



2022
Sustainability Report
SDG 4



QUALITY EDUCATION



LETTER FROM THE REPORT RECTOR

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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

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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 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



QUALITY EDUCATION

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Education plays a key role in the realization of many Sustainable Development Goals. SDG4 focuses on providing inclusive and quality education and promoting lifelong learning. In line with its mission, Ege University is a pioneering university in the field of research and education, especially as a student-oriented research university.

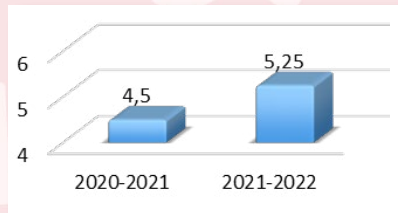
Ege University attaches importance to providing a quality education service based on scientific thinking and is increasing its activities day by day in line with this goal. In this report, Ege University's activities to ensure inclusive and quality education for all and to support lifelong learning are reported.

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.



Of the students who graduated from teaching programs in 2022, 301 were female and 128 were male. In the academic year 2021/22, a total of 8165 students graduated from our university and 429 of these students graduated from the Faculty of Education with the diploma required to teach at the primary education level. This number corresponds to 5.25% of the total number of students who graduated from the university in the same year. The change in this rate in the last two years is shown in Figure 1.



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

Ege University Student Numbers

In the 2021-2022 academic year, a total of 56,135 students, including 13,767 associate degree students, 33,555 bachelor's degree students, 5,029 master's degree students, 593 medical specialization students, 102 dental specialization students, 7 pharmacy specialization students and 3,082 doctoral students, studied, while a total of 8,738 students graduated.

Total number of students per academic year		
Unit	Number of students currently studying	Number of graduate students
Associate's degree	13.767	2.472
License	33.555	4.713
Medical residency	593	141
Dental residency	102	22
Pharmacy residency	7	-
Master's degree	5.029	1.161
Doctoral degree	3.082	229
TOTAL	56.135	8.738



An important indicator of quality education is the accreditation of the educational institution. At this point, Ege University broke new ground in Turkey and became the first state university in Turkey 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.

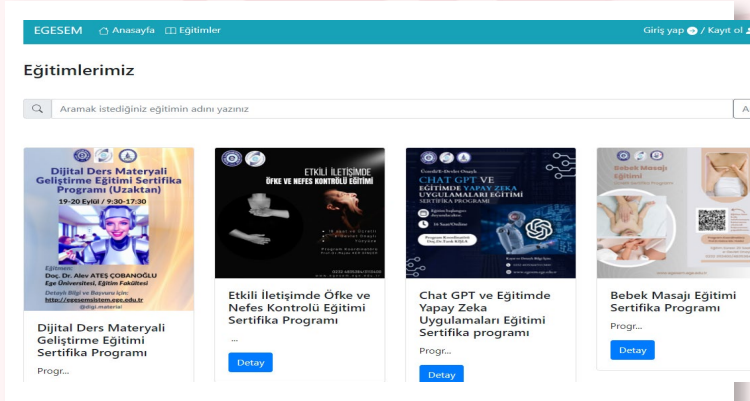
First Generation students at Ege University

Ege University is one of the most frequent applicants for first-generation students. 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

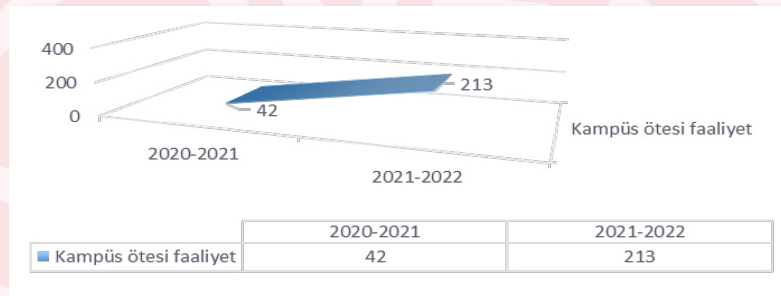
Ege University Center for Continuing Education has organized many certificate programs open to the public and free of charge, with certificates and awards for non-university students in the relevant year. In addition, various units of our university, such as vocational schools, institutes and departments, also have free certificate programs open to the public.



