

2022 Sustainability Report SDG 1





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 68-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 2022 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 2022 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.

Assoc. Prof. Göknur ŞİŞMAN AYDIN Coordinator of Sustainability Studies Office of Institutional Development Planning and Monitoring



NO POVERTY



In line with the Sustainable Development Goal "No Poverty" set by the United Nations General Assembly, Ege University has renewed and increased its potential contribution with all its will and power in 2022 to ensure that all men and women, including the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources and access to basic services.



Ege University has carried out various activities in the fields of education, health and social protection in order to end poverty in all its forms everywhere according to the priorities targeted by 2030 all over the world. These activities can be categorized as scholarships for low-income students, part-time employment opportunities for students in need, free health services for students, free trainings and events for the public, social responsibility projects to end poverty, etc.





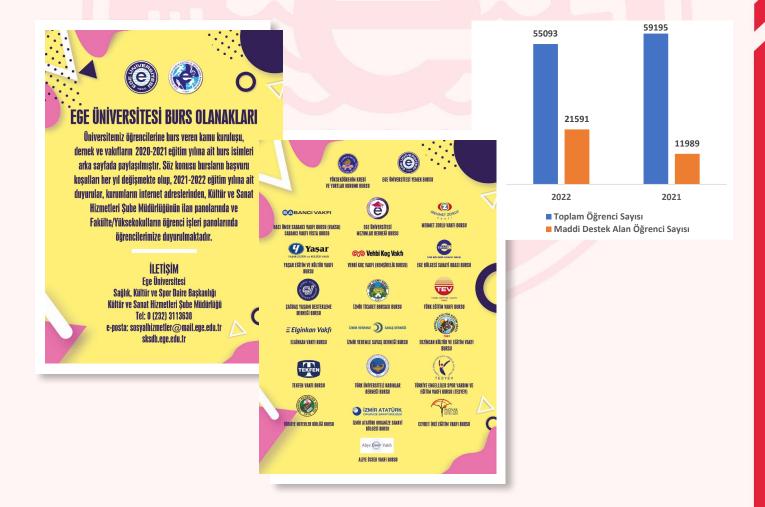


SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Ege University is a state university, and the admission, examination, and evaluation procedures of undergraduate students are carried out in accordance with the Higher Education Law and the decisions and regulations of the Council of Higher Education issued based on this law. Students who want to pursue an academic career or specialize in their field can receive graduate education after completing their undergraduate education, provided that they fulfill the necessary exam requirements.

Ege University provides scholarships/loans by various institutions, foundations, associations, and companies to successful undergraduate and graduate students who need economic support to continue their education. These institutions include the Higher Education Credit and Dormitories Institution, Ege University Empowerment Foundation, Ege University Alumni Association, and various faculties of Ege University (Dentistry, Pharmacy, Aquaculture and Agriculture). In addition, the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) provides scholarships for successful international students to study at Ege University with scholarships at the higher education level and to contribute to the relations between our countries.

As of the academic year 2021-2022, a total of **55.093** students were studying at Ege University. A total of **21.591** students were financially supported: **1721** of these students received scholarships from private associations and foundations, **7835** students received scholarships from the Credit and Dormitories Institution, and **11.989** students received loans from the Credit and Dormitories Institution.







TÜBİTAK SCHOLARSHIPS

Ege University is one of the leading universities in the provision of Tübitak Scholarships to undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students. The prominent scholarships at the undergraduate level are **2209-A** - University Students Research Projects Support Program, **2209-B** - Undergraduate Research Projects Support Program for Industry and **2247 - C** Intern Researcher Scholarship Program (STAR).

According to the results of the 2209-A University Students Research Projects Support Program 2022/2 Period, Ege University was the higher education institution with the highest number of applications with 435 projects and the highest number of acceptances with 276 projects. In addition, Ege University ranked 3rd with 46 project applications and 18 acceptances according to the results of 2209-B Undergraduate Research Projects for Industry Support Program 2022/2. Ege University made a significant leap in 2022 by increasing the number of applications to the 2209-A program from 77 to 699 compared to the previous year. In the 2209-B Program, the number of applications increased from 32 last year to 83 this year.



