

**Annual Waste Survey 2023**

**WASTE GENERATION IN THE YEAR 2023**

Total waste generation in the year 2023 – 145.61 tonnes

Funding partners – Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom & Cleanco Lanka (Pvt) Ltd

According to the annual waste survey 2023 data, the total waste generation in the year 2023 is 145.61 tonnes. It is a ~46% reduction compared to 2019. The yard/ garden waste category emerged as the highest contributor to waste generation. Several compost facilities have been installed within the university premises to convert yard waste into compost. Food waste stands as the second-highest category.

Distribution of the major types of wastes among the faculties is shown in Figure 1. Figure 2 shows the distribution of the other types of waste. Only three faculties and UCSC produced the other types of waste. Laboratory waste was solely generated by the Faculty of Science.

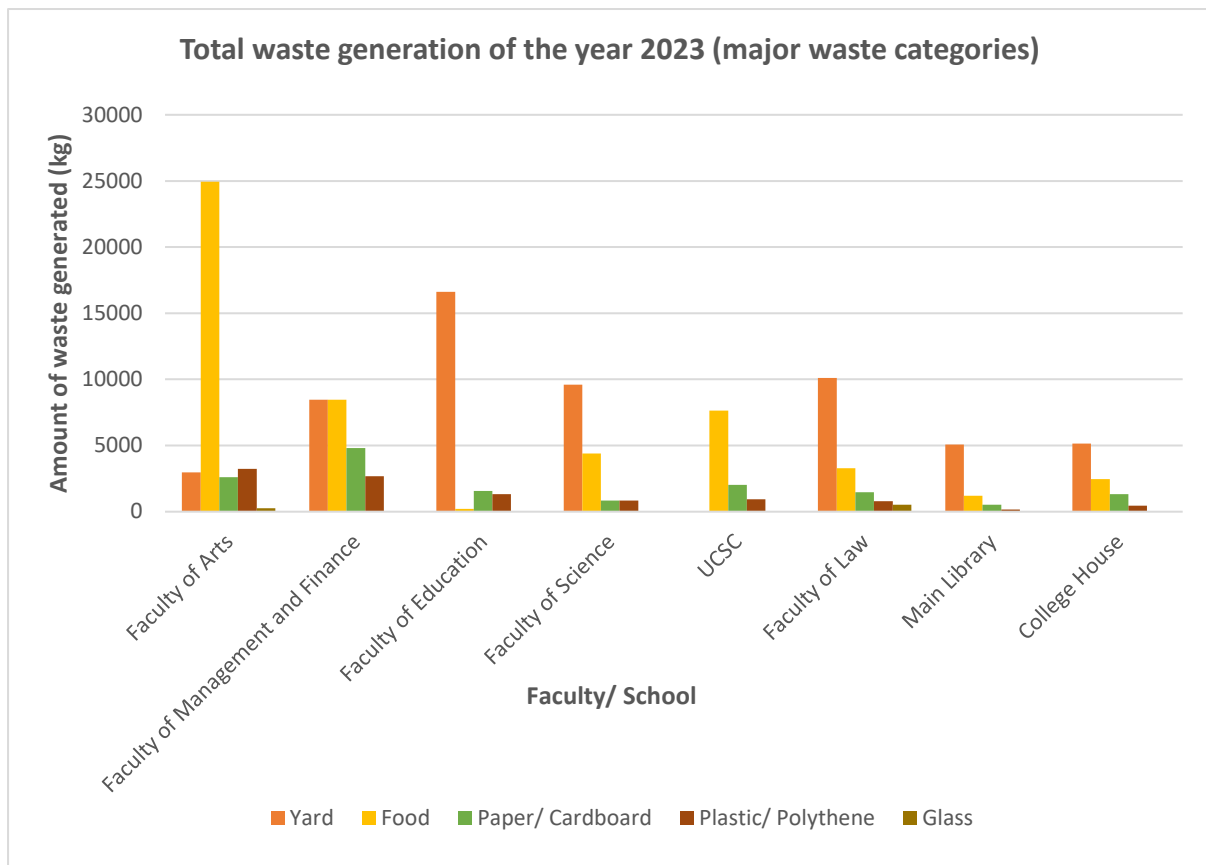


Figure 1: Total waste generation of the year 2023 (major waste categories)

