



2024 Sustainability Report SDG 3



GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



LETTER FROM THE REPORT RECTOR



Ege University is a leading university, an example of the Turkish higher education system, which has received Turkey's first Institutional Full Accreditation Certificate and has the identity of a Student-Focused Research University.

Our University, with its 69-year deep-rooted history, strong academic staff, qualified scientific studies, distinguished students, and graduates, is to make a supreme effort to build a solid future for new generations by being sensitive to the realities of the world, our country and the society we live in. Ege University is a strong research institution with an entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem where R&D, innovation, knowledge, and technology transfer take place between industry and university.

Ege University has adopted all the goals of eliminating inequalities, strengthening economic growth and employment, improving cities and residential areas, ensuring industrialization, protecting oceans and ecosystems, producing and consuming energy more sustainably, combating climate change, developing sustainable production and consumption, and empowering human rights. Our university operates within an adequate ultrastructure designable to implement all academic and operational activities within the SDGs framework.

We steadfastly persist in our pursuit of elevating Ege University into a vanguard research institution dedicated to pioneering technological advancements in support of sustainable development.

This report not only contains in-depth information about Ege University's remarkable efforts in each of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals throughout 2024 but also reveals the key strategies of our institution. Moreover, it serves as a guiding compass, not only illuminating our efforts but also enabling a keener determination of our evolving needs and strategic plans.

In harmonious unity, we ardently endeavor to steer our institution towards a guiding and pioneering role by meticulously realizing our objectives through a management philosophy of fairness, equity, and accessibility.

I appreciate all my esteemed colleagues whose collective efforts have shaped this report.

With warm regards and respect..."

Prof. Dr. Necdet BUDAK
Rector



LETTER FROM THE REPORT TEAM

As the Sustainability Report Team, Ege University, we are proud and excited to present the third annual Sustainability Report of Ege University, one of Turkey's pioneering universities, prepared to concretize the University's commitment to sustainability and enable you to follow our sustainability-related efforts closely.

Sustainability lies at the heart of Ege University's main objectives. Besides, our university bears the responsibility of leaving a more livable world to future generations, and it emphasizes its determination to integrate sustainability principles in the fields of education, research, social contribution, and campus management. Over the years, Ege University has built a strong track record of offering sustainable solutions to address the challenges facing the university and society. In 2020, all these efforts culminated in establishing the Rankings Office. This move not only strengthened the university's commitment to sustainability but also led to the formation of sub-commissions focusing on various Sustainable Development Goals. These sub-working groups brought together academics and administrative staff from every faculty and the Rectorate, each contributing diverse perspectives and professional expertise.

What makes the Rankings Office even more dynamic is its inclusion of the Sustainability Report Team, which actively participates in all activities, thus enhancing the visibility of the office across the university.

Ege University aims to extend influence far beyond the boundaries of our institution. The EGE Sustainability Team seeks to be a trailblazer in instilling a culture of sustainability in other higher education institutions. Our Sustainability Team and its sub-working groups are going to serve as advisors to our university as well as to other universities, offering insights into Sustainable Development Goals and impact management. Furthermore, we are going to continue to be actively involved in educational initiatives that support schools on their sustainability journeys.

Beyond our campuses, we actively engage with local communities, businesses, and government entities to foster sustainable relationships, collaborate on solving common issues, and share our wealth of knowledge.

Ege University is unwavering in its commitment to the responsible management of resources to mitigate their impact on society, the environment, and the economy. This report offers a transparent and current source of information, providing valuable guidance to universities and stakeholders seeking to expand their knowledge on sustainability.

EGE University is actively dedicated to advancing sustainability through research, education, and innovation to become a leading institution in Turkey and worldwide. Our primary focus is on enhancing the accessibility, inclusivity, and affordability of our university for the benefit of our community. We cultivate positive partnerships with industry leaders to strengthen our engagement and ensure the use of environmentally sustainable practices that support innovation and research.

This report offers insight into EGE UNI's position in 2024 regarding enhancing sustainability in Turkey. We share our initiatives and commitments related to environmental, social, and economic sustainability, along with their corresponding impacts. We extend our gratitude to our sub-working groups, the Sustainability Report team, our dedicated students, EGE's esteemed academicians, and the Rectorate for their unwavering efforts this year to further our sustainable impact.

Our journey towards securing the sustainability of our world is an extensive and long way one. As the EGE Sustainability Team, we place our trust in the dedication of our university's staff and students to continue their improvements this year and sustain their endeavors well into the future.

