



2024 Sustainability Report SDG 1



NO POVERTY



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

NO POVERTY



Ege University, in line with the "No Poverty" goal set by the United Nations General Assembly within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals, continued to strengthen its efforts in 2024 to support equal access of poor and vulnerable groups to economic resources and basic services.



In this context, Ege University carried out various activities in the fields of education, health, and social support with the aim of enhancing social welfare and ensuring equal opportunities. Financial and in-kind scholarship opportunities provided to low-income students, part-time employment opportunities created for students in need, free health services offered to students, free educational and awareness-raising activities for different segments of society, and social responsibility projects contributing to poverty reduction stand out among these activities.

Ege University aims to further enhance its social, economic, and humanitarian contributions toward ending all forms of poverty, in alignment with the globally adopted Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved by 2030.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarships For Students In Need Of Financial Support



Ege University offers various scholarship and loan opportunities in cooperation with several institutions, foundations, associations, and companies to support access to higher education for successful undergraduate and graduate students in need of financial assistance. In this context, scholarship and support programs provided by the **Higher Education Loans and Dormitories Institution, the Ege University Empowerment Foundation, the Ege University Alumni Association, and several faculties of the university (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Fisheries, and Agriculture)** stand out for enabling students to continue their education without financial barriers.



In the 2023–2024 academic year, total of **54,807** students were enrolled at Ege University. Among them, **944** students received scholarships from private associations and foundations, **9,104** students received scholarships from the Higher Education Loans and Dormitories Institution, and **10,963** students benefited from its loan program - **providing financial support to a total of 21,011 students.**

The scholarships and loan opportunities provided represent a significant contribution of the university toward supporting students who experience educational inequality due to financial constraints and strengthening an inclusive and equitable learning environment.

Scientific Research Scholarships

Ege University is among the leading institutions fostering a research-oriented culture through scholarship and support programs provided by TÜBİTAK and the Scientific Research Projects (BAP) Coordination Unit for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students. In 2024, a total of 809 Ege University students benefited from these research scholarships, gaining the opportunity to support and advance their scientific studies.



Project Type	Number of Scholarship Recipients
TÜBİTAK	645
BAP	41
AB	87
TÜSEB	36
Toplam	809

A total of 406 original and innovative projects prepared by Ege University students were deemed eligible for support within the scope of TÜBİTAK's "2209-A Research Projects Support Programme for Undergraduate Students" and "2209-B Industry-Oriented Research Projects Support Programme for Undergraduate Students."



IN-KIND AND SERVICE SUPPORTS

Ege University not only provides financial support to low-income students but also supports them in essential areas such as health, housing, nutrition, and psychological counseling. These supports aim to alleviate the economic burden on students and create an equal and inclusive environment on campus. The university offers access to basic services not only to its students but also to its employees, alumni, and the community.

Support / Service Type

Application Description

2024 Data

Meal Grant

Low-income students are provided with a free meal (lunch) at the campus cafeteria.

Meal scholarships have been awarded to 399 students.



Housing Grant

Low-income students are provided with free accommodation at the Student Village.

During the 2023-2024 academic year, a total of 8 students were provided with free accommodation based on the decision of the Dormitory Management Board.





Support / Service Type

Application Description

2024 Data

Part-Time Work

Ege University runs a "Part-Time Student Work Program" to enable students to develop their practical skills in line with their interests and talents outside of class hours and to provide them with an opportunity to earn money. This program also provides labor support for the auxiliary activities of university units.

In the 2023-2024 academic year, a total of 231 students were employed on a part-time basis.

Corporate Discounts

Ege University Public Relations Department has established "Corporate Discount" agreements to enable students, staff, and alumni to benefit from discounts on various company products and services.

A total of 77 'Corporate Discount' agreements were carried out by the Public Relations Branch Directorate.



Health Service

Students can apply to the EÜ Faculty of Medicine Campus Clinic and the EÜ Faculty of Dentistry Clinic within the campus with their Turkish ID number if they encounter any health issues. Students who do not have any social security coverage (who are not covered by their parents' insurance and are over 25 years of age) can apply to the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports to obtain a health card. Diagnosis and treatment costs for students without social security coverage are covered by Ege University.

A total of 9,405 people, mostly students, received outpatient services, and 382 students were vaccinated.



