



2023
Sustainability Report
SDG 4



QUALITY EDUCATION



LETTER FROM THE REPORT RECTOR

4



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 2023 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

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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 2023 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



QUALITY EDUCATION



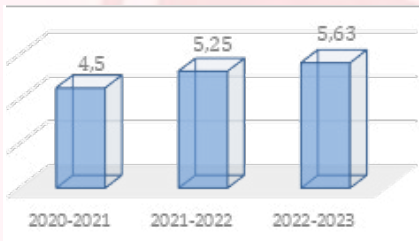
Education plays a crucial role in the achievement of many Sustainable Development Goals. SDG4 emphasizes the importance of providing inclusive, quality education and promoting lifelong learning. Ege University, as a pioneering institution in research and education, particularly as a student-centered research university, aligns itself closely with these goals. Ege University places significant importance on delivering quality education based on scientific thinking and is continually expanding its initiatives in pursuit of this objective. This report outlines the activities undertaken by Ege University to ensure inclusive and quality education for all and to support lifelong learning.

Teaching Competencies of Students at Ege University

One of the basic elements of quality education is to train qualified teachers. With the mission of training teachers and psychological counselors based on scientific thinking, Ege University, Faculty of Education has nine undergraduate programs.

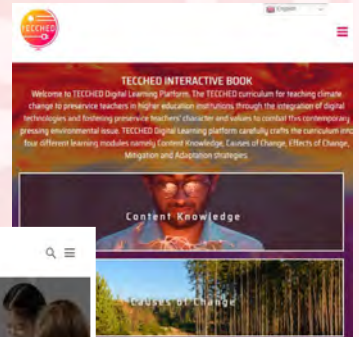


In the 2022/23 academic year, a total of **7,252** students graduated from our university. Of these, **408** graduated from the Faculty of Education with the diploma required to teach at the primary education level. This represents approximately **6.1%** of the total graduates. Additionally, among the graduates from teaching programs in 2023, **301** were female and **128** were male. Figure 1 illustrates the change in this rate over the past two years, highlighting trends in graduates qualifying for primary education teaching diplomas.



The ratio of graduates who will work in basic education to the total number of graduates

To increase students' teaching competencies several international projects is running. The topics include contemporary approaches in education including flipped learning and technology enhanced climate change education both serving for increased quality in education by creating free digital educational materials for students to increase their teaching competencies.



Ege University Student Numbers

In the 2022-2023 academic year, a total of **55,692** students were enrolled, including **14,627** associate degree students, **29,344** bachelor's degree students, **7,757** master's or doctoral degree students, **222** medical specialization students, **946** dental specialization students, and 796 pharmacy specialization students. During this period, a total of **7,252** students graduated.

Total number of students per academic year		
Unit	Number of students currently studying	Number of graduate students
Associate's degree	14627	3581
License	29344	2457
Medical residency	2222	65
Dental residency	946	59
Pharmacy residency	796	134
Master's and Doctoral degree	7757	956
TOTAL	55692	7252



An important indicator of quality education is the accreditation of the educational institution. At this point, Ege University broke new ground in Türkiye and became the first state university in Türkiye to receive full accreditation in 2022. Ege University implements its quality policy without compromising its core values for education, research, community service and management processes.

First Generation students at Ege University

Ege University is one of the most frequent applicants for first-generation students. universities. Students starting in 2022. The first-generation university enrollment rate was 55%. Unit-based student numbers can be accessed from the relevant link.

Lifelong Learning at Ege University

Ege University Continuing Education Center (EGESEM), which has been actively serving at our university since 2001, is open to the public and free of charge for people who are not studying at the university in 2023, and a total of 40 certificate programs have been organized with a certificate and award. The total number of people participating in these certificate programs is 14,676. These free events, which are organized for the public, are organized as free asynchronous and synchronous training on the Continuing Education Center website. There are also free certificate programs for foreign nationals. Announcements about these free trainings can be accessed from the links below on the EGESEM website (<https://egesem.ege.edu.tr>) and on the EGESEM social media account. The training was carried out in cooperation with university units and EGESEM. Certificates are given because of the training.



