**THE UP AGAIN WINS THE EDUCATION CATEGORY IN WASTE REDUCTION**

The University of Pécs has been participating in the European Week for Waste Reduction for four years. The mission of the initiative is to raise awareness of the importance of waste reduction and the three key elements of waste management: prevention, reuse, and recycling, through a week of ideas from enthusiastic volunteers from participating countries.

Europe's biggest waste prevention campaign is also gaining popularity in our country. In 2021, more than 12,400 actions were organized across Europe, and the University of Pécs has been included among the 76 most outstanding actions nominated by regional and national coordinators.

"I am pleased to announce that the series of actions organized by the Green University Program of the UP in the framework of the European Week for Waste Reduction 2021 was again rated the most outstanding effort in the category of Educational Institutions by the Ministry of Innovation and Technology, and was awarded a certificate of recognition and a compost box", summarized Tünde Kulcsár, Program Coordinator of the Green University of the UP.

"It is very important for the UP to reduce the environmental impact of its activities in the interests of sustainability, and the Chancellor's Office and the University's management are committed to maintaining the program as successful as possible. We are confident that the UP's commitment to sustainability principles will have a positive impact not only on the institution and its citizens but also on our wider environment," said István Decsi, Chancellor of the UP. "In the area of waste management, we are working to further reduce the amount of waste we produce, including initiatives such as the PET-bottle free UP program.

 We aim to reduce the amount of municipal waste by rethinking the selective waste collection scheme, by preparing for waste recycling, we will reduce wasteful use of materials, thus protecting the environment and, last but not least, we will cut the cost of waste transport, which we can use to protect our environment," the Chancellor stressed.

The focus of European Waste Reduction Week 2021 was on Circular Communities.