



SELF-ASSESSMENT 2020/2021

This copy of the online self-assessment is for your reference and may help you decide which challenges to implement from the Water Handbook to improve the situation at your university and see it reflected in your overall score at the end of the year.

Look out for the name of the related handbook challenge underneath each question!



I. Awareness about local water systems and regulations: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

Generally, students are aware:

- A. of where waste water goes in the city.
- B. how water is being treated.
- C. what bodies of water are nearby.
- D. about government acts that regulate waste in water systems.

- 3 pts ALL of the above applies
- 2 pts THREE of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 1 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 0 pts ONE or NONE of the above applies



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Down the Drain'.

II. Solvent waste facilities and practices: What is best applicable to your university?

- 3 pts ALL solvent waste is collected and disposed of correctly AND this is ensured by easily accessible SDS and clear signs, posters or presentations given to students.
- 2 pts Solvent waste is collected and usually disposed of correctly BUT information about correct disposal (signs, posters presentations) could be clearer.
- 1 pts Solvent waste is collected BUT is occasionally poured down the drain OR into the incorrect container (e.g. when canisters are full or due to time pressure) AND there is no information about correct disposal (signs, posters presentations).
- 0 pts Solvent waste is poured down the drain (water system), AND/OR there is no solvent waste management system in place AND no information about correct disposal (no SDS, signs, posters presentations).



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Down the Drain'.

III. Cleaning of equipment: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

- A. Containers are fully functional and only filled with as much solvent or solution as is needed.
- B. Solvents are not allowed to run into the drain while cleaning equipment.
- C. Cleaning of equipment is adapted to each material (e.g. when tools or glassware should be rinsed with acetone or another alcohol-based solvent before a soap is used).
- D. When using a detergent-based cleaner, a coarse brush is used to scrub.
- E. A 'green' soap or detergent is available.
- F. Awareness is being raised by posters or other information themed around tool cleaning.

- 3 pts FIVE to SIX of the above applies
- 2 pts THREE to FOUR of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 1 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 0 pts ONE or NONE of the above applies



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Swish Swish'.

IV. Awareness about building infrastructure: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

- A. We are aware of the type and condition of water pipes.
- B. We check regularly for leaky pipes or taps.
- C. There is a water metre.
- D. Pipes and taps are being maintained regularly.

For example: your university building's infrastructure e.g. pipes may be categorised as follows:

Category 1 – Fairly New (could be retrofitted to improve performance and conservation)

Category 2 – Old (fairly functional but not cost effective to retrofit)

Category 3 – Obsolete/Problematic (leaking, high repair costs, and marked for replacement)

- 3 pts ALL of the above applies
- 2 pts THREE of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 1 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 0 pts ONE or NONE of the above applies



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Ceci N'est Pas une Pipe'.

V. Awareness about industry water footprint on rivers: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

- A. We are aware of factories located near the closest river and what they produce and what they produce.
- B. We are aware of nearby dams and how they affect the environment.
- C. We are aware of the water footprint of the nearest water basin.
- D. We have shared the above information.

- 0 pts ONE or NONE of the above applies
- 1 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 2 pts THREE of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 3 pts ALL of the above applies



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Cry Me a River'.

VI. Water use: What is best applicable to your university?

- 3 pts Taps are usually only run for treatment, equipment cleaning or building maintenance purposes AND there is awareness of overall water use AND reminders are in place (lecturers, signs, stickers or posters).
- 2 pts Taps are usually only run for treatment, equipment cleaning or building maintenance purposes BUT there is either no awareness of overall water use OR no reminders are in place (by lecturers, signs, stickers or posters).
- 1 pts Taps are run regularly unnecessarily (i.e. non-treatment related or excessively) BUT there is either some awareness of overall water use OR reminders are in place (by lecturers, signs, stickers or posters).
- 0 pts Taps are run regularly unnecessarily (i.e. non-treatment related or excessively) AND there is no awareness of overall water use AND no reminders are in place (by lecturers, signs, stickers or posters).



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Don't Go Chasing Waterfalls'.

VII. Use of purified water: What applies best to your university?

- 3 pts Use of purified water is limited AND clear instructions are provided (lecturers, posters etc.) for when local tap water can be used
- 2 pts Use of purified water is limited but it is not entirely clear when local tap water can be used
- 1 pts Purified water is used for everything BUT local tap water is not appropriate for use
- 0 pts Purified water is used for everything (despite availability of usable tap water) AND it is not made clear when local tap water can be used



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'I'll Have a Bottle of Your Finest De-Ionised'.

VIII. Water reuse: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

- A. Water from dehumidifiers or tumble driers is reused when possible (OR possibility of its use was explored through testing).
- B. Rainwater is being reused when possible (OR possibility of its use was explored through testing).
- C. Water with remnants from retouching material such as acrylics is filtered as much as possible before being discarded.
- D. Refuse - reduce - reuse - recycle is a principle followed for most materials (e.g. implementation and/or creation of Tips & Tricks).

- 3 pts ALL of the above applies
- 2 pts THREE of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 1 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 0 pts ONE or NONE of the above applies



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Wash Cycle' and 'Catch Me if I Fall'.

IX. Recycling facilities for materials: Are there recycling facilities at your university? (e.g. paper, plastic, metal, tetra packs and/or organic waste bins)

- 3 pts Yes, aside from general waste there are bins for THREE more categories (please specify).
- 2 pts Yes, aside from general waste there are bins for TWO more categories (please specify).
- 1 pts Yes, aside from general waste there is a bin for ONE more category (please specify).
- 0 pts No, there are ONLY general waste bins.



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Materials and Waste..wait, what?'

X. Refuse, reduce, reuse of materials: Do you and your colleagues refuse, reduce and reuse materials? E.g. foil, tissue, paper, cups etc.

- 3 Yes, we refuse, reduce AND reuse as much as possible AND if not possible to refuse we repurpose in creative ways.
- 2 Yes, we refuse, reduce AND reuse as much as possible.
- 1 Occasionally, materials are refused, reduced and reused but most are discarded after being used once or twice.
- 0 ALL material is discarded after the first use.



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Materials and Waste...wait, what?'

XI. Raising community awareness: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

- A. We are aware of our overall personal water footprint.
- B. We use refillable water bottles.
- C. We use reusable lunch containers and cutlery.
- D. We use mugs or glasses instead of plastic or paper cups.
- E. We wash all the dishes in the sink at the same time.

- 0 pts ONE or NONE of the above applies
- 1 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 2 pts THREE of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 3 pts FOUR or ALL of the above applies (please specify in comments)



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Squeaky Clean' and 'Water Map'.

XII. Raising community awareness: How many of the below statements apply? (please also specify which ones)

- A. The university/students participate in local fundraisers related to water sustainability or care of the environment.
- B. Students contribute data to scientific research by using citizen science apps such as Lake Observer, Eoceans and Eye on Water etc.
- C. The use of refillable water bottles is encouraged by advertising local drinking fountains or refill stations.

- 0 pts NONE of the above applies
- 1 pts ONE of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 2 pts TWO of the above apply (please specify in comments)
- 3 pts ALL of the above applies



Tip: If you would like to improve your score for this question, try the handbook challenge 'Free Willy Fundraiser', 'Citizen Science' and 'Water Map'.