



INSTITUTE OF
ECONOMIC SCIENCES
Institute of national significance
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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PLAN

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Environmental Impact Analysis

IES has conducted a comprehensive analysis of its environmental impacts to identify key areas where improvements can be made. IES's operations require electricity, heating, cooling, and water consumption, while generating minimal waste in daily operations. The primary environmental concerns in this area include:

- Electricity consumption is due to research equipment, computers, and office lighting.
- Water usage in restrooms and kitchen facilities.
- Waste generation: paper consumption for printing, documentation, and archiving; electronic waste from computers, printers, and other IT equipment; general, daily waste generated from staff activities.

1.1. Electricity Consumption and Emissions

IES's buildings rely on grid electricity. Heating is provided by the city district heating system, which uses fuel oil (mazut), while cooling is managed through individual air conditioning units installed in office spaces. IES shares its building with the Belgrade Banking Academy, and electricity and water consumption are jointly measured and billed. This shared infrastructure presents a challenge for isolating IES's specific environmental footprint, making resource efficiency and internal awareness even more critical for reducing consumption and environmental impact. As the building where IES is located is under cultural heritage protection, the replacement of the existing windows and doors with more energy-efficient alternatives is limited. As a result, this limitation prevents IES from achieving electricity savings through improved thermal insulation.

Key impacts of electricity consumption and emissions include:

- Carbon footprint from energy consumption.
- Indirect greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from electricity production.
- Heating and air conditioning contribute to the overall energy demand.

In the past period, IES has implemented energy efficiency measures. IES continuously applies strategies to reduce electricity consumption, contributing to energy savings and a lower environmental impact. These include:

- Replacing all lighting with energy-efficient LED lights,
- Avoiding the use of lighting in offices and interior spaces when there is sufficient daylight,
- Turning off lights when the room is unoccupied;
- Unplugging computers, printers, chargers, and other devices after working hours, especially after charging is complete;
- Avoiding the use of dark curtains, blinds, and objects that block natural light from windows;
- Positioning desks to make the best use of natural daylight whenever possible;
- Minimizing the use of air conditioners;
- Printing only essential documents that must be in hard copy;
- Turning off corridor lighting as long as daylight is available;
- Turning off all water heaters in the IES premises;
- Minimizing the use of kitchen appliances.

Further energy efficiency measures are limited due to the building's cultural heritage status.

1.2. Water and Wastewater Management

IES shares its building with the Belgrade Banking Academy, and water consumption is jointly measured and billed. This shared infrastructure makes it difficult to measure water savings independently.

IES's activities involve regular water consumption, mainly for sanitation and daily operations. Water is used exclusively for sanitary purposes, and there is no industrial wastewater generated. IES currently does not have a structured water management system in place. To reduce water usage, IES plans to improve fixtures and use other efficiency mechanisms.

1.3. Waste Generation and Management

The IES generates various types of waste, including:

- Paper and office waste, paper consumption due to documentation and research activities.
- Electronic waste, outdated computers, printers, and other IT equipment.
- General waste, daily waste generated from staff activities.

In the past period, IES has implemented a recycling program to improve waste management, including the separation of paper, plastic, and electronic waste.

- Recycling initiatives: IES actively separates paper, PET packaging, and bottle caps, ensuring responsible waste management and resource conservation. IES collaborates with a designated recycling operator who regularly collects recyclable waste for proper processing. Additionally, IES has a dedicated operator for the disposal and recycling of electronic waste.
- Resource optimization and digitalization: Through increased efficiency and the digitalization of all IES publications, IES has significantly reduced the use of office supplies, toner, and paper. Only the necessary documentation is printed; everything else is managed digitally. This approach minimizes waste generation and supports our commitment to sustainable operations.

IES started a recycling initiative in the first half of 2024. As of now, available documentation confirms that recyclable waste has been collected on several occasions, with official waste movement records issued for two.

