the UP has already established a fuel cell and hydrogen technology engineering course, and further research is being carried out on fuel cells. In the Faculty of Business and Economics of the UP, colleagues are researching the economic aspects of hydrogen technologies and problems related to the circular economy.

The National Laboratory of Renewable Energies will build the scientific and technological, legal, economic and industrial property base for low carbon energy technologies, in particular H₂ production, transport, storage, use and CO₂ recovery. The two technology clusters, in parallel and in support of each other, can play a significant role in sector integration, strengthening domestic security of supply and achieving decarbonization goals [7].

In 2022, energy prices have increased dramatically, and the UP considers it very important to increase the share of renewable energy and to strive for environmentally conscious operations in the spirit of sustainable UP. The share of renewable energy was close to 50% in 2022. Due to the drastic increase in energy prices, the University of Pécs has implemented cost-saving measures in the short, medium and long term as follows:

- General measures (heating control, exclusion of supplementary heating, limitation of lighting of external surfaces and decorative lighting, minimisation of night and security lighting in buildings, reduction of comfort services)
- Under the slogan "The cheapest energy is unused energy!", the Green University Program of the UP has launched an awareness-raising program on what can and should be done as a university citizen to reduce the amount of energy used
- Education organization
- Introduction and operation of an energy management system
- Awareness raising
- Measures concerning IT measures
- Changes to tenant conditions
- Energy review of university infrastructure
- Operational measures per department

The University of Pécs asks students, teachers and employees to reduce heating and electricity costs and to think more energy-consciously. The aim is to reduce operating costs. To this end, the University's management has developed a strategy consisting of 4 pillars. The aim is to reduce electricity and heating costs and to strengthen the environmental awareness promoted by the Green University Program of the UP,

and implementing long-term investments that increase the use of renewable energy in the operation of buildings. It will also continuously monitor the effectiveness of the measures put in place [8].

The Green University Program of the UP has placed energy saving awareness stickers on the office doors (Figure 4) and timer switches (Figure 5).



Figure 4. Office door sticker



Figure 5. Timer switch - sticker

In addition, a screen saver is set for IT devices (Figure 6).



Figure 6. Screen saver

The GREEN AURA field table was exhibited in the framework of the ECOCITY week, which presents the "green" infrastructure and developments of the University of Pécs and Pécs, using augmented reality. Behind the QR code-like markers placed on the table, virtual content could be displayed using a smartphone application, which helped visitors to navigate through the world of "green" developments in Pécs, while also shaping their attitudes and giving them ideas for sustainable everyday operations. From the thermal power plant to the university and the biogas plant of the waterworks, participants could learn about the sustainability developments that have been launched and completed in Pécs in recent years [9].



Photo: GREEN AURA field tables at the Eco-City Week

The UP supports the promotion of those technologies, services and consumer habits that seek to reduce the use of natural resources while achieving decarbonisation goals. The “Lungs of the City” project, the competition work of the University of Pécs, was presented at the Solar Decathlon Europe international university competition for innovation in house-building, which aims to create an environment-positive urban living space. A multi-functional residential building with unique solutions, the MAGYAR FÉSZEK+ eco-positive home, has won the 2022 Wuppertal Solar Decathlon Human Centred Interior Design Award. The project of the Pécs-based team goes beyond the architectural aspect, with the extra-energy house, which has zero or negative emissions, placing a strong emphasis on ecological sustainability and environmentally positive architecture, as well as social responsibility [10].



Photo: Solar Decathlon 2022 - Lungs of the City

Since 2022, "Solution to climate change" course has made available to the population of Pécs too [11].

The waste management actions, campaigns and measures implemented are based on the 3Rs: we encourage waste reduction, product reuse and recycling. These are the three main direction lines (in addition to many other options) that should be kept in mind when reevaluating consumption habits.