Tübitak Scholarships for master's level students are 2210/A General National, 2210/B National Transition to Social Sciences, 2210/C National Priority Areas, 2210/D National Industry Oriented and 2210/E Direct National Master's Scholarship Program. Tübitak Scholarships for PhD level students are 2211/A General National, 2211/B National Transition to Social Sciences, 2211/C National Priority Areas, 2211/E Direct National, 2213 - A Abroad, 2213 - B Abroad Joint, 2244 - Industry and 2214-A Abroad PhD Research Scholarship Program.

According to the results of the first and second semesters of the 2210-A, 2210-C, 2210-D National Master's Scholarship Programs and 2211-A, 2211-C, 2211-E National Doctoral Scholarship Programs conducted by TUBITAK Directorate of Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (BİDEB), 132 master's and doctoral students from Ege University were awarded scholarships in different fields under both programs. The number of projects supported under the National Graduate Scholarship Programs increased approximately two-fold compared to the previous year.





SUPPORT FOR LEARNING PROGRAMS

Ege University attaches great importance to the development and diversification of international relations with the awareness of the changes brought about by globalization in the field of education. In the 2021-2022 academic year, with the acceleration of the activities carried out in the name of internationalization goals, development, and international recognition, it has increased its international recognition and diploma value.

Ege University is one of the most active universities in Turkey in terms of student and academic staff exchange within the scope of Erasmus +, the most active of the European Union Education and Youth Programs. There are also "Farabi, Mevlana and Orhun Exchange Programs" of which Ege University is an active part through bilateral protocols for exchange programs and collaborations that students and academic staff can benefit from.



Ege University received a grant of 1 million 47 thousand 270 Euros in 2022 within the scope of Erasmus Plus Learning Mobility of Individuals. The university is the fifth university that sends the most students abroad and the fourth university that receives the most students from abroad within the program.

In the 2022 academic year, 480 students and 18 academic staff were sent abroad within the scope of exchange programs with the grant support provided. In the 2021-2022 academic year, 275 students studied at contracted universities in program countries in Europe with Erasmus+ Study Mobility. In addition, within the scope of Erasmus+ Internship Mobility; 59 students were given the opportunity to do internships in various institutions and organizations in Europe.

SUPPORT OTHER THAN FINANCIAL AID

Ege University provides financial support to low-income students as well as basic services (health, housing, nutrition, psychological counseling). Ege University serves not only its students but also its employees, graduates and the public in terms of access to basic services.

Food and housing scholarships are the primary means of support for students in need.

In 2022, Ege University provided 629 students with food scholarships and 8 students with housing scholarships at the Student Village.





In line with the student-oriented management approach, Ege University Central Library provides 24/7 service during midterm and final exams, and students studying throughout the night are offered tea, soup and pastries in the university cafeteria.





Thanks to the purified water dispensers located in places frequently used by students, guests, and patients on Ege University Main Campus and Hospital Campus, water needs are met hygienically and free of charge.

In case of health problems, Ege University provides services to its students at Ege University Faculty of Medicine Campus Polyclinic and Ege University Faculty of Dentistry Polyclinic located in the Health, Culture and Sports Department Building. Dermatology, ENT, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Psychiatry Polyclinics are located within the Campus Polyclinic. Radiology and laboratory services are provided. In 2022, the Polyclinic provided health services to 14574 people, the majority of whom were students.

In addition, students who do not have any social security (who are not under the security of their parents and who are over the age of 25) can apply to the Department of Health, Culture and Sports and obtain a health card. Diagnosis and treatment of students without social security are covered by Ege University.

The Psychological Counseling and Guidance Unit of the Department of Health, Culture and Sports conducts individual interviews and organizes group therapies to help students cope with their psychological problems. Psychological counseling services are provided by appointment and are free of charge. In 2022, the unit counseled 2222 students. The slogan of the unit is "Remember that you are not alone, you do not have to struggle with your problems alone. You can apply to us for any psychological problem".



Ege University allows students to work part-time in their free time outside of class hours, in line with their interests and abilities in areas appropriate to their education, in order to provide both financial gain and improve their practical skills, as well as to contribute to meeting the workforce requirements of the units in auxiliary activities. In this context, **703 students** had the opportunity to work part-time in 2022.



