

## Guidebook for Environmentally Efficient Restaurants and Dining Establishments

Better environmental performance by businesses, restaurants and eateries in particular, attracts new environmental conscience customers who take sustainability into account when making their choices. Under the SwitchMed project, the Israeli Ministry of Environmental Protection with the support of the Tel Aviv-Yafo Municipality compiled guide to provide information, methodologies, instruction and tips for restaurant owners and dining establishments to take actions for environmental sustainability.



A Sustainable consumption and Production National Action Plan (SDG12.1) was developed in Israel through nationally owned multi-stakeholder processes, focusing on social environmental businesses, cleantech, green public procurement, environmental standards and labeling and resource efficiency. The implementation of the plan is ongoing through selected projects and initiatives.



This guidebook is based on a do-it-yourself approach. It is intended for managers and owners of restaurants and food places to make it easier for them to become a green and environmentally friendly business, without having to call upon expensive expertise and consultants.

### What is a green and environmentally friendly business?

A green and environmentally friendly business:

- undergoes a process to become more efficient and environmentally sustainable;
- reduces its energy and water consumption, saves resource and cuts down on greenhouse gas emissions;
- uses fewer disposable paper and plastic products;
- uses local raw materials;
- uses recycled paper products;
- cuts back on deliveries, so fewer heavy trucks enter the city which reduces air pollution;
- engages in local community projects.

### How to switch to a green and environmentally friendly business

Five areas with practical guiding steps and tips to switch to a green and environmentally friendly business.



SwitchMed Programme is funded by the European Union

5  
Areas

10%  
air-conditioning  
consumption reduced

24%  
energy  
reduced

40%  
energy  
reduced

100,000  
liters water  
saved a year

## 1. Organizational culture and operational efficiency

The organizational culture creates a green identity within the business, and operational efficiency brings about savings in overheads. To achieve the sustainable targets a suitable division of labor in the business need to be decided. Will the process be managed by one individual, or can the operating responsibility be distributed? Once in place these new procedures must be shared with all employees, while encouraging them to report success stories and consulting with them about how to fit the changes into the ongoing work.

## 2. Inventory and waste management

It focuses on Life-cycle management from raw material to end product, facilitates less wastage at source. Inventory and waste management presents tools to foster sustainable procurement through selecting environmentally friendly products and raw materials, minimizing transportation and ensuring correct storage, minimizing loss in the food processing stages and minimizing waste.

## 3. Energy efficiency

Efficiency will be achieved by minimizing energy consumption through efficient usage and better infrastructures. Electricity savings are achieved by a combination of optimal use, regular maintenance and cost-effective infrastructures.

## 4. Water savings

Water consumption is reduced through efficient usage and better infrastructures. Water saving technologies are developing at a rapid pace. Selecting the right technology can provide significant water savings and make a considerable contribution to the environment.

## 5. Community and branding

Branding creates a green identity and brings also environmental awareness in the community. Today's consumers appreciate businesses that contribute to the community and that reduce environmental harm. It is important that customers are informed about such changes in the business. Marketing the business creates added value that brand it and give it a competitive edge.