Support / Service Type

Application Description

2024 Data

Psychological Counseling

Ege University supports the psychological well-being of its students by offering individual counseling sessions and group therapy through its Psychological Counseling and Guidance Unit. Psychological counseling services are provided free of charge by appointment.



594 students received clinical psychological counseling services, with a total of 2,190 sessions conducted both face to face and online.

Library Exam Support Service

In line with the student-centered management approach at Ege University Central Library, as part of a traditional practice during exam periods, free tea and soup are offered to students studying in the university cafeteria during midterm and final exam weeks.



It is implemented every academic term.



Support / Service Type

Application Description

2024 Data

Free Access to Drinking Water

Ege University provides free and hygienic drinking water to students, staff, and visitors through filtered water fountains located on its main and hospital campuses.



There are a total of 27 water fountains on campus, 19 of which are located on campus and 8 in schools in

Campus Transportation

Transportation within the Ege University Main Campus is provided free of charge by campus shuttle services in the area between the Student Housing and Credit Institution dormitories and the student village.



The shuttle service, operated by two buses, runs between the KYK Dormitory and the Student Village, covering the entire campus, from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Free Internet Access (Eduroam)

As an EDUROAM member institution, Ege University provides free wireless internet access across the campus to its academic staff, students, and users from other institutions included in the EDUROAM network via their portable devices.



Continuous



LEARNING PROGRAM SUPPORT

Ege University is one of the most active universities in Turkey in terms of student and faculty exchange, particularly within the Erasmus+ program, which is the most active of the European Union's Education and Youth Programs. Ege University is also an active participant in the "Farabi, Mevlana, and Orhun Exchange Programs," which offer exchange programs and bilateral agreements for student and faculty members to benefit from.



During the 2023-2024 academic year, **a total of 358 students went abroad through international exchange programs and bilateral agreements**, including 284 through Erasmus+ Student Mobility, 36 through Erasmus+ Trainee Mobility, 11 through the Orhun Program, 13 through the IAESTE Program, and 14 through Bilateral Cooperation Protocols. **A total of 282**

students came abroad through international exchange programs and bilateral agreements, including 108 through Erasmus+ Student Mobility (Study and Internship), 58 through the Orhun Program, 7 through the IAESTE Internship Program, and 109 through Bilateral Cooperation Protocols.

EQUAL ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES: SOCIAL FACILITIES OPEN TO ALL

Ege University operates numerous Social Purpose Facilities to serve its members (employees, retirees, students), public officials, and other individuals from outside the public sector. These facilities offer services at rates **that are considerably more economical than those found in the market.**

Facility / Service	Description	2024 Application Information
Mordoğan Agricultural Training Facilities	The facility includes meeting rooms for educational and training purposes, social facilities, and accommodation facilities for students and faculty members visiting for educational and training purposes. In 2024, half-board accommodation services were provided for 6 days at a cost of 3,500 TL for EÜ staff, public employees, and their first-degree relatives.	Mordoğan Agricultural Training Facilities provided services between June 24 and September 15, 2024, offering accommodation to 998 people throughout the season in 27 rooms, each accommodating 4 people.





Facility / Service

Description

2024 Application Information

Ozdere Training and Recreation Facilities

Located directly on the beach, the facility offers guests seeking a peaceful vacation not only daily use but also half-board accommodation in bungalow-style cabins. For a 6-day period in 2024, accommodation is offered at a cost of 9,000 TL for E.Ü. staff and their first-degree relatives, and 4,500 TL for E.Ü. students..



Özdere Education and Recreation Facilities provided services between June 17 and September 15, 2024, offering half-board accommodation to 1,390 people throughout the season in 38 bungalow-style rooms, each accommodating four people. Day services were also provided to 1,447 people.

Ege University Kindergarten

Ege University Kindergarten provides childcare and educational services for the children of university staff

In 2024, 139 children received childcare and preschool education services at the kindergarten.

Ege University Ethnography Museum

The Ethnography Museum is open to visitors from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. every day except Saturday and Sunday. The museum have a very reasonable admission fee policy: free for soldiers, police officers, families of martyrs and veterans, people with disabilities, and those over 65; 10 TL for Ege University students, staff, and alumni; 15 TL for other students; and 25 TL for non-students.