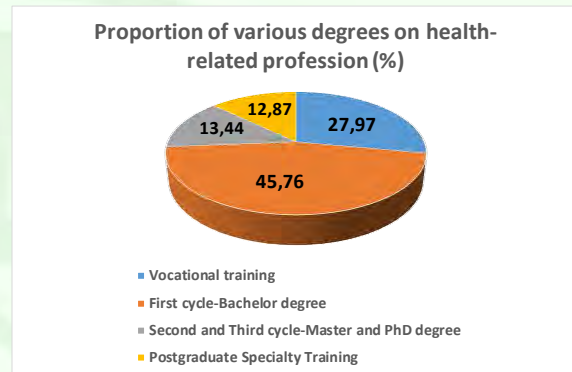
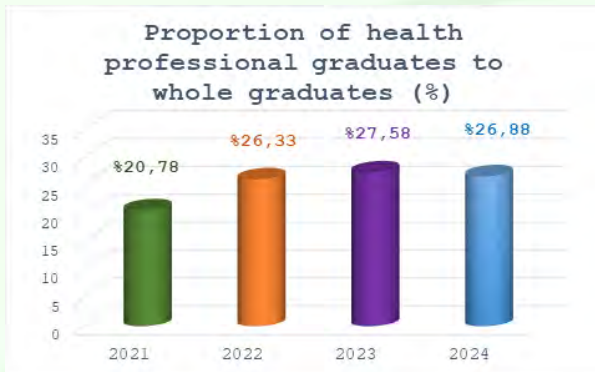
We appreciate your interest in the Ege University Sustainability Report and eagerly welcome the feedback of our readers.

Prof. Dr. Gökür ŞİŞMAN AYDIN
Coordinator
EU Sustainability Office

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Health professionals directly contribute to every element of health and quality of life issue, and universities have an important mission in training professionally equipped health professionals. Ege University offers undergraduate and graduate programs every year for training health professionals who will play an active role in the field of health and serve the society in protecting health and maintaining a quality life. The total number of graduates and the number of graduates in the field of health sciences increased in year 2024 from 8,492 to 10,577 and from 2,342 to 2,843 respectively.



Ege University Trains Well-Equipped Health Professionals With Advanced Training

During 2024, Interventional Anatomy and Plastination Application and Research Center continued on providing medical professionals with high-level training in medical interventional applications where cadavers, plastination, simulation and experimental animals are used separately or combined.



Ege University has become the only institution in Europe to receive "Anchor Center-Collaborative Center" approval for four years. Within the scope of the "Rays of Hope" project, a couple of health professions from various countries (i.e. Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan) has been trained on clinical radiation oncology and radiosurgery at the Department of Radiation Oncology of the Faculty of Medicine, Ege University during 2024. The assistance provided by Ege University in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has been enabling many countries to establish and/or strengthen safe, secure and effective radiation medicine (radiotherapy, radiology and nuclear medicine) capability.

Ege University has included new international protocols in health sciences besides on-going collaborations during year 2024

Ege University has a total of 410 on-going collaborations; one of these collaborations is local, 160 are national and 249 are global cooperation protocols or consultancy agreements to increase the level of health and welfare.



European Academy of Facial Plastic Surgery

Republic of Azerbaijan Ministry of Health Baku Base Medical College No. 2



Azərbaycan Respublikası Səhiyyə Nazirliyi
2 NÖMRƏLİ BAKI BAZA TİBB KOLLECI



Kazakhstan Research Institute of Cardiology and Internal Diseases

Ege University continues international collaborations in the field of research at health sciences

The number of international clinical trials conducted at Ege University in cooperation with the private sector for health and quality life is 484 during year 2024. 110 of these clinical trials have just started and 41 of these trials were closed in 2024. All of these trials are recorded to ClinicalTrials.gov, a website and online database of clinical research studies to provide information about these studies to the public, researchers, and health care professionals.



ClinicalTrials.gov

Ege University carries out projects in the field of good health and well-being



Ege University has organized 1,538 events in the field of good health and well-being in 2024, including social responsibility projects, career events, scientific research projects, patient schools and occupational health and safety trainings.

As a member of the International Association of Third Age Universities, Ege Third Age University has continued its educational facilities and activities with 326 newly enrolled students over the age of 60. The number of elderly students participating in this open university increases every year i.e. from 270 students in 2023-2024 academic year to 326 during the 2024-2025 academic year. Ege Third Age University has also supported other local third age universities in provinces of Karşıyaka and Karabağlar. One of the main activities of 2024 has been "The First Sports Festival of Third Age Universities" which has brought together many senior learners from Ege, Karşıyaka and Karabağlar Third Age Universities.





Ege University continues to serve the community for good health and well-being

The number of outreach programmes and projects served by Ege University in the local community to improve or promote health and well-being has been 1538 during 2024.



Ege University Hospital shares high-quality knowledge with the community using social media effectively.



Ege University continues to provide high-quality tertiary healthcare services for the well-being of society

Ege University Hospitals of the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Dentistry have provided 1.900.899 and 122.405 people with health care services during 2024 respectively.



