

ENVIRONMENTAL GUIDELINES

1. EFFICIENT HANDLING OF FINITE RESOURCES

The university strives for an economical and conscious handling of all resources, which are utilized within the context of teaching and research assignments, as well as with daily operations. Consumed materials and waste are disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.

Consumption and emissions levels are reported and rated for each department. Balances are updated annually and reviewed in order to identify areas of potential optimization. From these reviews, measures are derived for further improvements in environmental performance.

2. PROCUREMENT

The chairs as well as other departments responsible for procurement oblige themselves to take into account environmental aspects when making investments or purchases. The most environmentally sound option shall be chosen wherever possible, always in consideration of the relevant legal and

administrative regulations and the guidelines of economic activity. The university's suppliers and trade partners shall be involved in the efforts for improved environmental protection, whereby an active contribution to supporting and strengthening the regional economy is the aim.

3. CONSTRUCTION MEASURES, FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND LAND USE

The use of environmentally sound materials, optimal land use, and resource-efficient future management decisions are the issues of high priority when reconstruction and building measures are undertaken at the university. Existing buildings are managed with the intention of efficient handling of resources. The use of renewable energy sources is supported wherever feasible.

4. OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY

With the knowledge that work safety, accident protection and environmental protection go hand in hand in most cases, measures are taken to prevent emissions and waste of energy due to accidents and improper handling.



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5. LEGAL ASPECTS

Compliance with environmental laws and regulations is a matter of course for us. The university's responsible parties strive to go beyond legal regulations when setting and fulfilling environmentally relevant goals and objectives.

6. ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL

The university considers the acquisition and transfer of fundamental knowledge of environmental protection as its task. In doing so, an internal exchange of information occurs, in which all university groups are involved. This comprises continuing education and further training programs as well as the integration of student theses and projects.

7. EXTERNAL COOPERATION

Beyond cooperation at the university level, the BTU Cottbus seeks out local, regional and international collaborations with institutions from the political, media and industrial branches. In doing so, the region should be strengthened on the one hand, and on the other hand,

ideas from elsewhere can contribute to future research and discussion. The BTU Cottbus is actively engaged in the process of the federal state's local agenda. We view the eastward expansion of the EU as a chance to support and accompany sustainable development processes.

8. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Sustainable development is a continuous process at the university. This process will initially be realized through the formulation of concrete environmental objectives in the areas of procurement, existing facilities and buildings use, occupational safety and legal aspects. Furthermore, measures will be established and implemented for the realization of these objectives. New reports of the university's environmental aspects will be presented at regular time intervals. Thus the success of implementing respective measures can be reviewed, and based upon these reviews, new environmental objectives can be set. In this manner, a new cycle of improvement processes begins.

9. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

For the continuous process of improvement, the university creates appropriate procedures, which serve to connect interdepartmental administration offices, research and teaching with one another. In this way, environmental protection becomes a collective task. The implemented procedures shall be based upon the appropriate, established BTU structures.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

The environmental policy and environmental performance of the BTU Cottbus are presented to the public on a yearly basis in the form of an updated environmental statement. This comprises the core indicators of environmental performance as well as the environmental program of the BTU Cottbus.