EGESEM Free Asynchronous Certificate Trainings

EGESEM Free Synchronous Certificate Trainings

EGESEM Free Certificate Trainings for Foreign Nationals

EGESEM Social Media

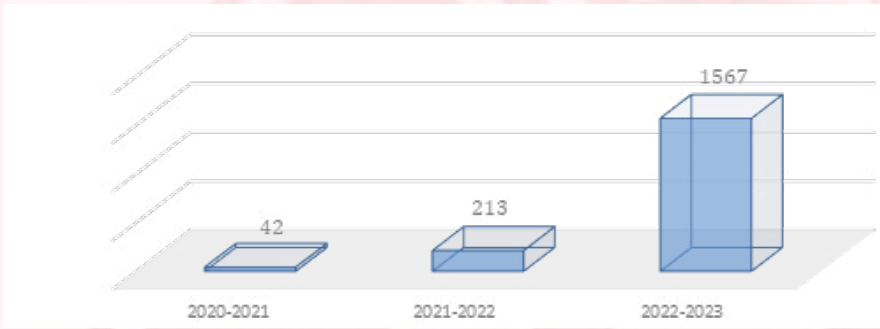
In addition, there are free certificate programs open to the public prepared by various units of our university, such as vocational schools, institutes and departments. For example, the Olive Tree Information and Pruning Maintenance Training program for Landscape Applications was organized by Ege University Bayındır Vocational School and the relevant certificate was given to the participants. Leather Cutter and Machine Training certificate program has been organized by Emel Akin Vocational School. Organic agriculture certificate program has been organized by Ödemiş Vocational School

Free Online Asynchronous Certified Trainings



Beyond Campus Trainings at Ege University

Ege University organizes activities with different content for the benefit of education beyond the campus. These activities are carried out by academic staff working in different disciplines of Ege University. In addition, Ege University students organize off-campus activities under the supervision of an academic staff. Generally, the activities carried out when needed are monitored by the Social Responsibility Projects Coordination Office. These off-campus training courses, which are organized within the scope of community service, can be held for certain age groups or completely open to the public. A total of 18,547 people (eighteen thousand five hundred and forty-seven) participated in a total of 117 (one hundred and seventeen) events held across the university in 2023. In 2023, a total of 748 projects were completed by staff and 819 projects were completed with student participation. The total number of social responsibility projects is 1567.



Change in the number of beyond-campus activities

Some of these trainings are carried out as Ad Hoc. For example, the Project Preparation Training Program for TÜBİTAK 2204 Calls was carried out by the Faculty of Education, Department of Computer and Instructional Technologies for teachers working in schools in different provinces based on needs. In addition, the Kalben İzmir Meeting was organized by the Faculty of Education for families in the adoption process.



Social Responsibility Projects at Ege University

Ege University has various publications and social media accounts for the announcement and dissemination of off-campus educational activities. Among them are Kalem Newspaper, Radio Ege Campus. Ege University TV, which broadcasts on YouTube, publishes the content and information of various trainings.

Announcements of events organized for the benefit of off-campus education are published publicly through the Ege University Social Responsibility Projects Website.

In 2023, a total of 748 projects were completed by staff and 819 projects were completed with student participation. The total number of social responsibility projects is 1567. The project list can also be accessed from the relevant link.





On-campus educational activities, which were planned on a scheduled basis, were also carried out by various units of the university. For example, ÇEVMER carried out the 30 March International Zero Waste Day Save Your Food Campaign and the program Food Waste in Turkey free of charge and open to the public.

Ege 3rd Age University, which is being carried out as a social responsibility project. In the Department of Archaeology of the Faculty of Letters organized the Excavation and Research Symposium of the Department of Archaeology of Ege University. Another example of programmatic activities is How Can We Develop Positive Peer Relationships in Children? It is a programmed public talk titled. Atatürk Health Services Vocational School-Optician Program, on the other hand, carried out the event titled Vision Health in the Healthy Aging Process with individuals over the age of 65 and enrolled in the 3rd age academy of Karşıyaka and Karabağlar Municipalities.

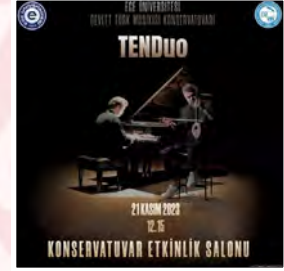
Public Events at Ege University

A total of 670 events open to the public were held at Ege University in 2023 under the title of Public Events. All events are free of charge and open to the public. 4179 people participated in these events. The announcements of these events were made publicly on the relevant websites, social media accounts and university television, Ege University newspaper – Ege Ajans, newspaper Kalem Magazine.



