



University name: University of Pécs  
Country: Hungary

## **SDG14: Protecting oceans and seas**

### **University of Pécs – Report on the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 14)**

**2024**

#### **1. Introduction**

For the University of Pécs, the goal of "Protecting marine and aquatic ecosystems" – Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 – presents challenges and opportunities that are relevant to water management, water quality, the water cycle, the protection of aquatic ecosystems and ecological sustainability. Although the University is not located in a direct marine environment, it is an active participant in water and ecosystem protection through its related water management, research and educational activities.

#### **2. Strategic and institutional background**

**In its 2023-2030 University Strategy, the UP** pays special attention to sustainable operation, including the efficient use of water, energy and materials, reducing its ecological footprint and conserving natural resources. Strategic objectives include water and habitat protection, sustainable water use, greywater and rainwater utilisation, and increasing the ecological value of the campus.

#### **3. Water protection programmes**

##### **3.1. Water conservation, reduction of water use**

In 2024, the University continued to introduce water-saving measures (water consumption monitoring, aerators, grey water utilisation) in its operations in a way that indirectly contributes to reducing the burden on the aquatic ecosystem.

##### **3.2 Connections to living water systems**

The Department of Hydrobiology at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Pécs is participating in the international research project "DRYvERS", which examines the condition of small watercourses, drying riverbeds and aquatic habitats, thereby indirectly contributing to the protection of aquatic ecosystems related to SDG 14.

#### **4. Collaborations**

The University cooperates with water management organisations and research networks working to protect freshwater systems and water quality.

#### **5. Summary**

Elements of ecosystem protection and water management have been incorporated into the institution's operations, education and research: water conservation measures, participation in international water research networks, and green campus and community developments have all contributed to making the UP an institution that integrates the protection of aquatic ecosystems into its higher education and research activities. The results achieved provide a good basis for further developments in the future, through which the University will further strengthen its regional and international role in sustainability.