Since 2019, the University of Pécs has been the first among Hungarian higher education institutions to stop purchasing plastic bottled water and drinks and it became **the PET-free UP**. Free water-filling stations were installed instead. **More than 500 water stations are available.**

Within the Plastic-free July, the Green University Program of the UP asked the citizens of the University of Pécs to set an example together. It is worth taking a step-by-step approach changing. To help our students and staff get through the plastic-free month, we provided help with plastic-free tips on the Green University Program's social media pages (fb, instagram). To get their creative energies flowing, we also invited them to play a game. They could send us photos, ideas and good practices from their plastic-free July everyday life, and in return – in cooperation with the University Student Government of the UP – we drew gift packages among the creative ones [12].

The Green University Program of the UP and the RAKUN Container Community have teamed up to encourage university citizens and local residents to try zero-waste takeaway. The Rakun project aims to replace single-use takeaway boxes with a refillable alternative [13].



Photo: World No Packaging Day

At the workshop entitled "Furoshiki, or the new clothe of the gift!", the Green Roundtable partners learned about the history of wrapping and tried out this traditional Japanese wrapping technique. The UP staff had the opportunity to learn about the centuries-old tradition of furoshiki packaging on two other occasions [14].



Photo: Furoshiki workshop

The University of Pécs renewed selective waste collection: new types of selective waste collection containers made of metal were placed in the university buildings. The new containers took the place of the previously installed selective waste containers made of cardboard. In parallel with the change of image, the order of waste collection was also changed. According to previous practice, recyclable waste of different materials was placed in separate containers. In the new system, in line with the waste collection and transport methodology of the public service provider, paper, plastic and metal waste can be collected mixed with each other, making it easier for the user [15].



Photo: New selective waste bin

In the context of waste management, the Green University Program of the UP wants to draw the attention of university citizens to the importance of recycling, and to spread that waste is viewed as a resource. The selective waste collection at the university level plays a major role in ensuring that waste is sorted in such a way that, in accordance with the principles of the circular economy, as much waste as possible can be recycled. Prepared waste for recycling: paper and cardboard, iron and steel, plastic, scrapped electrical and electronic equipment, glass packaging waste, batteries, household waste oil, mobile phone. The University of Pécs also promotes the recycling of electronic waste and ink-cartridges from printers. E-waste should not be thrown into the regular trash, but into a separate collection system for this purpose, because they contain a high concentration of toxic chemicals and heavy metals.

The University of Pécs organized the "Pass it back, Bro" 2022 spring campaign with 25 collection points, in cooperation with the Green University Program of the UP. The spring collection campaign again resulted in an outstanding amount of used equipment: a total of 1169 pieces and 128 kg [16].



Photo: Pass it back, Bro campaign

NotADrop - used cooking oil collection program was launched in early November in 2022. At the start, 21 UP sites began to collect used cooking oil. Some of the collection points are open not only to UP citizens, but also to the general public, and this service is available not only in Pécs, but also in Zalaegerszeg, Szombathely and Szekszárd. The collection system is "drop-free": the material to be collected must be placed in a closed container, thus preventing contamination of the collection environment [17]. Within three months of the launch, 750 kg of used cooking oil had been collected.



Photo: NotADrop Program - used cooking oil collection

Organized by the Green University Program of the UP, in Pécs and Szekszárd, at a total of 6 collection points, 119 enthusiastic university citizens (staff and students together) participated, setting a good example for the protection of the environment and showing that they care about a beautiful, clean environment and are willing to do something about it [18].



Photo: YouPick voluntary rubbish collection

The new, impressive Market Hall of Pécs has just opened its doors. Almost immediately, the city's residents have taken a liking to the much more modern, brighter and more spacious building. The University of Pécs organized guided tours of the new building, named 'Protect the Earth, choose local!', and there was a chance to learn more about the behind-the-scenes of the new building, and to talk to and ask questions of local producers. The program was a joint event of the Green University Program of the UP and the International Directorate of the UP and is part of the International Seasons series [19].



Photo: Save the Earth, choose local!

The Practical Primary School of the University of Pécs with the cooperation of the Green University Program of the UP organized the "Our Environment - Our Health - Our Future" competition for the fifth time this school year. The first online round attracted 65 teams and 260 children from 3 cities. In the 2nd round, the kindergarten and primary school children solved playful tasks in the framework of the Eco Game [20].