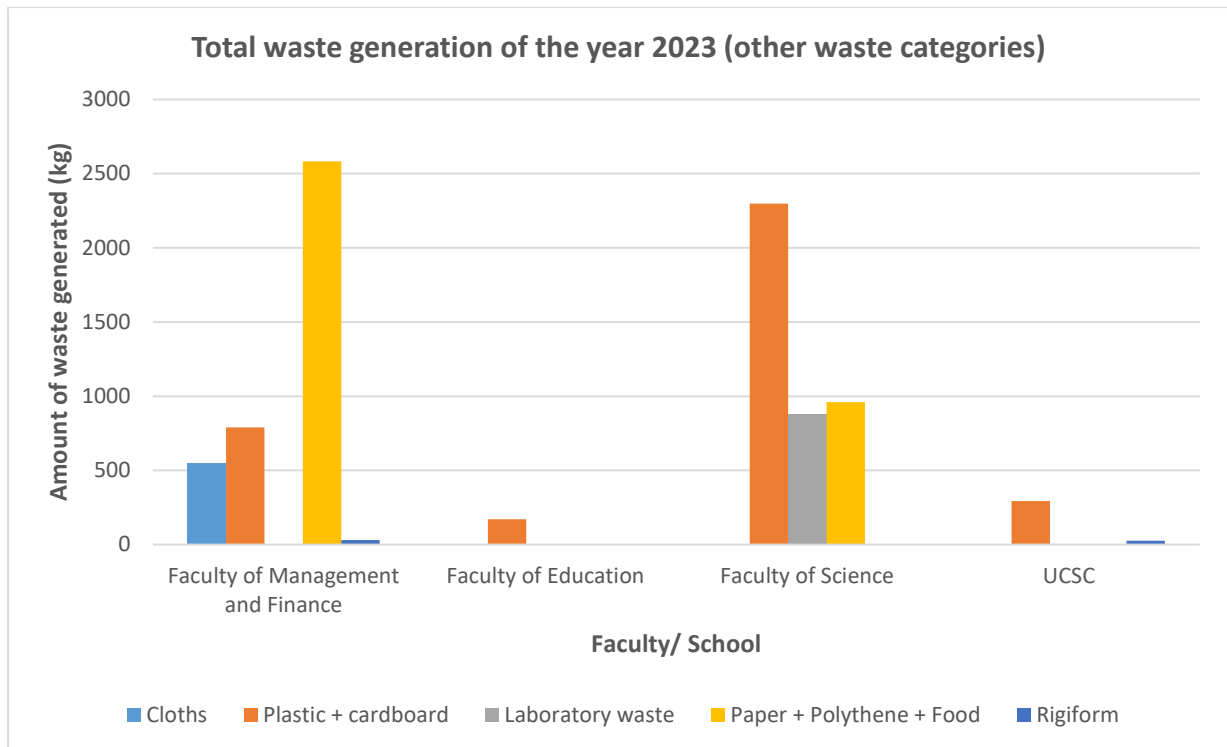


Figure 2: Total waste generation of the year 2023 (other waste categories)

**PLASTIC WASTE REDUCTION SINCE DECLARING THE UNIVERSITY AS A POLYTHENE-FREE ZONE**

The annual waste survey aims to minimize waste since the university became a polythene-free zone in 2017. Figure 3 depicts the generation of plastic/polythene over the years since 2017. There has been a 46% reduction in polythene waste generation compared to 2019. The CEI conducts various awareness sessions among students, staff, janitorial, and canteen staff, emphasizing the ban on non-degradable materials within the university. These activities may have contributed to this achievement, despite the increase in student intake. In 2020, university activities were halted due to COVID-19, and in 2021 and 2022, studies were conducted in a hybrid mode, mainly online. Therefore, polythene generation was lower in those years.