Ege University Public Relations Branch Directorate signed **48 corporate** discount agreements in 2022 within the scope of "Corporate Discount" agreements for students, staff and graduates to benefit from the products and services of various companies at a discount.





Transportation in the area between the Credit and Dormitories Institution dormitories and the student village within the Ege University Central Campus is provided free of charge by the campus shuttle buses.

As a member of EDUROAM, Ege University provides free wireless network connection service to its academic staff, students and users of other Eduroam member institutions with their portable devices.



SOCIAL FACILITIES

Ege University operates a number of Social Facilities to serve members of the university (employees, retirees, students), public officials and other non-governmental visitors. These facilities provide services at very economical prices compared to the market.



Ozdere Training and Recreation Facilities

For guests who want to spend a peaceful holiday with its unique nature and beach, seafront location, it provides half board accommodation with bungalow-type cabins for 6-day periods as well as daily visits. A 6-day half-board accommodation service was provided for Ege University students in 2022 for a fee of **1000 TL**, and for EÜ Staff and Public Personnel and 1st Degree Relatives for a fee of **1500 TL**. During the 2022 summer season, 7,473 people were offered half-board accommodation. 2,963 people were provided with daily services.

Mordoğan Agricultural Training Facilities

It is a facility built on an area of 286.986 m2 at the pier location of Mordoğan Village in Karaburun District of Izmir Province. The facility includes meeting halls for education and training purposes, social facilities, and accommodation facilities for students and faculty members coming for education and training purposes. In 2022, for a period of 15 days, E.U. staff and their 1st-degree relatives were offered accommodation for **3400 TL**.



Ege University Kindergarten

Ege University Kindergarten provides self-care and education services to the children of university staff working on campus. In 2021-2022, care and pre-school education services were provided for a total of 110 children in return for a nursery fee of 1500 TL for children aged 4-36 months and a kindergarten fee of 1500 TL for children aged 36-72 months.









Ege University has opened its bicycle paths, health trails and outdoor sports areas free of charge for the use of its students, employees and the public for a healthy life.

There are bicycle lanes and a shared bicycle system so that students and employees can reach their desired destinations quickly and easily. The 5,500-meter-long modern bicycle paths are open to everyone free of charge.

The Healthy Life Running Trails located in Ege University Central Campus are running tracks with tartan floors in a forested area. They are located in four different regions within the campus and have a total length of 2770 meters. The Healthy Life Running Trails are open free of charge to anyone who wants to walk and jog in touch with nature.

Ege University's outdoor sports fields, including basketball and volleyball courts, are open to everyone free of charge. There are also many outdoor sports fields within the faculties and colleges of the university.













Ege University Prof. Dr. Sermed AKGÜN Indoor Olympic Swimming Pool offers hourly use, monthly membership and 4-week swimming courses to university staff, students and external visitors at affordable fees.

In 2022, university students were provided with hourly swimming courses for 6 TL, monthly courses for 110 TL, and 4-week swimming courses for 130 TL. University staff were provided with hourly swimming courses for 16 TL, monthly swimming courses for 220 TL and 4-week swimming courses for 250 TL. In 2022, a total of 12,512 members of Ege University and 6,355 outsiders entered the Olympic Indoor Swimming Pool daily; 54,552 trainees and 10,590 subscribers were used, and a total of **84,009 people** benefited from the services.

Ege University has a Big Gymnasium, a Small Gymnasium, a 50th Year Gymnasium, a 50th Year Gymnasium, May 20 Sports Facilities, and Indoor and Outdoor Tennis Courts, which are open to the use of staff, graduates, students, external individuals, clubs and schools.







PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SERVICES

Ege University Continuing Education Center -EGESEM provides the development, execution, and coordination of unique and high-quality training programs that can meet every need for university students, staff working in public and private institutions and organizations, young people who do not study at university but plan to be fully equipped in the subject they will receive education, housewives, and participants of all ages who believe that self-improvement is necessary for a qualified job and life. In this context, it fulfills its social responsibility approach and contributes to the creation of a better quality of life and social environment for all segments of society and to the development of the provincial and national economy.