Fotó: Our Environment - Our Health - Our Future competition

Due to global climate change and increasing human water use, more and more watercourses are drying up, with a growing impact on our daily lives and the economy. The phenomenon has received very little attention so far, and researchers do not have enough data on the tens of thousands of small watercourses affected worldwide to understand the effects of the process. This is why a Citizen Science network has been launched with researchers from the University of Pécs as part of a Horizon 2020 research project, and **the DRYRivERS smartphone app has been developed to ask for the public's help in collecting data to protect our small watercourses.**

Rivers and streams are some of the most vulnerable biodiversity hotspots on Earth, as well as ecosystems essential for human well-being. This is the focus of DRYvER, a Horizon 2020 project involving more than 100 researchers from 25 research institutions. The DRYvER project, which brings together researchers from 16 countries - including Brazil, Bolivia, Ecuador, and the United States - was launched, with the Department of Hydrobiology of the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Pécs representing the professional side of the project from Hungary. The main objective is to develop a new global framework, including strategies, tools, and recommendations for adaptive management of these river networks, based on detailed information collected on nine drying river networks in two continents, Europe and South America, and using a cross-disciplinary approach (hydrology, biogeochemistry, ecology, sociology, economics).

The app can be downloaded for free from Google Play and the App Store, download links and user guides are also available on the project website (<http://www.dryver.eu/citizen-science>). All observations recorded with the DRYRivERS app[21] are publicly available on the DRYvER project website (<https://www.dryver.eu/app>), and registered users can edit their data via the website, add new data, narrow down their data to specific periods, and subsequently participate in games, challenges, and collect awards and badges through their activity.

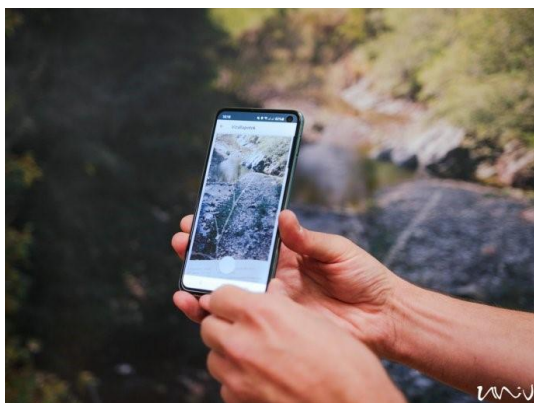


Photo: DRYvER project

There were a lot of programs in the European Mobility Week 2022 [22], like Professional Day - lecture and panel discussion, Cycling Breakfast, bike engraving, Bike Safe Program, Bike Service, 'Bike to work, to school!', free use of PÉCSIKE e-bike system, and free use of public transport.



<p>SZÁMÍT A VÉLEMÉNYED! online kérdőív 09.16-22.</p> <p>„MIJT, MIVEL UTASZOL?” Szélfő pályázat 09.16-22.</p> <p>PÉCSIKE INGYENES HASZNÁLATA AZ AUTÓMENTÉS NAPON! 09.22.</p> <p>MOBIL-ÉRTÉKESítő</p>	<p>SZAKMAI RENDEZVÉNY 09.16.</p> <p>„MIBI” 09.16-22.</p> <p>KERÉKPÁR REGGELI 09.21. és 09.22.</p> <p>KERÉKPÁR GRAVÍROZÁS + BIKE CARE 09.21.</p> <p>további információ: Zöld Egyetem weboldalon, a Facebook és Instagram oldalakon</p>	<p>KRESSZ PÁRK LÁTÓGATÁS A GYAKORLÓ ISKOLÁK DIÁKJAI RÉSZÉRE 09.21.</p> <p>KERÉKPÁROS GYORSZERVÍZ 09.21. és 09.22.</p> <p>TÖMEGKÖZLEKÉDÉS KEZDEZMÉNYES HASZNÁLATA 09.22.</p>
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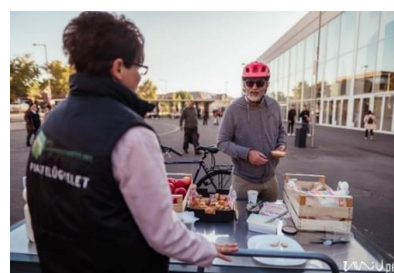