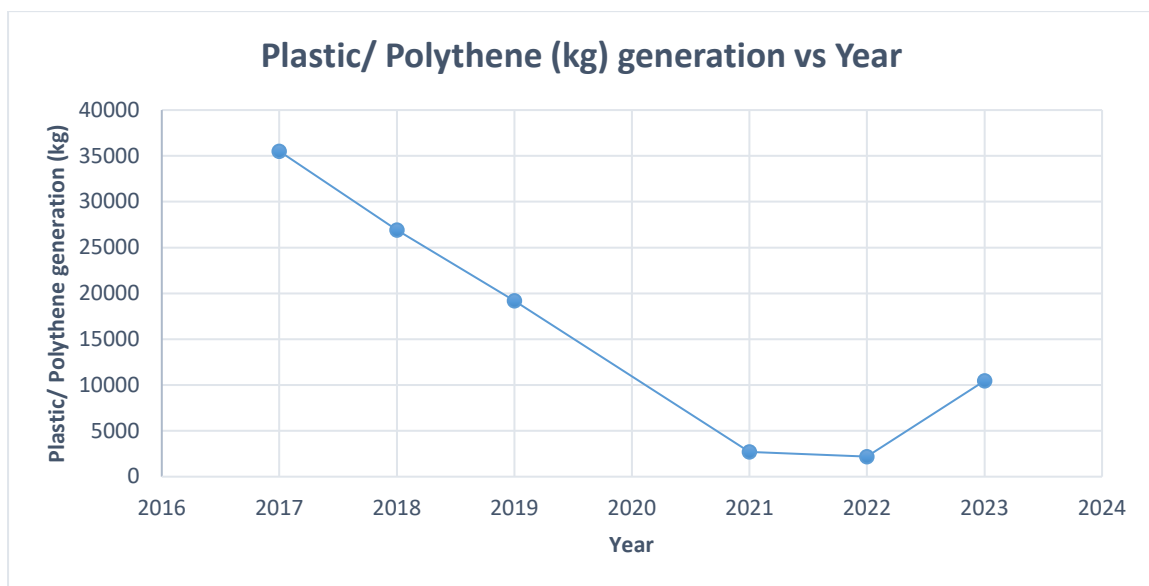


Figure 3: Plastic/ Polythene generation vs Year

**WASTE GENERATION BY FACULTY/ SCHOOL**

Figures 4 to 8 illustrate the waste generation for each faculty/school categorized by major waste types for the year 2023.

