WORKING TOGETHER ON A SUSTAINABLE FONTYS

Fontys

As a leading knowledge and educational institution with a social responsibility, Fontys wants to respond actively to developments in the area of sustainability

Not only in its daily activities or business operations, but also in its education and research. We aim for our business operations to be CO_2 neutral (in 2030), to have buildings with energy label A (in 2023) only, to generate our own energy and to be 75% gas-free in 2030. But we also focus on healthy buildings and circular purchasing. We aim to set an example for our neighbourhood. That is why we educate present and future generations to make a proactive contribution to a sustainable society.

4 themes

The Housing and Facilities service (H&F) has drawn up an ambitious Sustainability agenda 2020-2023, which we will briefly present here. Fontys' own sustainable way of working will also be a stepping stone for the implementation of sustainability developments in education and research. We also view this as our social responsibility.

We give the sustainable development goals of the United Nations (SDGs) a central position in our Sustainability agenda. We have formulated four sustainability themes on the basis of seven SDGs we have selected.

ENERGY AND CLIMATE

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

13 CLIMATE ACTION

We are aiming for an annual reduction in CO_2 of at least 3% and an average of 5%, and will work towards CO_2 neutral business operations in 2030. Besides this, we will develop a plan by 2023 at the latest to become 75% gas-free in 2030. In the near future, we will generate 5% of our energy consumption sustainably by installing 2,700 solar panels in the period 2020-2023. Moreover, in 2023 all our buildings will have energy label A at least.

Concretely, for Fontys this means that existing Fontys buildings have to become more energy-efficient and that when climate installations have reached the end of their service lives, they are replaced by gas-free ones. The majority of the electricity we purchase also has to have been generated sustainably. We will also focus on making commuting more sustainable, for instance. Fontys' CO2 footprint will soon be reduced and will ultimately disappear altogether with this package of measures.

HEALTHY BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENT

The residential quality of our physical surroundings is harder to map in a SMART way than, for example, energy and climate. But this does not mean it is less important. Within the Sustainability agenda, we work on a physical environment that is healthy and that contributes to the vitality of the staff and students. In this way, we aim to contribute to the work enjoyment and productivity of students and staff members and to ensure more satisfaction among the users of a room.

We strive for buildings and rooms that will encourage collaboration and connectivity between their users and to encourage users to utilise rooms in such a way that they perform optimally and efficiently. To be able to take rapid steps towards this goal, we will give Fontys Vitaal an advisory role when it comes to renovations and new buildings.

We will attach more importance than ever to the user-friendliness and accessibility of buildings. Making our objectives measurable is the first step in this process.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

CIRCULAR PURCHASING AND CONSUMING MORE CONSCIOUSLY

If we don't want to exhaust earth irreversibly and aim to further reduce the emission of CO_2, then sustainability (and circular purchasing) has to play a prominent part in everything purchased in 2030.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMTION AND PRODUCTION

The roadmap focusing on the full embedding of sustainability within purchasing will be completed in 2023. The Fontys-wide sustainable purchasing policy will enable Fontys as semi-government to be a driving force in the transition towards a circular economy. The Netherlands aims to be circular in 2050, and Fontys wants to play a role in this.

In 2030, when we purchase we aim to focus entirely on conscious, sustainable choices of products and services. This demands action. Because in circular purchasing, not only are the products purchased differently but the purchasing process itself differs from standard purchasing models.

We will enter into a dialogue with suppliers about ambitions and feasibility. One thing is for sure: things are about to change here. Currently, we still consume almost three times as much as earth can produce, which will also result in a shortage in raw materials in the near future. Fontys aims to consume less and not to regard waste products as waste but as raw materials of the future.

DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE SERVICES

The current agenda focuses on Services. But sustainability literally involves everyone. For this reason, structural cooperation will be realised between services, education, research and the Fontys Center of Expertise for Circular Transition.

In 2024 already, there must be a network for sustainable projects in business operations, education and research and a Fontys-wide transition agenda. We involve every Fontys member of staff and student in the sustainability objectives through intensive communication. Mainly because this is inherent to the success of the project.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Working on a better future is in our DNA.

That is why an extremely ambitious sustainability agenda suits Fontys. We are confident that the objectives and ambitions will have wide support from the organisation and we are, in any case, guaranteed the support of the Executive Board. Realising the objectives we have set out here will not be easy but it is possible and moreover: more than worthwhile.

Making conscious, sustainable choices is everyone's responsibility. The working environment plays an important part in this. Anyone who works or studies can make a difference from their place of work or study. While you're travelling, too.

13 TIPS

to be more sustainable

Use the stairs more often, rather than the elevator

SDG 3

Elevators consume a lot of energy. So taking the stairs more often means less emission of CO_2 and keeping fit.

SDG 17

Opt for suppliers that give high priority to sustainable entrepreneurship and CSR. That way you take sustainable steps faster.

SDG 6

Never flush toxic chemicals such as paint, chemical substances or medication down the toilet.

This pollutes lakes and rivers and leads to health problems for both underwater life and people.

SDG 13

Whenever possible, avoid driving during rush hour.

SDG 6

Drink regular tap water.

There is nothing wrong with tap water. It's pure and delicious and has less of an impact on the environment.

SDG 3

Exercise for at least 30 minutes every day.

Try and be active during study and office activities that allow this. For example, hold a meeting standing up (at a conference table that can be adjusted in height) or have a team/study consultation while walking if the weather is dry.

SDG 7

Turn lights off.

in rooms that are not in use. When you turn your lights off, even if it is only for a few seconds, this saves more energy than is needed to turn the light on, regardless of what type of light it is.

SDG 17

Collaborate with organisations in the Netherlands (and beyond this) that have the same vision and with contract partners to make the supply chain sustainable. Share success stories and best practices.

SDG 11

Increase awareness of the ecological footprint of the working environment and search for ways to reduce this.

SDG 12

Have organic lunches with local products.

Organic is healthier, better and tastier. Local products are preferable to products that are flown in from afar.

SDG 11

Use public transport, bikes and other ecologically responsible modes of transport, such as carpooling.

SDG 13

Only buy what you need. A third of our food ends up in the bin.

What's your contribution?

SDG 12

Hand your old mobile phone in for charity.

A carefully used second-hand mobile phone lasts longer than the average subscription. This way, you contribute to reducing the amount of waste. Broken mobiles go to recycling companies, the precious metals are separated and the rest is disposed of in an environmentally-friendly way.

SDG 7

Help Fontys reduce its energy consumption and email energy-saving tips to:
duurzamebedrijfsvoering@fontys.nl
Working together on a sustainable Fontys.

In order to realise our objectives from the Sustainability agenda, efforts made by staff members and students, and the commitment of the Executive Board and directors of the services is essential. This agenda was created in collaboration with multiple internal stakeholders, such as the director of Building Managers, chairman of the Student group and staff members of the Fontys Center of Expertise for Circular Transition (FECT). We are convinced that this agenda will make Fontys' business operations even more sustainable.
This is our objective; to become sustainable and change with an impact.