- 28.05.2024 – Cardboard packaging: 0.27 tons
- 19.12.2025 – Cardboard packaging: 0.010 tons; PET packaging: 0.002 tons
- 10.04.2025 – Cardboard packaging: 0.80 tons; PET packaging: 0.003 tons
- 05.08.2025 – Cardboard packaging: 0.24 tons; PET packaging: 0.012 tons
- 06.10.2025 – Cardboard packaging: 0.38 tons; PET packaging: 0.013 tons
- 19.12.2025 – Cardboard packaging: 0.10 tons; PET packaging: 0.002 tons
- 20.01.2026 – Cardboard packaging: 0.18 tons; PET packaging: 0.015 tons

1.4. Transportation and Carbon Footprint

Employers primarily use public transportation, which became free as of January 2025, and about 10% of them walk to work. Few employees use personal vehicles to reach the IES, with occasional business trips included as part of their professional activities. Environmental concerns include:

- Greenhouse gas emissions from daily commuting;
- Business travel-related emissions from flights and transportation for conferences and research projects;
- Opportunities for promoting public transport and shared mobility options.

2. Procurement and Supply Chain

IES's procurement practices impact sustainability through:

- Purchase of office supplies, IT equipment, and other materials;
- Use of environmentally friendly products, such as recycled paper and energy-efficient devices;
- Engagement with suppliers that follow sustainable practices when it is possible.

In the past period, IES has implemented Sustainable Procurement Practices. Our public procurement processes incorporate green criteria, including eco-standards and the obligation to properly manage electronic waste and toner disposal.

3. Sustainable Practices and Improvements

Based on the assessment, IES aims to strengthen its environmental sustainability through a series of targeted practices and initiatives, including:

- **Energy Efficiency Measures:** Implementing behavioural and technical strategies to reduce electricity use, such as limiting air conditioner usage, turning off lights and equipment when not needed, and optimizing the use of natural daylight.
- **Water Conservation:** Although water use is minimal and limited to sanitary purposes, IES will improve fixtures and use similar mechanisms to reduce consumption. Due to shared infrastructure with the Belgrade Banking Academy, it is challenging to isolate water savings, but awareness-raising will continue.
- **Recycling and Waste Minimization:** IES has introduced a structured recycling program in 2024 and actively separates paper, PET packaging, and bottle caps. A designated operator ensures proper waste collection and processing.
- **Further business digitalization –** Reduction of paper consumption through document digitalization and the transition to e-communication and e-archiving. Paper use has already been minimized through digitalization, and toner consumption has been significantly reduced.
- **Sustainable Procurement:** Green criteria are included in public procurement procedures, emphasizing eco-standards and the responsible disposal of e-waste and toner.
- **Eco-conscious Office Practices:** Measures include unplugging equipment after use, minimizing kitchen appliance usage, avoiding printing unless necessary, and rearranging office spaces to maximize natural light.
- **Sustainable Mobility:** Encouraging the walk to work and use of public transport, bicycles, electric scooter and shared transportation options to reduce carbon emissions from commuting.

These practices support IES's long-term commitment to integrating sustainability into all areas of operation and promoting environmental awareness among staff and partners.

- Reduce energy consumption by optimizing lighting and equipment use.
- Implement water-saving initiatives.
- Expand recycling efforts and minimize paper waste.
- Encourage sustainable transportation options.
- Promote responsible procurement of goods and services.

Action plan

Impact of environmental component	Goal	Measures	Plan of action	Implementation period	Person responsible
Waste generation	Minimization of waste	Implementation of the recycling program	Communicating with employees	Continuously	Sustainability officer and Business secretary
			Waste separation	Continuously	Employees
			Waste handling by operators	At least twice a year	Administrative secretary
Energy usage	Improvement of energy efficiency	Implementation of behavioural measures	Communicating with employees	Continuously	Sustainability officer
		Implementation of technical/Operational Measures	Energy efficiency actions	Continuously	Employees
Water usage	Reduction of water consumption	Implementation of behavioural measures	Communicating with employees	Continuously	Sustainability officer
		Implementation of technical/Operational Measures	Water efficiency actions	Continuously	Employees