The announcements of the events, which are held free of charge, are announced on the Ege Announcement Page, which is the Ege University Announcement Page, in the form of an event calendar. Anyone can easily access the public event dates, times and event locations through Ege Duyuru. The information is available on the university homepage for the public to access.

8 of these activities were prepared as ad-hoc. One of the examples of programmatic activities is the seminar event titled "Energy Efficient Renovation of Public Buildings to Reduce Environmental Impacts" organized by the Environmental Research Center.



Another event is the 2. Free oral screening at the International Oral Cancer Congress



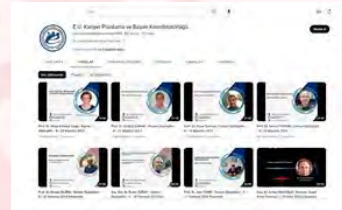
Ege University TV, Ege University's YouTube channel, is actively used for public events and information sharing. Among the educational videos prepared to inform the public, educational videos on the desired subject can be easily accessed through playlists. Ege University TV, Ege University's YouTube channel, is actively used for public events and information sharing. Among the educational videos prepared to inform the public, educational videos on the desired subject can be easily accessed through playlists. For example, Within the scope of the Health from the Ege program on Ege University TV YouTube channel, interviews with doctors who are experts in the field on various health issues can be accessed free of charge.

Career Development Opportunities at Ege University



In 2022, Ege University was selected as the first and only university in Turkey to "Most Effectively Support Students' Career Development" by the Presidential Human Resources Office.

In addition, E.U. Career Planning and Success Coordinatorship shares more than 100 career interviews open to the public via Ege University TV Youtube channel.



Student Communities at Ege University

In the 2021-2022 academic year, 691 cultural and artistic exhibitions, talks, conferences, symposiums and seminars were organized. The number of student societies is 87 and the number of students applying to become members of these societies is 35,000. Within the scope of university promotion activities, seminars were given to 13,500 students from 248 high schools from outside Izmir throughout the year. The event, which was held on May 12-13, 2022 under the name of Promotion Days, was attended by 152 schools and 11,780 people.

In addition, the "Quality Student Communities Summit" (KATO'22), organized for the first time in Turkey in cooperation with the Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK) and Ege University, was held between 03-05 June 2022. The summit hosted by Ege University was attended by 250 academicians and students from 75 different higher education institutions.

Student Satisfaction at Ege University

Prioritizing student satisfaction, Ege University increased its score to 500 points and ranked 4th in the "General Satisfaction Ranking of State Universities" in the Turkey University Satisfaction Survey (TÜMA 2022) conducted by the University Research Laboratory. In the evaluation, Ege University ranked 3rd in the categories of "Satisfaction with the Management and Functioning of the Institution and Satisfaction with the Campus and Life" and rose to the A plus level. Ege University Rector Prof. Dr. Necdet Budak received the "UniAr Silver Award" in the category of "Rector Performance Evaluation Scale".

Dual Degree Program between Ege University and Azerbaijan Agricultural University



According to the protocol approved by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK), a double diploma program in the fields of Plant Protection, Field Crops, Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Machinery and Technologies Engineering has been implemented with our sister country Azerbaijan Agricultural University.

Double Major and Minor Opportunities at Ege University

Ege University offers double major and minor opportunities in line with the relevant directive, as announced on the website of the Student Affairs Department (ÖİDB). Announcements regarding the application of faculties and departments with Double Major and Minor programs are available on the Office of the Registrar's website.



Ege University Distance Education System: EgeDers

Ege University Distance Education Center (EGE-UZEM) was established in 2018. EgeDers system developed by EGE-UZEM was used in the emergency distance education process. EgeDers also won the Barrier-Free Informatics Education Award in 2022. In addition, EgeDers platform, developed in line with the "Digitalization" goals of our University, has a 10-year registration certificate by the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office.



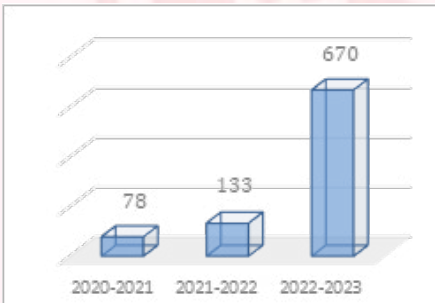
EgeDers Live Mobile Application

Emergency distance education, which was transitioned due to the Covid-19 pandemic, was carried out through EgeDers, Ege University's learning management system. In this process, EgeDers Live Mobile application, which was developed to facilitate students' access to the system from mobile phones, continues to be used in 2022.