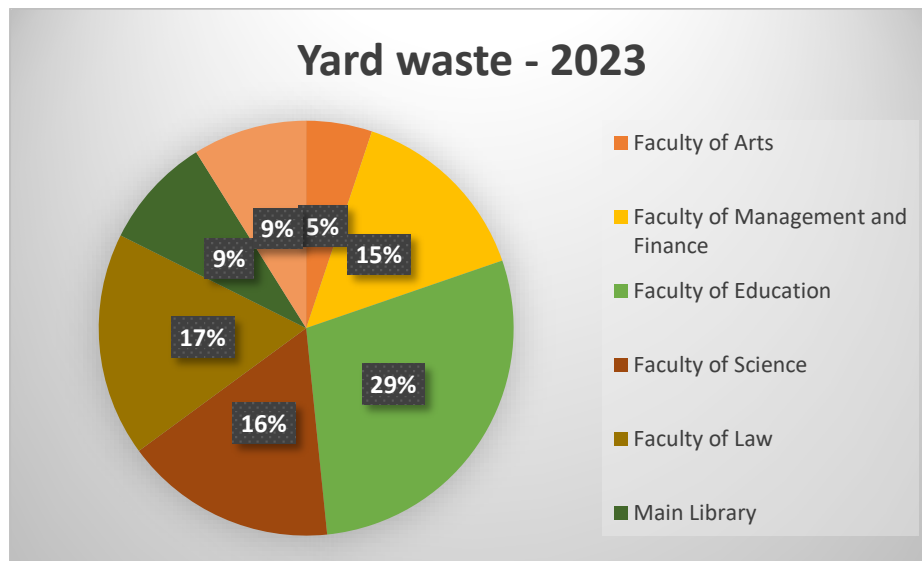


Figure 4: Yard waste generation 2023

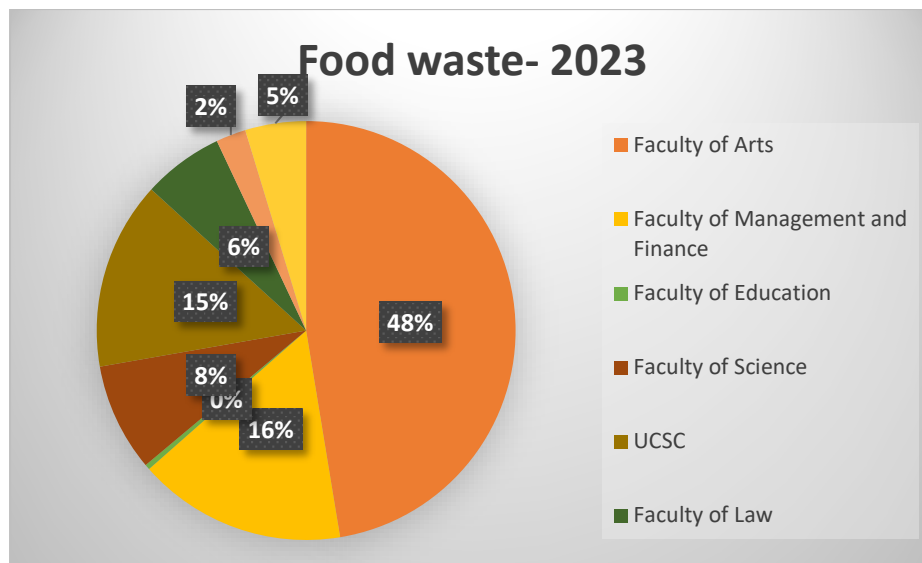


Figure 5: Food waste generation 2023

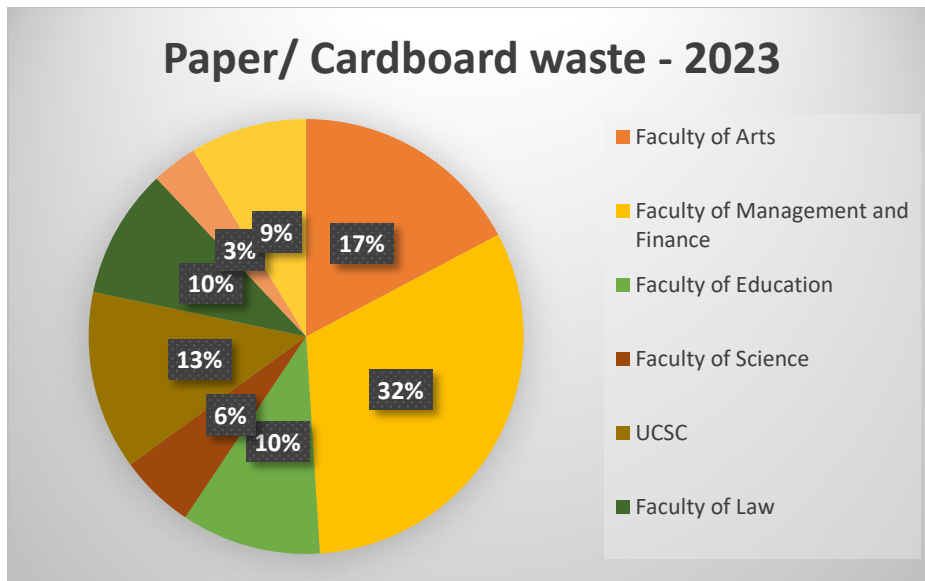