Photo: European Mobility Week 2022 at the UP

The UP MOON BIKE 2022 cycling challenge, which encouraged common mobility, healthy lifestyle, environmental awareness and climate protection - forming a virtual community - showed that the University of Pécs can keep in touch with its students, partners, alumni, compatriots living in the diaspora, who all contributed to the Earth - Moon distance (384. 400 km) by bicycle, from the United States of America to India and Australia, which has helped to spread the good reputation of the UP, the city of Pécs and the county of Baranya [23].



Photo: UP MOON BIKE 2022

The College for Sustainable Development of the University of Pécs has officially joined the Bird-Friendly School program of the Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Association. **The Bird Friendly School program** of the UP was launched in the framework of the Sustainable Development College of the UP, with the support of the Green University Program of the UP, and bird feeders, waterers and bird food were placed at various sites of the UP. The aim of the Bird Friendly University of the UP is to support the breeding of birds that breed in burrows (i.e. Common and Blue tit, House Wrens, etc.). In addition to using waterers and feeders in the yard, birds can now raise chicks [24].



Photo: UP Bird-Friendly University

The Green University Program of the UP offered a number of programs for university students and residents of Pécs as part of October's "Green Gastronomy 2022" [25].

Programs:

- "You become what you eat! – lecture on the relationship between nutrition and sustainability
- Meat-free Friday
- Market Hall Tour – Take a look behind the scenes! Shop consciously for seasonal fruit and vegetables from local producers!
- "The vegan snack of the conscious shopper" – recipe competition.



Photo: Green Gastro 2022

The Green University Program of the UP organized an online lecture and workshop at the invitation of the KÖVET Association, which was named **Towards greener offices**. The invited NGO has been active since the nineties and mainly guides companies towards sustainability. The event focused on the development of a people- and environment-friendly office, with more than fifty UP faculty and organizations represented [26].

The University of Pécs participated in the **6th Steering Committee Meeting of the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings Network** on 27th September 2022. On 28-29th September 2022, the **8th International Workshop on UI GreenMetric World University Rankings (IWGM 2022)** was held online. The workshop included parallel sessions to share best practices over the 2 days of the event. Dr. Viktor Glied from the University of Pécs gave a presentation entitled "Every green step counts" and shared his thoughts with colleagues from other universities committed to sustainable development [27].

In 2022, Pécs was also selected by the European Commission as part of its mission to achieve climate neutrality, in which 100 European cities participate (TOP 100 cities: Pécs on the road to climate-neutrality - **Net Zero City**). Therefore, it is in the elementary interest of both the city and the University to cooperate in order for the University, which plays an important role in the life of the city, to become an experimental and innovation centre [28].



Photo: Net Zero City – Pécs

The UP has compiled and surveyed a Sustainability Questionnaire for the forthcoming UP Sustainable Development Strategy. A total of 1607 people completed the online questionnaire on sustainability and the environment. 1384 responded in Hungarian and 223 in English. Two thirds of the respondents were students and one third were lecturers or other colleagues. The faculty affiliation of the respondents shows a strong similarity with the number of students in the faculties, both in Hungarian and in English, i.e. the questionnaire reflects the proportions of the faculties of the University of Pécs. The overwhelming majority of respondents are interested in and discuss current world issues. The majority of respondents think that their fellow students and colleagues are concerned about the state of our natural and social environment, and 80% are personally concerned about the state of the environment. They are also more likely to be environmentally aware than others, with 80% of them adopting some kind of environmentally friendly solution in their daily lives. Unsurprisingly, the vast majority of respondents consider sustainability and greening initiatives at the UP important. The main challenges for the university are energy waste, paper waste, excessive use of single-use plastics and the lack of use of renewable energy sources.