Open to visitors throughout the year, Ege University Ethnography Museum has also organized a rich program of events during the December 2024 period. These events, held in various fields ranging from archaeology to music performances, art exhibitions to cultural presentations, featured expert speakers.





Facility / Service	Description	2024 Application Information
Ege University Paper and Book Arts Museum	The Paper and Book Arts Museum is open to visitors from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, except on Saturdays and Sundays. Both museums have a very reasonable admission fee policy: free for military personnel, police officers, families of martyrs and veterans, people with disabilities, and those over 65; 10 TL for Ege University students, staff, and alumni; 15 TL for other students; and 25 TL for non-students. 	The Paper and Book Arts Museum hosted career talks in 2024 titled "Traditional Turkish Arts Workshop," "Traditional Ebru Discussion," "Ebru Workshop," Illumination on Ebru and Illumination Workshop, and "The Past and Present of Tile and Penwork Restoration."
Prof. Dr. Sermed AKGÜN Indoor Olympic Swimming Pool	The facility provides services at affordable rates to university staff, students, and individuals from outside the institution. In 2024, swimming course fees for students are set at 70 TL per hour, 1000 TL per month, and 940 TL for a 4-week program. 	A total of 8,789 Ege University members and 4,094 external visitors entered daily; 48,608 course participants and 7,590 subscribers used the facilities, with a total of 69,081 people benefiting from the Prof. Dr. Sermed Akgün Swimming Pool.



Facility / Service	Description	2024 Application Information
Large Sports Hall - May 20 Sports Facilities - 50th Anniversary Sports Hall - Minor Sports Hall - New Outdoor and Indoor Tennis Courts - Athletics Track	Ege University provides services to staff, alumni, students, external individuals, clubs, and schools.  	
Artificial Turf Football Field - Healthy Living Outdoor Running Tracks - Outdoor Basketball and Volleyball Courts - Student Village Sports Area - Bicycle Paths	To promote healthy living, the university campus features a 5,500-meter bicycle path, a 2,770-meter running track, and various outdoor sports areas. These facilities are available for everyone to use free of charge.  	



COMMUNITY-ORIENTED EDUCATION AND INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

Ege University Continuing Education Center (EGESEM) offers quality educational opportunities for university students, public and private sector employees, young people outside the university, housewives, and individuals of all ages. The Center develops, implements, and **coordinates unique and high-quality educational programs designed to contribute to the personal and professional development of participants**, addressing every need.



EGESEM offers face-to-face and synchronous distance learning courses, as well as asynchronous courses integrated into Ege University's own infrastructure. Asynchronous courses can be accessed continuously via Ege University Academy TV without any time restrictions. An E-Certificate system that can be queried via E-Government is in place. In 2024, 159 different training courses were offered at EGESEM, and 30,358 people were awarded certificates. EGESEM training courses in 2024 included Professional Development Training, Healthy Living Training, Sports Training, Foreign Language Training, Personal Development Training, and Skills Training.



The project **“Pilot Study on Beekeeping Training and Employment for Patients at the Community Mental Health Center,”** conducted under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Ayşegül Dönmez, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing at Ege University, and supported by TÜBİTAK, has been completed as an exemplary application aimed at supporting social participation and employment. Within the scope of the project, theoretical and practical beekeeping training was provided to individuals registered at Ege University Community Mental Health Center, coordinated by **Ege University Continuing Education Center (EGESEM) and conducted at the Faculty of Agriculture apiary**. Participants who successfully completed the training **were awarded certificates**.



- Ege University coordinates the work carried out to **guide its students in their career planning, support their employment processes, and monitor their career development** within the **Career Planning and Success Coordination Office**.

- The **“Ege 3rd Age University”** social responsibility project, launched by the Department of Internal Medicine at Ege University (EÜ) Faculty of Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, as a first in Turkey

with a lifelong learning mission, has commenced the 2023-2024 Academic Year.

- **Ege University EBİLTEM-TTO and Ege Technopark** provide services to all individuals and entrepreneurs, regardless of their affiliation with the university, without any quotas or priority applications. According to the 2024 EBİLTEM Pre-Incubation Program performance data, while the TÜBİTAK success rate was 38% in the **“Number of Startups Incorporated”** metric, the collaboration between **EBİLTEM and Ege Teknopark achieved a success rate of 43%, demonstrating above-average performance**.





SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECTS

The Ege University Social Responsibility Projects Coordination Office strengthens social and civic responsibility awareness by encouraging university staff and students to contribute to solving social problems. Under the supervision of the Coordination Office, **1,3411 social responsibility projects** were carried out in 2024, each lasting at least two months and within a specific budget.



• **The Ege University Observatory Application and Research Center**, where 19 social responsibility projects continued in 2024, welcomed 35,000 visitors and provided regular educational programs. In addition, 28,000 students who did not have the opportunity to visit the Observatory were reached, enabling them to see a telescope for the first time and observe space.



In 2024, the **Ege University Rectorate Botanical Garden and Herbarium Application and Research Center** provided guided tours and educational services to 6,500 visitors from kindergartens, elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, universities, and special education institutions. Schools that registered for a tour at the Botanical Garden and Herbarium Center were able to visit these centers free of charge.

• **Ege University Natural History Museum** aims to raise a wareness of natural history through its rich collections; it organizes educational and awareness activities for students and visitors.



Associate Professor Dr. Pelin Piştav Akmeşe, Faculty Member at Ege University Faculty of Health Sciences and Coordinator of Engelsiz Ege Unit, has published a book titled **"My Colors and Letters"** to raise awareness about cerebral palsy. Proceeds from the book will be donated to provide special education and physical therapy services for children affected by the February 6 earthquake.



Ege University (EÜ) Ödemiş Faculty of Health Sciences, in collaboration with Bekir Girgin Kindergarten and Özel Beyaz Altay Daycare Center, organized the **"Egeli Minikler Children's Festival."** Held outdoors, this event allowed children to spend time immersed in nature, gaining environmental awareness while enjoying fun and educational activities. During the event, the young participants were treated to ice cream, plain cotton candy, corn on the cob, and pastries.



In collaboration with Ege University Faculty of Dentistry and Student Dean's Office, oral and dental health screenings were conducted for Ege University students at the Research-Focused Student Center (AROM) as part of 'Oral and Dental Health Week'.



Ege University students have supported families in need as part of a project carried out in collaboration with the İzmirli Association, based on their understanding of social responsibility. The students volunteered to prepare food packages obtained from various supermarkets and deliver them to families, thereby contributing to meeting their basic needs.



THE Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2026 Version 1.1	GRI	Disclosure	Reported	Page
1.1	Research on poverty			Fully	1
1.2	Proportion of students receiving financial aid to attend university because of poverty			Fully	1-2
1.2.1	Students receiving financial aid	GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts 2016	203-2 Significant indirect economic impacts	Fully	1-2
	Number of students			Fully	1
	Number of low income students receiving financial aid			Fully	1
1.3	University anti-poverty programmes			Fully	2-5
1.3.1	Bottom financial quintile admission target Targets to admit students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country.	GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts 2016	203-2 Significant indirect economic impacts	Fully	2
1.3.2	Bottom financial quintile student success Graduation/completion targets for students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country.			Fully	2
1.3.3	Low-income student support Provide support (e.g., food, housing, transportation, legal services) for students from low-income families to enable them to complete university.			Fully	2-5
1.3.4	Bottom financial quintile student support Programmes or initiatives to assist students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country to successfully complete their studies.			Fully	3
1.3.5	Low or lower-middle income countries student support Schemes to support poor students from low or lower-middle income countries (e.g., offering free education, grants).			Fully	3
1.4	Community anti-poverty programmes			Fully	6-13
1.4.1	Local start-up assistance Provide assistance in the local community supporting the start-up of financially and socially sustainable businesses through relevant education or resources (e.g., mentorship programmes, training workshops, access to university facilities).	GRI 2: General Disclosures 2021 GRI 413: Local Communities 2016	2-6 Activities, value chain and other business relationships 413-1 Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Fully	11
1.4.2	Local start-up financial assistance Provide financial assistance to the local community supporting the start-up of financially and socially sustainable businesses.			Fully	11
1.4.3	Programmes for services access Organise training or programmes to improve access to basic services for all.			Fully	6-10,12-13
1.4.4	Policy addressing poverty. Participate in policy making at local, regional, national and/or global level to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions.	GRI 102 General Disclosures GRI 415: Public Policy 2016	2-6 Activities, value chain and other business relationships Political contributions	Fully	12-13

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