



EUROPEAN WEEK FOR WASTE REDUCTION

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Waste prevention strategies at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

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Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

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Campus location:

Cerdanyola del Vallès
20 km (12,5 mi) from
Barcelona

Campus area: 262,5 ha
(≈650 acres)

Students: 48.000

**Lecturers and
researchers:** 3.000

Staff: 1.825

**People living on the
Campus:** 1.800



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UAB Sustainability Action Plan (2003-2010)

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Structure:

5 strategic lines

1. Territory and natural heritage
2. Accessibility, transport and mobility
3. Use of energy and water
- 4. Waste management and greening campus**
5. Participation and environmental awareness

10 programmes

61 actions (27 high priority implementation)



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Minimising waste packaging

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How are we doing it?

- Reverse vending machines accept **reusable glass bottles** and give back the deposit previously paid with the soft drink
- Hot drinks machine has the **“non cup” option** (discount on the price if we use our own reusable cup)
- Environmental requirements and awards included in the vending service **public tender**



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La Gotimplora: reusable bottle-cup combo

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Main features:

- Designed by UAB.
- Plastic bottle that can be refilled at the UAB public drinking water fountains.
- Plastic cup at the bottom specifically designed for use “the non cup” option in the vending machines.
- Distributed among students, admin staff and lecturers.



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UAB collection and recovery center

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Reusable material service:

- To **extend the useful life** of certain types of waste.
- **Free service** to University community and citizens.
- **Promote reuse** over recycling.



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UAB collection and recovery center

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Some examples of materials from the Reusable Material Service



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Greening events: waste prevention strategies

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Waste prevention in events

- Reusable plastic cup (renting service).
- Beverages served in reusable containers.
- Contest for most sustainable stall.



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Future challenges

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Our university, committed to society and the environment, continues to work to meet new challenges in the field of waste minimization.



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Pay As You Throw (PAYT) project

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UAB has applied to implement a PAYT system in the University residence halls, shops, and the other businesses located on the campus.



A study carried out proposed setting up a pay-by-volume taxation scheme for different waste channels using containers, with a reception box that recognizes identity cards and registers the amount thrown.



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Food waste prevention

What are we planning to do?

- Project focused in **food waste prevention** in bars and restaurants at the UAB.
- In Catalonia **36% of municipal waste is organic** and this type of waste has the greatest potential for prevention.
- It is necessary to introduce measures **to prevent food wastage** and evaluate specific data to implement strategies with the aim of extrapolating them to other situations and environments.



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Raising awareness campaigns

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What are they about?

- To promote sustainable and responsible consumption among students.
- To compare 2 different forms of consumption:

-Non-sustainable snacks: no waste prevention criteria when shopping, single use glasses and dishes.

-Sustainable snacks: waste prevention criteria when shopping, fair trade and ecological products, reusable cutlery and glasses.



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Thanks - Obrigada

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