4.2. Social responsibility results

Every year the University of Pécs publishes the next year's **Equal Opportunities Plan** and evaluates the previous year in terms of the fulfilment of the equal opportunities criteria. The scope of the Equal Opportunities Plan covers all faculties, autonomous organisations and departments of the University of Pécs, as well as all public employees and other employees. With the Equal Opportunities Plan, the University of Pécs expresses its commitment to the principles of equal opportunities in the workplace, its intention to fully respect the principles of equal treatment and to take supportive measures to enforce these principles and to promote equal opportunities.

The University of Pécs prevents and hinders discrimination against employees in the course of employment.

The prohibition of discrimination applies:

- during recruitment,
- employment and working conditions,
- wages, income, benefits,
- training, further training and other incentives,
- in relation to the membership and participation of public employees in public employee organizations,
- the promotion system,
- and in cases of termination of employment, transfers and other employment-related matters.

The prohibition of discrimination and the requirement of equal treatment apply to all groups of public servants and prohibit any discrimination based on age, sex, colour, marital status, nationality, ethnic origin, descent, religion or belief, political opinion, sexual orientation or gender identity. The University of Pécs pays particular attention to the prevention and elimination of direct and indirect discrimination of public employees on the grounds of age, gender, nationality, marital status, health or disability [29].

The Gender Equality Plan (GEP) of the University of Pécs [30], taking into account the recommendations of the Horizon 2020 research and innovation program supported by the European Union and based on the results of the analysis of our initial data, focuses on the following thematic area and intends to achieve progress through systematic monitoring:

1. The balance of work and private life in the organizational culture
2. Gender balance in university leadership and decision-making
3. Gender equality in recruitment and career development
4. Integrating the dimension of gender equality into the contents of research and education
5. Preventing sexual abuse and harassment and eliminating gender prejudices and stereotypes

In order to improve work-life balance and organizational culture, the UP wants to create a forum for sharing family-friendly good practices between faculties, and wants to develop the family-friendly and gender-neutral infrastructure of university buildings. In the area of gender balance in university management and decision-making, the UP strives to achieve gender balance in recruitment and employment. The UP wants to support the sexes equally in career development. The University wishes to discuss the problems behind the inequality of opportunity at the Forum created for this purpose. To ensure equality between the sexes in the field of hiring and career building, the UP starts trainings and consultations that help the implementation of these aspects. During the implementation of the strategic plan, the University continuously examines the data of the employees in order to designate further interventions. Integrating the dimension of gender equality into the content of research and education appears as a goal at the University of Pécs. Within this framework, in order to make a proposal, the University examines the curriculum of all recommended courses and discusses the role of a gender equality dimension in an institutional forum. Preventing sexual abuse and harassment, as well as eliminating gender prejudices and stereotypes, is an integral part of the strategic material. As part of the strategic intervention, the UP will review and update its existing relevant professional policy materials.

With the support of the Green University Program of the UP, a paper briquette making machine was purchased to produce fuel for needy families from the paper waste accumulated at the training school, all through student volunteer work.



Photo: Paper briquette

At the Chancellery of the UP a charity civil fair was organized to buy handicrafts. The products were made by people with disabilities [31].



Photo: Charity civil fair at the Chancellery

With a Christmas children's clothes, toy fair and "charity package" fundraising campaign, the UP wanted to draw attention to the fact that everyone should be more conscious, waste-free and thoughtful when preparing and shopping for the holidays. To this end, the Green University Program of the UP came up with an unusual program. It was possible to bring in outgrown clothes and toys of the children of UP citizens and instead it was offered to take away a piece of clothing or a toy that the child needed or wanted. In addition, a "love parcel" of clothes, toys and sweets could be delivered in a shoebox. After the event was over, the remaining items and the donations from the "love parcel" were transported by the Hungarian Red Cross Baranya County Organization and distributed to the needy.

The Green University Program of the UP organized the World No-Smoke Day in cooperation with the College for Sustainable Development of the UP, the Institute of Public Health of the Medical School of the University of Pécs and the Association of Medical Students of Pécs [32].