Public Events at Ege University

Many programmed or need-based events open to the participation of the general public are held at our university. Event announcements are also announced through our websites and social media accounts. In addition, within the scope of lifelong learning goals of our university, free and professional public development activities are carried out by various units, especially Ege University Continuing Education Center. More than 56 thousand people participated in such activities in the relevant year. The change in public activities in the last two years is shown below.



In this context, for example, the seminar I'm Starting School, one of the Ad Hoc events organized by Ege University Faculty of Education, focused on the child's right to participate in education and activities to support their participation. Another example is the digital behavior regulation seminar for parents, which was open to the participation of student parents. The last example is on application tools in blended learning environments, which have become prominent especially after the pandemic, and a webinar was organized for educators with ATA-ÖGEM affiliated to Atatürk University. As can be seen below, training is

provided on a wide range of topics from psychology to agriculture.

Ege Without Barriers Information and Guidance System

Ege University's Ege Without Barriers Coordinatorship, which was established with the understanding of inclusive quality education, ensures that institutional facilities and services are accessible for disabled students studying in associate, undergraduate and graduate programs at our University, creates an environment that can support their professional lives based on full participation in academic, social, cultural and sports activities, and makes preventive, remedial and solution-oriented arrangements to remove obstacles.

Barrier-Free Ege, Barrier-Free Information and Guidance System, projects and EgeDers for the barrier-free organization and use of the distance education system. As her training is 21 01 2021, she carries out projects for individuals with disabilities. This information has also been shared publicly on the website of the relevant unit. 602 activities were carried out throughout the university for disadvantaged groups. The list of events can be accessed from the relevant list.





Ege University is among the **UNIVERSITIES RECEIVING THE SPACE ACCESSIBILITY AWARD (ORANGE FLAG)** in 2022 by the Council of Higher Education. In addition, seven of its programs have received the **UNIABILITY PROGRAM CERTIFICATE**.



Within the scope of Ege Without Barrier activities, the number of audiobooks in Ege University Central Library has also been increasing over the years. The number of audiobooks for the disabled was recorded as 597 in 2021 and 610 in 2022

Public Resources at Ege University

Our university also offers campus facilities for free use by the general public. For example, during the year under review, non-university students were able to use the library and computers. Our Central Library is open to the general public and book purchases are allowed. Some of our centers operating within our university are also open to the public. However, the library is open to the general public and they are allowed to take 3 books for 14 days. Periodicals and reference sources are used in the library.



Within the campus, there are areas such as walking and cycling paths, basketball and volleyball courts that are open to free use by the general public. There is also a 2000 m bicycle path on the campus for public use.

The facilities offered by Ege University Central Library include wireless internet access (Eduroam) in the library, which can be used by 2,106 people at the same time.

Printed resources are organized in the library with an open shelf system and e-resources are made available to researchers on the web via free access on campus and proxy access off campus. Ege University has four specialized libraries in addition to the Central Library: Faculty of Medicine Library, Turkic World Institute /Fikret Turkmen Library, Cesme Tourism Faculty, State Conservatory of Turkish Music.

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Databases Subscribed by the Library	164	164	111	115
Number of manuscripts in the library	215	215	215	215
E-book	4.359.157	7.453.256	7.453.256	7.453.256
E-magazine	149.365	149.365	120.383	126.747
Electronic	32.146	33.986	35.592	35.592
Number of Printed Books	234.412	237.158	239.429	246.298

In terms of online resources, the Library and Department of Documentation website offers free e-publications to the public.

DSpace@Ege portal is hosted by Ege University published directly or indirectly, book, article, All academic data such as these, dissertations, papers, reports, research data resources in a digital environment at international standards and makes it open access

In addition, free access to internet is provided for the pieces of training delivered by the Instructional Technologies Coordinatorship of Ege University.

In addition, Ege University Application Research Centers (ARCs) organize many activities open to the public. For example, the Special Education Research and Application Center provides education and counseling services to children with special needs and their families based on contemporary approaches.



Ege University Sky House Application and Research Center and Ege University Center for Children's Application and Research organize public events for children and their families.



Another center of Ege University is the Ege University Research-Oriented Student Center, abbreviated as AROM. AROM, which continued its activities in 2023 with the cooperation of UZEM and EGESEM under the roof of EBİLTEM-TTO, aims to organize training and consultancy services for students who are eager to conduct research with the support of Ege University's research infrastructure and academic staff, to become scientists who are sensitive to current social problems and can develop solutions based on scientific evidence for these problems, and to strengthen the researcher infrastructure. The activities of AROM include supporting the scientific thinking infrastructure in the fields of health, science, education, social sciences and engineering, designing research, writing projects, producing scientific publications, supporting research and development products in the sector and providing entrepreneurship training at the start-up stage.