In Ege University's Strategic Plan for the years 2019-2023, which was prepared in 2019 and updated for the years 2022-2023, policies have been adopted to increase "the number of certified programs organized for the community within the scope of lifelong education" and "the number of certificates issued in trainings organized within the scope of lifelong education". The policy of increasing the number of activities related to social integration and inclusion for disadvantaged groups has also been adopted. Documents containing policies for lifelong learning were publicly shared on the university's homepage.

The relevant units of our university organize events and social responsibility projects with different contents for the benefit of education beyond the campus. These activities are carried out by academic staff from different disciplines of Ege University. Ege University students also organize off-campus activities under the supervision of an academic staff member. The activities, which are usually carried out when needed, are monitored by the Social Responsibility Projects Coordinatorship. These off-campus trainings organized within the scope of community service are aimed at specific age groups or are completely open to the public. In 2021, 213 projects supported off-campus education in various scopes.

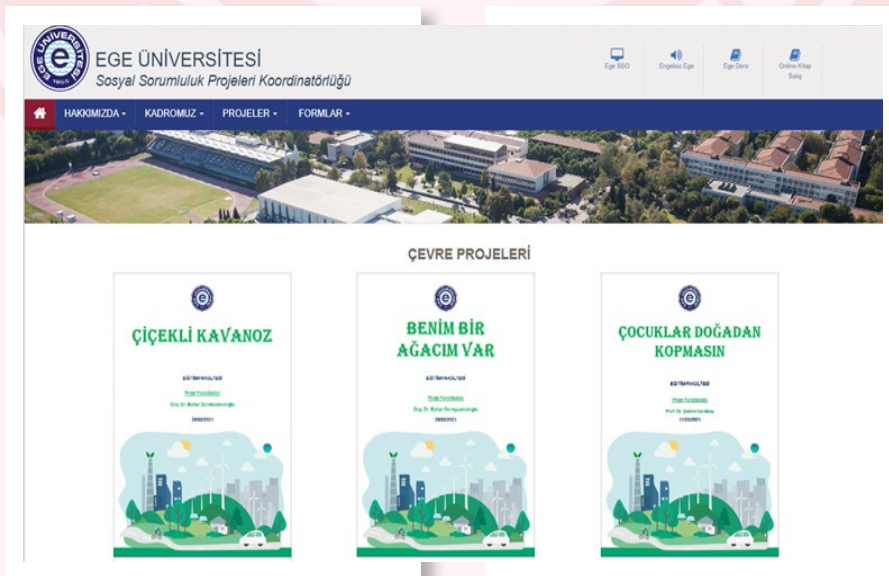
Number of activities beyond campus



Change in the number of beyond-campus activities

Beyond Campus Trainings at Ege University

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Social Responsibility Projects at Ege University

After the Izmir Seferihisar fire, the Aegean Forest School project was carried out both to provide Ege University students with information on forest-related issues and to educate primary school students within the scope of the Community Service Practices course.

With the slogan "Green is Life", it is aimed to raise awareness and raise awareness about sustainable forests. Within the scope of the project, which aims to reach 4,000 people, the training activities of students in pilot selected schools at the secondary school level continued in 2022.

Ege 3rd Age University, which is being carried out as a social responsibility project at the Faculty of Medicine, is an application for elderly individuals with the principle of lifelong learning. It offers a two-way education model with students and teachers learning, teaching and experiencing together.



Public Events at Ege University

Lifelong learning, the basic principle of which is to continue learning consciously and purposefully throughout life, is a concept compatible with Ege University's mission. Ege University supports lifelong learning with the mission of raising individuals who are open to change, professionally and culturally equipped. For this purpose, Ege University Continuing Education Center (EGESEM) provides free and public trainings. For example; In 2022, 133 events were organized in the Public Events category and 52164 people from various segments of the public participated in these events.