Photo: World No-Smoke Day

4.3. Economic responsibility results

After the model change, the University of Pécs intensified its communication with companies and responded intensively to the challenges in the region. At the event "We work together", the Pécs-Baranya Chamber of Commerce and Industry presented the professional programs of the UP (Regional Innovation Platform, expert network, validation processes...), i.e. the possible forms of cooperation, the main steps of the joint planning process and its actors [33].



Photo: "We work together!"

In today's information noise, it is very important for the University of Pécs to raise awareness of all aspects of sustainable development and to exploit the synergies and opportunities of sustainable development through efforts and planned programs with its partners.

Through the Cleantech Program, the UP is working with businesses on carbon neutrality developments in areas such as hydrogen technology, geothermal energy, energy efficient architecture, water management, electric transport, waste management, biodiversity conservation, etc. The main objective of the Cleantech and Green Economy Research and Innovation Center organizational development project is to build on the accumulated research and development capacity of the University of Pécs in the fields of engineering, natural sciences, business and economic development to create a strategically important, interdisciplinary, autonomous, inter-faculty, interdepartmental, interdisciplinary organizational unit that will enhance Hungary's competitiveness and support long-term and sustainable business-university cooperation. Plans include the establishment of a market-based research, development and innovation capacity within a competence centre at the University of Pécs, in the fields of hydrogen economy, recycling of construction and technological waste, development of alternative raw materials and products, and engineering 4.0/environmental design and engineering technology development.

On the initiative of the Green University Program of the University of Pécs, a **Green Round Table – Green Brunch** event was organized with the active participation of 24 participants from 16 organizations (local companies and institutions). The main objective of the event was to establish a Green Round Table with the participation of institutions, companies and organizations in Pécs committed to the implementation and achievement of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals, which will provide regular opportunities to share good practices in the field of sustainability, to learn about new approaches, to explore cooperation opportunities and to organise joint actions in order to spread the developments serving sustainability goals as widely as possible [34].



Photo: Green Round Table – Green Brunch

The University of Pécs sets its procurement policy in line with the sustainability guidelines set by the Public Procurement Authority. The University has set a new vision, policy, and strategy for environmental sustainability as a goal, raising the University's profile in sustainability policy and practice. As part of our overall strategy, we have set ourselves the task of ensuring that all people, processes, goods, services, and works are carried out in a way that takes into account the appropriate environmental considerations within the University of Pécs.

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Our ambition is to integrate sustainability as a fundamental principle into the entire procurement process, assessing and defining procurement needs, in the field of selecting suppliers, evaluating offers, and post-contract management [35].

4.4. Cultural responsibility results

Pécs is a welcoming, humane and attractive city - not only welcoming but also serving as a home for the citizens of the UP. The university is the city's dominant institution, to which almost all Pécs citizens, apart from the students, are attached. The large, multi-ethnic foreign student presence and the Mediterranean atmosphere make Pécs a pleasant, lively and vibrant university town.

The Faculty of Music and Visual Arts and the Universitas Quinqueecclesiensis Foundation organized together the XIII. University Concert in conjunction with an Art Auction at the Kodály Center [36].



Photo: XIII. University Concert in conjunction with an Art Auction

The ZEN University of the UP was offered an intensive workshop entitled Lyrics as a Musical Instrument.



Photo: Lyrics as a Musical Instrument workshop

Within the framework of the ICDiP Festival the International Directorate of the UP offered performance opportunities to bands with one or more members who are former or current international students of the UP. The bands was invited to perform at the long-established Pécs Days Festival in September 2022 [37].



Photo: ICDiP Festival

For the second time, PécsLIT awaited book and reading lovers. The organizers – Csorba Győző Library and the journal Jelenkor – have stayed true to the slogan „6 days of literature”, with nearly 50 programs [38].

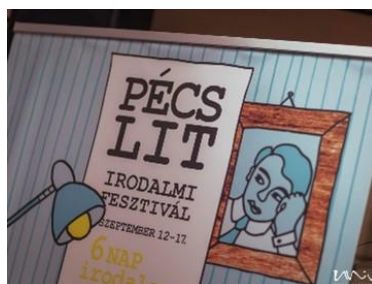


Photo: PécsLIT

The Research Institute of Viticulture and Oenology of the University of Pécs organized a unique event for the Perseids peak. The vineyard, which provides the most beautiful panoramic view of Pécs, was opened to the public [39].



