



On 5 June 2018, the StuRa decided the following

## Sustainability Guideline

The university's Constituted Student Body (VS) recognises its responsibility towards environmental protection and sustainability, positions itself against the exploitation of natural resources and commits itself to sustainable consumption. The implementation of said guidelines is monitored by the Department for Ecology and Sustainability (DES). Once a year, the DES prepares a review of the current application and implementation of the aforementioned resolutions. Furthermore, the DES continuously revises the following sustainability guidelines.

### 1. Food

When purchasing food, attention is paid to regionality and seasonality. Packaging should be kept as minimal as possible, for which shops that sell unpackaged goods or food sharing cooperatives are to be preferred. Preference is given to food from organic farming; e.g. Naturland, Bioland, Demeter (or comparable) certified producers. When buying animal products, keeping conditions should have priority over low prices. In concrete terms, for example, no eggs from caged or barn hens are to be purchased. Milk and dairy products should be purchased preferably from regional, well-known farms and, if possible, according to the above mentioned criteria. This particularly includes low price discounter milk. The same regulations also apply to the purchase of meat. Additionally, meat-free alternatives must be offered at events organised by the VS. If possible, vegan products should be preferred, e.g. regarding soup powder, agartine instead of gelatine, etc. Buying bottled water should be avoided.

### 2. Printing

When it comes to printing, recycled paper should be used. In addition, when ordering print jobs, supplemental carbon offsets should additionally be purchased. In general, the principle of parsimony ("Sparsamkeitsprinzip") should be applied to print orders and as little material as possible should be ordered, e.g. less resource-intensive advertising efforts should be preferred (flyers < posters < creative alternatives).

### 3. Events

Disposable tableware and cutlery (paper, cardboard or plastic) must not be used at events organised by the VS. Either tableware already available at the venue should be borrowed, or participants should bring their own. Participants are also asked to bring their own tableware and cutlery for the distribution and collection of leftovers. As a matter of principle, events should be planned in such a way that there are as few leftovers as possible. However, any accumulated rubbish should be placed in suitable containers provided for the aforementioned purpose, taking into account waste separation. At the respective venues, attention should be paid to energy balance. Energy-intensive measures such as mushroom heaters and searchlights should be avoided. When advertising events, attention should

also be paid to the energy balance (see Printing). It is expressly stated that tableware and cutlery can be borrowed from the VS – the Studierendenwerk (StuWe) also lends out tableware and cutlery at a moderate price.

#### **4. Travel & Transportation**

When travelling on behalf of the VS, non-motorised means of transport are to be preferred (e.g. cargo bikes instead of a car). If a motorised transport cannot be avoided, a non-combustion engine alternative is to be preferred (e.g. electric cars). If a means of transport with an internal combustion engine has been used, CO<sub>2</sub>-compensation must be provided. However, saving resources should always be prioritised over said compensation. When travelling (in groups), carpools should be formed, or public transport should be used.

#### **5. General Purchases**

Before making a new purchase, all renting options should be checked out first (free of charge when rented out from the VS, from individual student representatives or from a local provider (for a fee)). When purchasing textiles for e.g. screen printing, supplies should be ordered from local suppliers. Nevertheless, collecting supplies yourself or even producing them second hand should be preferential. In general, local purchases are to be preferred and it is best to pick them up them by yourself (see section on Travel & Transportation). Also, in the case of general (cleaning agents, toilet paper etc.) and project-specific (e.g. for gardening clubs, workshops etc.) appliance of consumable material, the focus should lie on environmental compatibility and sustainability.