



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
ABOUT THE SAKARYA UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT	3
MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES	4
1. QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT	6
1.1. Quality Management.....	7
1.2. Sustainability Management.....	8
2. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	9
2.1. Carbon Emissions and Energy Management.....	11
2.1.1. Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation.....	11
2.1.2. Smart Buildings and Energy Efficiency	13
2.2. Waste Management and Recycling.....	14
2.2.1. Zero Waste Policy	14
2.2.2. Waste Collection and Storage	14
2.2.3. Reduction of Plastic and Single-Use Products.....	15
2.3. Sustainable Transportation	15
2.3.1. Remote Work and Education	16
2.3.2. Walking Paths and Pedestrian Priority.....	16
2.4. Water Management	16
2.4.1. Irrigation and Landscaping	16
2.4.2. Water Conservation	16
2.4.3. Wastewater Treatment	17
2.4.4. Drinking Water and Water Quality.....	17
2.5. Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Management.....	18
2.6. Environmental Awareness.....	19
3. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY	21
3.1. Centers and Units Contributing to the Community Development.....	23
3.3. Community Development through Student Participation	23
3.6. SABIS Community Contribution and Sustainability Module.....	25
4. EDUCATION – TEACHING.....	26
4.1. Accreditations.....	28
4.2. Education Programs	28
4.2.1. Associate and Bachelor's Programs.....	28

4.2.2. Graduate Programs	29
4.2.3. Distance Education and Lifelong Learning	29
4. RESEARCH	30
5. CAMPUS LIFE	36
6. PARTNERSHIPS FOR GOALS	42
7.1. Stakeholder Analysis.....	43
7.2. Institutional Protocols and Agreements.....	43
7.3. Contribution to Public Policies	43
7.4. Collaborations	44
7. FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS	45
Goals and Objectives	46

Message from the Rector

The environmental, economic, and social challenges facing our world—and Türkiye, specifically—place significant responsibilities on all of us to build a sustainable future. Sakarya University is fully committed to these responsibilities, integrating sustainability principles into all our activities with the mission of leaving a more livable world for future generations.

Our university has launched numerous initiatives with the goal of becoming a leader in sustainability, taking significant steps forward in this direction. Through efforts in areas such as energy efficiency, waste management, water resource conservation, and biodiversity enhancement, we aim to achieve environmental sustainability. By implementing innovative projects on our campus, we strive to instill environmental awareness among our students and staff, with the goal of spreading this awareness across society.

This sustainability report highlights our achievements, showcases the projects we have undertaken, and outlines our goals for the future. It provides a detailed overview of the progress we have made on our sustainability journey and the steps we have planned for the future.

As we define our strategies, we take the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as our foundation for developing innovative approaches. Together with all our stakeholders, we will continue working diligently to reach these goals.

I would like to extend my gratitude to our academic and administrative staff, students, and stakeholders who have contributed to our sustainability efforts. I am confident that, together, we will achieve even greater success in building a sustainable world.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Hamza AL

Rector

Sakarya University

INTRODUCTION

The origins of Sakarya University trace back to the Sakarya Engineering and Architecture Academy, established in 1970. In 1971, it was restructured into the Sakarya State Academy of Architecture and Engineering. From 1982 to 1992, it operated as a faculty affiliated with Istanbul Technical University until it was officially established as Sakarya University on July 3, 1992, under Law No. 3837.

Sakarya University holds the TS EN ISO 9001 Quality Management System Certificate and is the first university to receive the National Quality Award within the EFQM Model framework, reflecting its commitment to total quality management. Depending on quality management efforts the university received the European Excellence Awards in 2015 and the European Global Excellence Awards in 2018. Through advancements in laboratories, educational practices, social services, technological infrastructure, and information technology, Sakarya University serves as a model for many institutions.

Moreover, Sakarya University is recognized for its best practices in laboratory and technological infrastructure, program accreditation, applied education models, and advancements in information technology, cybersecurity, social contribution, and sustainability initiatives.

Sakarya University continues its educational mission across 5 campuses, with 14 faculties, 6 institutes, 3 vocational schools, and 1 State Conservatory. Serving approximately 50,000 students and supported by over 2,000 academic and administrative staff, Sakarya University was selected for the "Research University Candidate Monitoring Program" by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) on December 14, 2023.

According to QS Sustainability data, Sakarya University ranks 3rd in Türkiye and 154th globally in Environmental Sustainability. Additionally, in the GreenMetric rankings, it holds the 14th position in Türkiye and 186th worldwide. It is also recognized as one of Türkiye's top 13 universities in the THE Impact Rankings.

The 2023 Higher Education Council's University Monitoring and Evaluation General Report highlights Sakarya University's achievements in sustainability, ranking it among the top five universities in several sustainability indicators. It ranked 1st in the Climate Action Index, 4th in the Sustainable Living Index, and 4th in student-led social responsibility projects. Furthermore, the university was ranked 5th among public universities with the lowest per capita water consumption. Sakarya University remains committed to advancing its sustainability objectives.



40 K
STUDENTS



STAFF
2.7 K
STAFF



238 K
ALUMNI

SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS

SAKARYA UNIVERSITY RANKS 3RD IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ACCORDING TO QS SUSTAINABILITY RANKINGS, 14TH IN GREENMETRIC, AND 13TH IN THE IMPACT RANKING IN TURKEY.



100%
FREE, PURE DRINKING
WATER FOR ALL



PURCHASED
100%
RENEWABLE
ELECTRICITY
VERIFIED BY I-REC
CERTIFICATION



100%
ZERO
WASTE
OF OUR WASTE
STAYS OUT OF
LANDFILLS



Our Sustainable University Policy aims to adopt conscious consumption of resources, waste management, energy efficiency, gender equality, inclusivity, and respect for human rights, based on the Sustainable Development Goals and considering their ecological, economic, and social dimensions.