Some of the trainings provided within Egesem are free of charge, some of which are online asynchronous and synchronous / face-to-face certified. In 2022, EGESEM provided 159 trainings with different contents and 25,837 people received certificates. EGESEM trainings in 2022 include Professional Development Trainings, Healthy Living Trainings, Sports Trainings, Foreign Language Training, Personal Development Trainings and Skill Acquisition Trainings.









Ege University provides career planning and employment guidance to its students, monitors their career development, and organizes the activities to be carried out in this regard through **the Career Planning and Success Coordinatorship**. The Coordination Office provides professional support to Ege University students in their journey of getting to know themselves and their professions, enabling them to move forward in their professional lives more confidently and with the right steps. Ege University students can apply to **the Career Planning and Success Coordinatorship** for a face-to-face or online interview about the field they are studying and want to work in, as well as job and internship opportunities in these fields.

Ege University students and graduates are informed about current job vacancies and events through the **Talent Gateway** offered by the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey Human Resources Office.

Under the coordination of the Human Resources Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey, the Aegean Region Career Fair was held on March 21-22, 2022, hosted by Ege University with the participation of stakeholder universities in the region. The Aegean Region Career Fair (EGE-KAF'22), hosted by Ege University with a total of 20 universities, has achieved a historical success with the participation of more than 100 thousand people, more than 600 public and private organizations and 55 thousand students.





Ege University was the first and only university to receive the "University Most Effectively Supporting Students' Career Development" award in 2022 with its student oriented practices.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECTS

As an institution sensitive to the expectations and needs of the society in which it lives, Ege University Social Responsibility Projects Coordinatorship strives to strengthen the social and civic responsibilities of Ege University employees and students by enabling them to work together to solve social problems. In all academic units of the university (faculties, colleges, vocational schools), students carry out social responsibility projects that will contribute to society in the "Community Service Practices" course education plan, which is compulsory or elective in the curriculum. In addition, social responsibility projects are also carried out through the university's institutes, various application and research centers and "coordinatorships".

In 2022, 35 out of a total of 1563 social responsibility projects were carried out within the scope of 'End Poverty'.





EU Aliağa Vocational School organized social responsibility projects "A Child's Smile is Enough" and "One Meal is Enough" activities. Within the scope of the project, information was received from Aliağa District Governor about the identification and distribution of families in need of food and clothing in the villages, and food and clothing aid was provided to families in need in Aliağa district.





Ege University also carried out social responsibility projects with its Kindergarten students. Within the scope of the "Our Mission is Goodness Project", Ege University's kindergarten students visited the children receiving treatment at the Bone Marrow Transplantation and Oncology Center Foundation (KİTVAK) and presented them with books.



In 2022, **Ege University Observatory Application and Research Center** reached 22,000 participants in social responsibility projects and two separate sky observation festivals.

Within the scope of the social responsibility project "We Brought the Telescope to the Village", approximately 15,000 students studying in villages and remote local schools that do not have the opportunity to come to the Observatory were reached, and they were given experiments, observations and training in Astronomy and Space. The project has been ongoing since 2018 with the contributions of the faculty members and students of the Observatory in cooperation with the Ministry of National Education, without any budget request.





Ege University Botanical Garden and Herbarium Research and Application Center, which is shown as one of the most important botanical gardens in the world, welcomes approximately 10000 students from different levels every year for educational purposes. Introductory and informative presentations are made to these visitors by the center staff and students of the Department of Botany, Department of Biology. In addition, the center provides free service to all members of the public interested in plants between 08.00-17.00 on weekdays.



Within the scope of the social responsibility project "You Create a Smile" initiated by the Rectorate of Ege University in 2018, 1000 children in the 7-13 age group in need were reached with the support of academic/administrative staff and students before the Ramadan Feast in 2022.







THE Impact Rankings Methodology 2024 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2024 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	2-3
1.2.1	Students receiving financial aid	GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts 2016	203-2 Significant indirect economic impacts	Fully	2-3
	Number of students			Fully	2
	Number of low in come students receiving financial aid			Fully	2
1.3	University anti-poverty programmes			Fully	4-8
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	4-8
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	5
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	2
1.4	Community anti-poverty programmes			Fully	9-12
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	9-10
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.	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	SDG 2 report
1.4.3	Programmes for services access Organise training or programmes to improve access to basic services for all.			Fully	6-8, 11-12
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	10-12





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