In addition, Ege University hosted the Aegean Career Fair (EgeKAF) on March 21-22, 2022 with around 60,000 participants. The event was publicly announced on the university website, TV channel, newspaper and radio. EgeKAF has made a name for itself not only in the field of industry but also in the field of education. These events include Job Interview with Creative Drama and Creative Solutions to Preschool Behavioral Problems.

Public Events at Ege University

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. An example of these lists is the "1 Minute for Your Health" themed video series on breast cancer prepared by Ege University Faculty of Medicine in 2021.

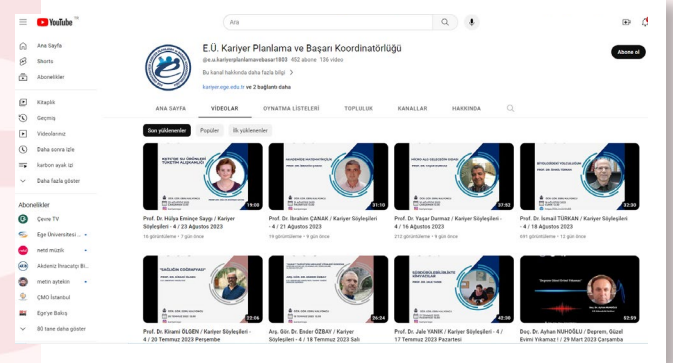


Career Development Opportunities at Ege University

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 events such as theater, film screenings, concerts, 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, especially during the Covid -19 Pandemic. 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.

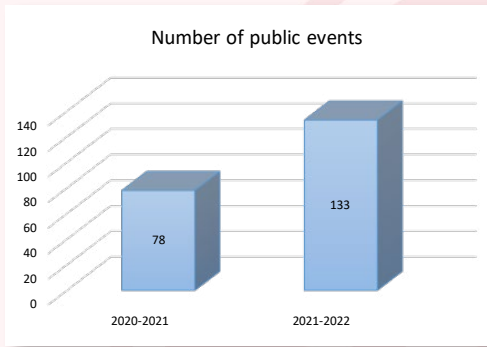


EgeDers Live Mobile Application usage steps



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 public professional development activities are carried out by various units, especially Ege University Continuing Education Center. More than 52 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 ATAÖGEM affiliated to Atatürk University. As can be seen below, trainings are provided on a wide range of topics from psychology to agriculture.



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.

Ege Without Barriers Information and Guidance System,

Accessible Information Assistant projects and carries out projects for individuals with disabilities to organize and use the distance education system in a barrier-free manner.

This information within the scope of Ege Without Barriers was also shared publicly on the website of the relevant unit. Within the scope of public activities at Ege University, 602 activities were carried out throughout the university for **disadvantaged groups**.





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.



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
Number of Databases Subscribed by the Library	164	164	111
Number of manuscripts in the library	215	215	215
E-book	4.359.157	7.453.256	7.453.256
E-magazine	149.365	149.365	120.383
Electronic Thesis	32.146	33.986	35.592
Number of Printed Books	234.412	237.158	239.429
Number of seminars/trainings on Digital Learning		147	125



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 theses, 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.

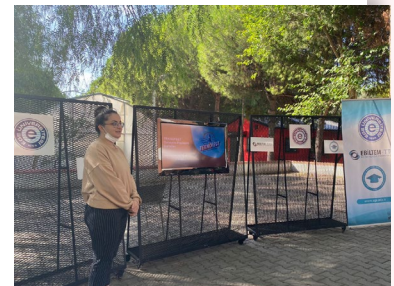
In addition, Ege University Application Research Centers (ARCs) organize many activities open to the public. For example, the Special Education Research and Application Center provides education and counseling services to children with special needs and their families based on contemporary approaches.

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.



EU Observatory Events Visuals

Another center of Ege University is the **Ege University Research-Oriented Student Center**, abbreviated as **AROM**. AROM, which continued its activities in 2022 with the cooperation of UZEM and EGESSEM 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 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 2021-2022 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 2022, 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 2024 & GRI Index Matrix

THE	Impact Rankings Methodology 2024 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	2
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	8-9-10
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	4-5-7
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	3-4-6
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	4-5-6-7
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
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	11
	Number of first-generation students starting a degree			Fully	2



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