Annual Report

on SDG14 Life Below Water

14.4 Water sensitive waste disposal

14.4.2 - Does your university as a body have an action plan in place to reduce plastic waste on campus?

Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Waste on Campus

Reducing Plastic Waste through Campus Action, Resource Recovery and Community Participation

Thaksin University recognizes that preventing plastic pollution in aquatic ecosystems requires action at its source. Plastic waste generated through everyday consumption, campus activities and community tourism can enter drains, canals and ultimately Songkhla Lagoon when it is inadequately managed. The University therefore connects plastic waste reduction with its responsibilities as an educational institution and its continuing engagement with communities whose livelihoods depend on healthy aquatic resources.



Zero Waste Society Project

Public evidence: https://tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=5219



More Than Just Waste: Thaksin University Transforms Plastic Bottle Caps into Eco-Friendly Tables

Public evidence:
https://sdg.tsu.ac.th/detail.php?aNum=20251021092444&id_list=1380

From Everyday Consumption to Shared Responsibility for Songkhla Lagoon

For Thaksin University, reducing plastic waste is closely connected to its relationship with Songkhla Lagoon. The University works with communities whose food, livelihoods and cultural identity depend on aquatic resources. Plastic discarded on campus or in surrounding communities can move through drains and canals into this shared environment. Addressing the problem therefore requires action where waste is generated, together with practical opportunities for people to change how they use and manage materials.

In 2025, the University continued **Thaksin University plan** to reduce the plastic waste on campus. The plan sets out to reduce plastic waste, supported by annual monitoring of plastic use, waste generation and recovery, with progress reviewed through Phattalung Campus Administration Office's work. Its implementation connects activities within the University with

community engagement around the lagoon, bringing plastic waste reduction into places where people study, work, produce goods and welcome visitors.

Engaging Students and Staff through ECOLIFE in U

In 2025, Thaksin University continued engaging students and staff in environmental action through **ECOLIFE in U**, building on its established **TSU GREEN HEART** and **TSU GO GREEN** initiatives. The program connects everyday practices—including waste separation and reduced plastic use—with a system for recording participation and environmental data.

The University uses **ECOLIFE Fill in** to record waste and energy management information. Waste is separated by type and weighed, providing data for assessing associated greenhouse gas emission reductions. For plastic waste management, this system provides a mechanism for documenting materials collected and supports the review of waste management practices.

Participation is encouraged through **ECOPOINT**, which students can accumulate and exchange for benefits or volunteer hours, subject to the conditions established by their faculties. This incentive connects environmental responsibility with practical opportunities for participation in university life.

The program builds on complementary educational activities. **TSU GREEN HEART** introduces first-year students to appropriate waste management, while **TSU GO GREEN** encourages creative uses of discarded materials through activities such as environmentally themed fashion competitions, crafts and innovations. Environmental learning is also integrated into the general education course **000015131: Volunteerism for Social Development**.

A university news report published on **26 August 2025** announced that Thaksin University had been selected among the three highest-performing institutions in the ECOLIFE in U program for its recording of waste weights and associated carbon footprint reductions. The assessment covered **August 2024–May 2025**. This recognition reflects performance across that stated period; it is not presented as a quantified result of plastic waste reduction during calendar year 2025.



Public evidence: https://adminsk.tsu.ac.th/detail.php?id_list=213&aNum=20250919081908



TSU Go Green Project

Public evidence: https://www.tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=4678



Public evidence: https://www.tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=5530





Public evidence: https://www.tsu.ac.th/home/details.php?id=5530

The University's continuing engagement with Talat Tai Thun extends waste prevention into a community tourism setting beside Songkhla Lagoon. The market remained active in 2025, with increasing visitor numbers and improvements in management. Its food, tourism and learning activities make visitor-generated waste management an important part of caring for the surrounding environment. The community-maintained waste management arrangements to prevent litter, including used plastic bags and bottles, from entering the lagoon. The University, through its Academic Service Unit for Natural Resource Management in the Songkhla Lagoon Area, provided academic guidance on waste management and supported community learning activities in collaboration with community organizers.

The campus and community activities provide complementary opportunities for practical learning. ECOLIFE in U encourages participation in everyday environmental action, bottle-cap products demonstrate material recovery, and Talat Tai Thun connects waste management with the care of a waterside environment. Available evidence documents the activities and products, while ECOLIFE Fill in provides a mechanism for recording waste data.

Summary

In 2025, Thaksin University supported plastic waste reduction through ECOLIFE in U, the use of discarded plastic bottle caps to produce keychains and tables, and collaboration on waste management at Talat Tai Thun. ECOLIFE provided a mechanism for recording waste data and encouraging participation through ECOPOINT, supported by the University's continuing environmental education initiatives. Together, these activities connect campus participation, material recovery and community engagement with the prevention of plastic pollution in waterways and Songkhla Lagoon.