

UPJŠ IN KOŠICE AS FUTURE GREEN UNIVERSITY IN FUTURE

GREEN CITY

Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice has the ambition to be the leader not only in the area of education, science and research, but also in an environmental care. In addition to building projects to reduce energy intensity, UPJŠ Košice's priority is also to reduce emissions from cars. Therefore, from July 2019, the university launched a trial operation of ecologic scooters for employees to move between campuses, thus subscribing to trends of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic in connection with the support of electromobility. Currently in cooperation with the Košice self-government and other companies, the suitability analysis is under way location of charging stations for e-bikes, e-scooters, e-scooters and e-cars in university campuses. On the university premises there are also collecting containers for separate waste, for worn clothing, textiles or batteries, as well as collection systems for containment rainwater (eg reservoirs - underground or surface - to use rainwater) to create water features or watering green). The University also contributes to minimizing the use of disposable plastics in student homes; and canteens as well as other university spaces. At the same time UPJŠ in Košice belongs to a pioneer in using e-government elements and breaking down the paper agenda.

In addition, a number of scientific teams are working at the university to conduct research, either at home or abroad, on the impact of climate change on natural ecosystems and human society, or participate in environmental research related to this issue. In the near future UPJŠ plans to buy e-bikes, e-scooters and an automobile; Introduce trial operation of water devices (advanced technology of water purification by filtration and UV equipment, which will ensure gradual reduction of mineral waters in plastic bottles - from 1.10.2019); to replace disposable plastic cups at university events with glasses of ecological and recyclable materials, to plant 60 new trees in the 60th anniversary of the UPJŠ and many other eco-friendly activities.

Small or large steps can be taken to reverse or at least mitigate negative trends in environmental development. The (seemingly) small ones relate to our daily lives: water, food, waste management, transport mode and intensity, as well as many other aspects contributing positively or negatively to the theme of climate change. The choice between modesty and a sensitive approach to nature, on the one hand, and consumerism in the sense of "for my money I can do everything", on the other, concerns everyone. Interest in the environment in which we live and environmentally-friendly community and workplace activities also play an irreplaceable role.