Photo: Stargazing on the 'Sea of Grapes'

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Pécs for years has been proving that it cannot be absent from the "celebration of culture, quality and humanity" (Courtyard of the Philosophers of Pécs at the Ördögkatlan Festival). This year we have again put the best of our knowledge and our heart and soul into the program. In addition to the Reading Park and round-table discussions, they prepared a Kádár Insta exhibition, interactive programs, music, dance and many theatre performances [40].



Photo: Courtyard of the Philosophers of Pécs at the Ördögkatlan Festival

The Bravissimo Circussio performance from the UP Dance Ensemble took the audience into the world of the circus with a variety of dance styles, acrobatic elements and spectacular costumes. On the stage, jugglers, magicians, clowns, animals and many others took to the stage to enchant the audience and unravel the mystery behind the scenes. The performance was combined with a charity fundraiser for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the Clinical Center of the UP. All spectators could contribute towards the purchase of an incubator for the safe transport of premature babies by donating to the Foundation for Healthy Newborns at the time of ticket collection and at the venue [41].



Photo: Bravissimo Circussio

The Janus University Theatre, a theatre company of the University of Pécs, which has been present at the most important Hungarian alternative festivals since its inception, and its productions have won several awards, celebrated its 25th anniversary. Since 1999, it has also represented the national university theatre at meetings abroad, from Estonia to Bulgaria and from Belgium to Istanbul [42].

The Voice of the UP in 2022 is a title awarded by a prestigious professional jury at the Expo Center in Pécs [43].



Photo: The Voice of the UP in 2022

The Green University Program of the UP and the UP Dance Ensemble started their environmental photo campaign ('Take a Green (Dance) Step! Choose now! Take it or save it - Be one green (dance) step ahead') on 22nd April, Earth Day. One of their aims was to draw attention to the fact that many times we do not even notice the destruction and pollution that surrounds us. We'd rather turn our heads instead of doing something about it. In the part of the campaign demonstrating this concept, therefore, spectacular, eye-catching movements appeared in the photos against a background that often depicts astonishing reality. This is how you can find graceful point shoes with the garbage thrown away, a cool somersault with tires thrown into nature, an easy lift in water full of plastics, or just an airy jump in smog in the pictures. At the same time, the UP's environmental efforts in the other part of the campaign are also reflected in the use of dance and acrobatics, pointing out that this could be done differently. The University of Pécs strives to do so with a myriad of initiatives for a cleaner, more liveable future. The photos depicting them try to present as many of them as possible, all of which go hand in hand with green dance steps [44].





Photo: 'Take a Green (Dance) Step! Choose now! Take it or save it - Be one green (dance) step ahead'

The Parish of the Cathedral of Pécs and the Faculty of Music and Visual Arts of the UP organized a charity musical devotion and an exhibition in the Basilica of Pécs to support the people suffering from the Russian-Ukrainian conflict and those fleeing the war [45].

The joint event of the University of Pécs and Women's Week, entitled "The place of such a girl is in a disco - from the Kádár era to the present day", was a true retro event [46].



Photo: The place of such a girl is in a disco – from the Kádár era to the present day

Go to the UP! Culture Festival 2022 addressed secondary school students and their parents who are planning to continue their studies at the UP Culture Festival's online and open days. The 10 faculties and more than 300 courses of the university were present, and the public could also find out about studying, housing and leisure activities [47].



Photo: Go to the UP! Culture Festival 2022



5. Summary

It is the mission of the University of Pécs to be a highly recognized institution in the Hungarian and international higher education market, a key knowledge industry player in environmental, social, economic and cultural sustainability that will shape the future of future generations, an important training and research partner of the Hungarian government, and a knowledge center providing significant research services to business and other organizations supporting the climate goals of Hungary and Central Europe.

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