Figure 6: Paper/ Cardboard waste generation 2023

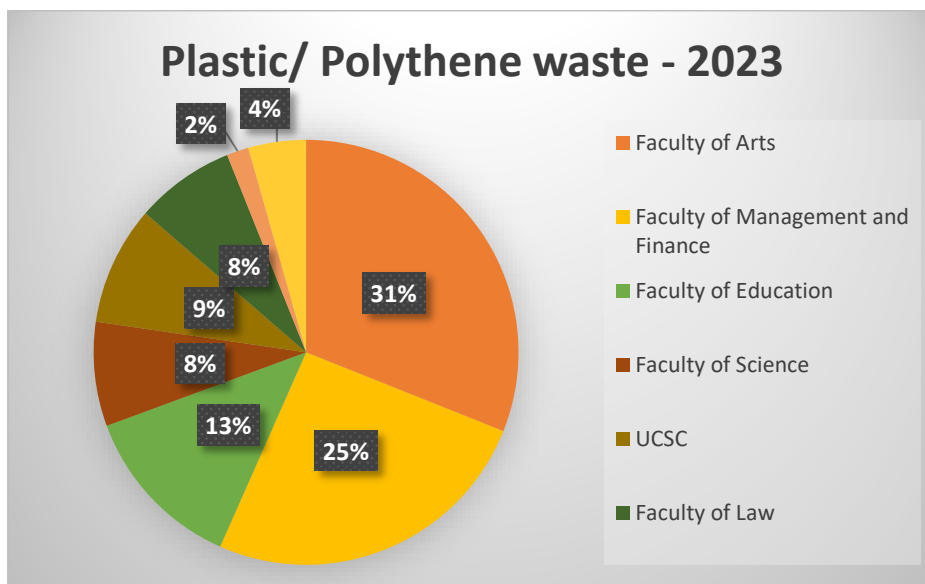


Figure 7: Plastic/ Polythene waste generation 2023

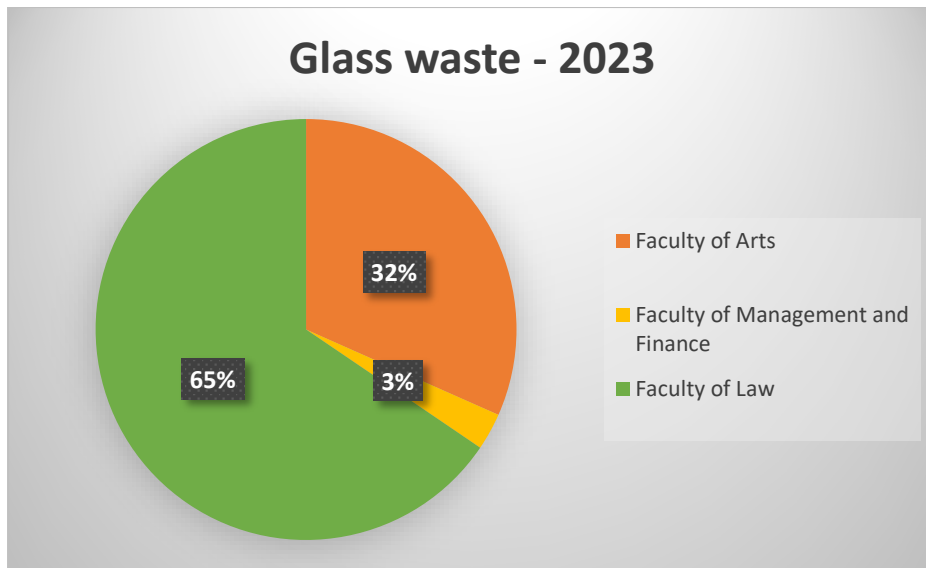


Figure 8: Glass waste generation 2023