[Ege University Vaccine Development Application and Research Center](#) has aimed to serve for “One Health” concept and has been developing a live-attenuated vaccine against *Toxoplasma gondii*, a parasite that infects about one-third of the human population and spreads to all warm-blooded animals, including humans, through the feces of cats, by using the advanced genome-editing technology CRISPR-Cas.



Ege University collaborates with Izmir City Council and Izmir Association for Social Drug Prevention and Education within the project of “Do not Stay Addicted, Stay Alive: Combating Addiction”

Ege University is developing a theory-based mobile health application by incorporating behavior change techniques to promote healthy eating, physical activity, and appropriate weight gain during pregnancy with the collaboration of Faculty of Nursing and Institute of Health Sciences.



Ege University has organized “Symposium on Exercise and Physical Activity in the Elderly” with the participation of local community.



Ege University Faculty of Dentistry has achieved a first in improving access to oral and dental health services for individuals with hearing impairments.

The project titled "I Hear My Dentist: A Mobile Application Supporting Access to Dental Services for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Individuals"

has introduced a newly developed mobile application and QR codes for use and aimed to increase awareness of oral and dental health among deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals and to facilitate their access to dental healthcare services.



Ege University organizes facilities promoting the awareness of the society on maintaining good health and well-being



Ege University offers sports facilities to all elements of the society

University's Department of Health, Culture and Sports and the Faculty of Sports Sciences offer both paid and free sports facilities to all university members, academic and administrative staff, students and their families under the most favorable conditions, and these facilities are also shared with the local community. In addition, social responsibility projects in which students participate offer free sports opportunities to local community and schools and awareness about sports is highlighted by the University. 195 social responsibility projects and disadvantaged group activities were carried out for sharing sports facilities with the local community.

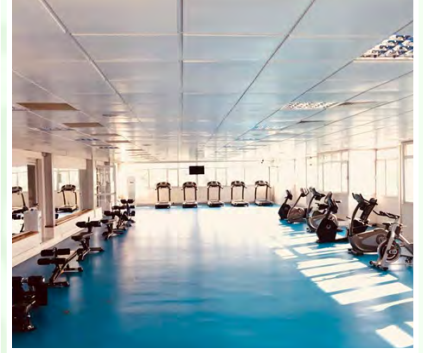
Prof. Dr. Sermed Akgün Indoor Olympic Swimming Pool, Outdoor Swimming Pool, Large Sports Hall, Tennis Courts, 20 May Sports Facilities, 50th Anniversary Sports Hall, Small Sports Hall, Football Fields, Grass Fields No. 1-2 and Outdoor Sports Fields are all located in the main Campus area and fully equipped with physical facilities. In addition to students, Ege University also offers a professional field of activity to university teams and athletes. Healthy Life Running Tracks with tartan floors at a total length of 2770 meters are located within the campus and provide all Ege residents with the opportunity to walk and jog in nature.



Department of Health, Culture and Sports has organized sportive activities (tennis, volleyball, basketball and football) for the university staff and students.



Wellness and Fitness Center of Ege University Faculty of Sport Sciences provides services to nearly 500 students and staff members with a 340 m² fitness area, three 60 m² private exercise rooms, and a 360 m² synthetic running track. The fitness center is equipped with a fresh air supply system featuring heat recovery, which automatically operates to ensure sufficient oxygen levels and low carbon dioxide concentration at all times. It serves athletes who prefer to train indoors, offering 6 types of fitness equipment and 8 newly added sports devices.



Faculty of Sports Sciences also nurtures and trains many national athletes who proudly represent our country, 1/5th of the graduates of the faculty are national athletes.





Ege University collaborates and promotes the health and well-being of athletes of all ages

The protocol between Ege University Faculty of Sports Sciences and Ege University Sports Club with İzmir DSİ Sports Club has continued during 2024, encouraging young people to participate in sports from an early age by providing academic support to our athletes and improving the overall quality of sportive performance.



Ege University has organized an event for "Disability Awareness Week" for the sportive rehabilitation and support of disabled people.

Ege University provides an opportunity to walk and run in harmony with nature

Within the scope of the Pedestrian-Priority Sustainable Green Campus Project, students, staff and the local community have the opportunity to walk and run in harmony with nature on a campus that remains green throughout the year with its 5,500-meter bicycle path and 2,770-meter tartan track. At Ege University, eco-friendly transportation is also being promoted. Students use bicycles and scooters within the campus to ensure environmentally conscious mobility. In order to reduce vehicle traffic and encourage healthy transportation, a 2-kilometer bicycle route is actively used across the campus. To make bicycles more accessible for students, bike parking areas have been placed at key locations throughout the campus.



Ege University supports the active participation of individuals of all ages in campus life.