The announcements of Ege University's programmed events are shared publicly through Ege Duyuru, Ege University's Announcement Page, in the form of an event calendar.



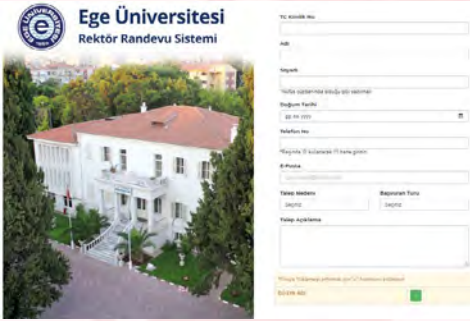


Everyone can easily access the dates, times and locations of public events through the Ege Announcement system. The announcements of these events are also publicly announced on the relevant websites, social media accounts and the university television Ege University newspaper - Ege Ajans, newspaper Kalem Magazine.

24/7 Accessibility of Ege University Rector

Ege University has a "Rector Appointment Request System" open to students, employees and all citizens. In this way, both students, employees and citizens can make an appointment for a one-to-one meeting with the rector.

Ege University Turquoise Desk Solution Center



In order to share the wishes and suggestions received from students and academic/administrative staff at Ege University with the relevant unit and to resolve them, the Public Relations Branch Directorate continues its activities in 2022.



In the Strategic Plan of Ege University, which was prepared in 2019, updated for the years 2022-2023 and covers the years 2019-2023, a policy was also adopted to increase the "number of certified programs organized for the society within the scope of lifelong education" and "the number of certificates given in the trainings organized within the scope of lifelong education".

A policy of increasing the number of activities related to social integration and inclusion for disadvantaged groups has also been adopted.

In conclusion,

As a fully accredited and student-oriented research university, Ege University integrates with both its students and the people of the region. Especially when the activities of the 2022-2023 period are considered, the accelerating development of Ege University in terms of Quality Education in line with its vision and mission draws attention. In this context, Ege University, which was selected as the university that most effectively supports student career development in Turkey in 2023, aims to grow stronger every year in terms of social responsibility with its public and inclusive activities both on and beyond the campus.





THE Impact Rankings Methodology 2025 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2025 Version 1.1	GRI	Disclosure	Reported	Page
4.1	Research on early years and lifelong learning education			Fully	
4.2	Proportion of graduates with teaching qualification			Fully	1
4.2.1	Proportion of graduates with relevant qualification for teaching			Fully	1
	Number of graduates			Fully	1
	Number of graduates who gained a qualification that entitled them to teach at primary school level			Fully	1
4.3	Lifelong learning measures			Fully	
4.3.1	Public resources (lifelong learning) Provide access to educational resources for those not studying at the university-e.g., computers, library, online courses, and access to lectures.	GRI 413: Local Communities 2016	413-1 Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Fully	6&7
4.3.2	Public events (lifelong learning) Host events at university that are open to the general public: public lectures, community educational events.	GRI 413: Local Communities 2016	413-1 Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Fully	4&6
4.3.3	Vocational training events (lifelong learning) Host events at university that are open to the general public: executive education programmes (this refers to short courses for people who are not attending the university; this specifically excludes courses like MBA) and/or vocational training.	GRI 404: Training and Education 2016	Average hours of training that the organization's employees have undertaken during the reporting period	Fully	5 &
4.3.4	Education outreach activities beyond campus Undertake educational outreach activities (e.g., tailored lectures or demonstrations) beyond campus-in local schools, in the community. This can include voluntary student-run schemes.	GRI 413: Local Communities 2016	413-1 Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Fully	3
4.3.5	Lifelong learning access policy A policy that ensures that access to these activities is accessible to all, regardless of ethnicity, religion, disability immigration status or gender.	GRI 2: General Disclosures 2021 GRI 418: Customer Privacy 2016	2-23 Policy commitments 418-1	Fully	2&9
4.4	Proportion of first-generation students			Fully	1
4.4.1	Proportion of graduates with relevant qualification for teaching			Fully	1
	Number of students starting a degree			Fully	1
	Number of first-generation students starting a degree			Fully	1





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