The "Age-Friendly Track" Project, implemented for the first time in the world at Ege University, aims to create a unique healthy living space that serves multiple purposes and brings together different generations. The main objectives of the project are to support the physical, social, and psychological well-being of older adults, promote healthy aging, and encourage younger generations to connect with the past and uphold social values. Moreover, by fostering an intergenerational environment where individuals produce and share together within a family-like atmosphere, the project seeks to build a common campus culture and strengthen university-community interaction. "Breathing Spaces" Maps has also been included inside the Main Campus of Ege University.



Ege University organizes activities for supporting mental health and sexual/reproductive health of the students



132 events were held at Ege University to provide students with free access to sexual and reproductive health-care services including information and education services. Many classes have been added to the educational programs of the students including topics like sexual identity development, women's health, family planning, gender-based violence and discrimination, gender differences in brain and behavior, sexually transmitted diseases, reproductive rights, religion and its impact on reproductive health, sexual dysfunctions in women and men, determinants of fertility and female genital mutilation.



Individual interviews are held, and group therapies are organized by the Psychological Counseling Unit of the Directorate of Health, Culture and Sports for help our students to cope with their psychological problems. Additionally, seminars and conferences are held on various subjects. Psychological counseling service is provided free of charge through an appointment system, taking into account the confidentiality during sessions. The number of students getting free consultancy from the Psychological Counseling Unit has been 3.041 during the year 2024. The Campus Polyclinic also provided services to 13.951 students for solving other health problems.



The number of other facilities to provide students with mental health support has been 351 in 2024 through career establishment sessions, social responsibility projects and several research projects.





Ege University promotes a smoke-free and substance-free environment for all. Ege University has completed 77 events to support its smoke-free campus policy during the year 2024. The Center for Continuous Education of Ege University and Ege Academy TV arrange certificate programs targeting university students starting from the first day at the university one of which is "Basic Certificate Program on Combating Addiction (Asynchronous)"

In 2024, the Institute on Drug Abuse, Toxicology and Pharmaceutical Science has responded to 11,013 applicants for support related to addiction at their outpatient clinic and 904 applicants for smoke cessation. The Institute has also arranged many educational programs and seminars for raising awareness about smoke-free environments in the local community.



Ege University promotes mental health among its staff by organizing various supportive activities.

Ege University has completed 35 events to support mental health and well-being of the university staff during the year 2024, almost 65% of these events are free of charge. Main topics mentioned were time management, grief counseling, interview principles and techniques, forgiveness, improving psychosocial care skills, how to know, feel and express, communication and effective leadership skills in business life, models in psychiatric nursing, work life management.

The Department of Psychiatry also has provided 15 university staff with free access to mental health support during 2024.



The Center for Continuous Education (EGESEM) has completed nearly 200 certificate programs and 25139 certificates were given during 2024, some of which served to support well-being of the university staff, as well as the students and local community.





THE Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 Version 1.1	GRI	Disclosure	Reported	Page
3.1	Research on health and well-being			Fully	2
3.2	Number graduating in health professions			Fully	1
	Proportion of graduates in health professions				1
3.2.1	Number of graduates			Fully	1
	Number of graduates in health professions			Fully	1
3.3	Collaborations and health services			Fully	1-10
3.3.1	Current collaborations with health institutions Have current collaborations with local, national, or global health institutions to improve health and well-being outcomes.	GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-6-a Promotion of worker health	Fully	1,2
3.3.2	Health outreach programmes Deliver outreach programmes and projects in the local community (which can include student volunteering programmes) to improve or promote health and well-being including hygiene, nutrition, family planning, sports, exercise, aging well, and other health and well-being related topics.	GRI 413: Local Communities 2016	413-1 Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Fully	2,3,4,5
3.3.3	Shared sports facilities Share sports facilities with the local community, for instance with local schools or with the general public.	GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-6-b Promotion of worker health	Fully	5,6,7
3.3.4	Sexual and reproductive health care services for students Provide students access to sexual and reproductive health-care services including information and education services.	GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-6-b Promotion of worker health		8
3.3.5	Mental health support for students Provide students with access to mental health support	GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-6-b Promotion of worker health	Fully	8
3.3.6	Smoke-free policy Have a 'smoke-free' policy.	GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-6-b Promotion of worker health (strengthening the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful consumption of alcohol)	Fully	9
3.3.7	Mental health support for staff Provide staff with access to mental health support Active promotion of good mental health Access to (or signposting to) free mental health support Access to (or signposting to) charged mental health support	GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-6-b Promotion of worker health		9,10



EDITOR: Prof. Dr. Gökür ŞİŞMAN AYDIN

AUTHORS: Prof. Dr. Sibel GÖKSEL - Birgöl BİLGİN

GRAPHIC DESIGN: İpek TEKİN

www.surdurulebilir.ege.edu.tr