Our Social Contribution Policy aims to manage social contribution activities, maintain transparent governance towards stakeholders, foster responsible individuals, and support sustainable communities by embracing human rights and occupational health principles.

Sakarya University Sustainability Overview

ABOUT THE SAKARYA UNIVERSITY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

The role of higher education in the global sustainability transformation is critically important. In this context, this report, prepared to evaluate and enhance Sakarya University's sustainability performance, comprehensively addresses the university's environmental, social, and economic impacts. The primary goal of the report is to evaluate sustainability performance, identify areas for improvement, and provide transparent information to stakeholders.

The Sakarya University Sustainability Report (2023) embraces quality standards in 2020, 2021, and 2022. This methodology was created by considering international standards and best practices, establishing sustainability performance evaluation systems as its foundation. The reporting process combines the UI GreenMetric, GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) Standards, and THE (Times Higher Education) Impact Rankings methodologies to evaluate the university's alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Using data from 2023, this report, prepared by the Community Contribution and Sustainability Office and the Institutional Analysis and Quality Development Office, incorporates data and analyses obtained through coordinated efforts of the university's relevant units. Sustainability indicators are identified in environmental, social, and economic areas, with a meticulous data collection process conducted with the contributions of all units for monitoring these indicators.

The report presents in detail the progress Sakarya University has made toward its sustainability goals and its plans.

Author:

Dr. Sebile AÇIKALIN

Community Contribution and Sustainability Coordination Office (TOKAS)

Review and Contributors:

Prof. Dr. Özer KÖSEOĞLU

Vice Rector - TOKAS Coordinator

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aliye Suna ERSES YAY

Deputy Coordinator of TOKAS

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

A. Mission

The mission of Sakarya University is

“to nurture entrepreneurial individuals with lifelong learning skills who contribute to humanity and produce universal knowledge, technology, and social services”.

B. Vision

The vision of Sakarya University is

“to be a university that guides the future alongside its stakeholders by producing universal knowledge and technology”.

C. Core Values

The core values of Sakarya University are,

- Universality of Science
- Academic Freedom
- Governance
- Continuous Development
- Sustainability
- Institutional Transparency
- Collaboration with Stakeholders

Strategic Goals and Objectives

Sakarya University, in its 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, has outlined five strategic goals, with the third goal specifically focused on social contribution and sustainability targets. In alignment with this strategic goal, each academic and relevant administrative unit has set its five-year objectives. With a strategic management approach, the university regularly monitors and evaluates its implementations.

The strategic goal and objectives determined by Sakarya University in the context of sustainability and social contribution are as follows:

Strategic Goal 3: To enhance the contributions of students and employees to sustainable development and strengthen social innovation with a consciousness of social, ethical, and environmental responsibility.

Objective 3.3 - To expand green campus practices that reduce the campus's ecological footprint, increase energy efficiency, and align with smart technologies.





1. QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT

Sakarya University adheres to various accreditation and quality management systems to enhance the quality of its academic programs and management processes. It was the first university in Türkiye to receive the **ISO 9001 Quality Management System Certificate** and holds the TS ISO 10002 Customer Satisfaction Management System Certificate. Additionally, it became the first university to win Türkiye's **Excellence and Continuity in Excellence Awards** under the EFQM Model framework. Our university holds prestigious awards, such as **the Global EFQM Excellence Award**, the Continuity in Excellence Award, the **European Commission ECTS and DS Label Award**, and the National Quality Award. Quality management is effectively applied in all units of the university and is supported by continuous improvement processes. Collaboration with national and international organizations is established for the accreditation of academic programs, curricula are continuously updated, and improvements are made based on student feedback.

The quality assurance system is supported by internal audit and external evaluation mechanisms. **Student and staff satisfaction surveys, academic performance evaluations**, and other quality measurement tools are regularly implemented, with **action plans created based on the results**.

A comprehensive strategy in accreditation and quality management is applied to ensure compliance with international standards and support continuous improvement in educational and research activities at Sakarya University. The accreditation processes and quality management practices we follow are presented in detail below.

1.1. Quality Management

Quality management plays a fundamental role in all academic and administrative processes of our university. Our quality management system aims to enhance **student satisfaction and academic success** through a continuous improvement approach. Our quality management practices are examined under the following headings:

- **ISO 9001 Quality Management System:** Our university holds the ISO 9001 Quality Management System certificate. This system ensures the effective management and continuous improvement of educational and administrative processes. All our faculties and administrative units operate in compliance with this standard and are regularly audited.
- **Strategic Planning and Performance Management:** Our university implements performance management in line with the established strategic goals. Performance indicators determined through annual evaluations are monitored and reported. This process plays a crucial role in achieving the university's goals.
- **Student and Staff Satisfaction:** Student and staff satisfaction is at the core of our quality management system. Accordingly, satisfaction surveys are conducted regularly, and improvement efforts are planned based on the results. Feedback from our students and staff significantly contributes to the development of our university.
- **Quality Committee and Units:** To effectively implement quality management at our university, a quality committee and quality units have been established. The Institutional Analysis and Quality Development Coordination, along with the Strategic Planning and Quality Management Systems Branch Directorate, are responsible for developing, managing, and implementing institutional quality. The quality committee meets regularly to make decisions on quality management matters and oversees the implementation processes.

Our comprehensive approach to accreditation and quality management supports the university's vision of achieving excellence in education and continuous improvement. The successes achieved in these processes enhance the university's prestige on national and international platforms, allowing us to provide our students with an education that meets global standards.

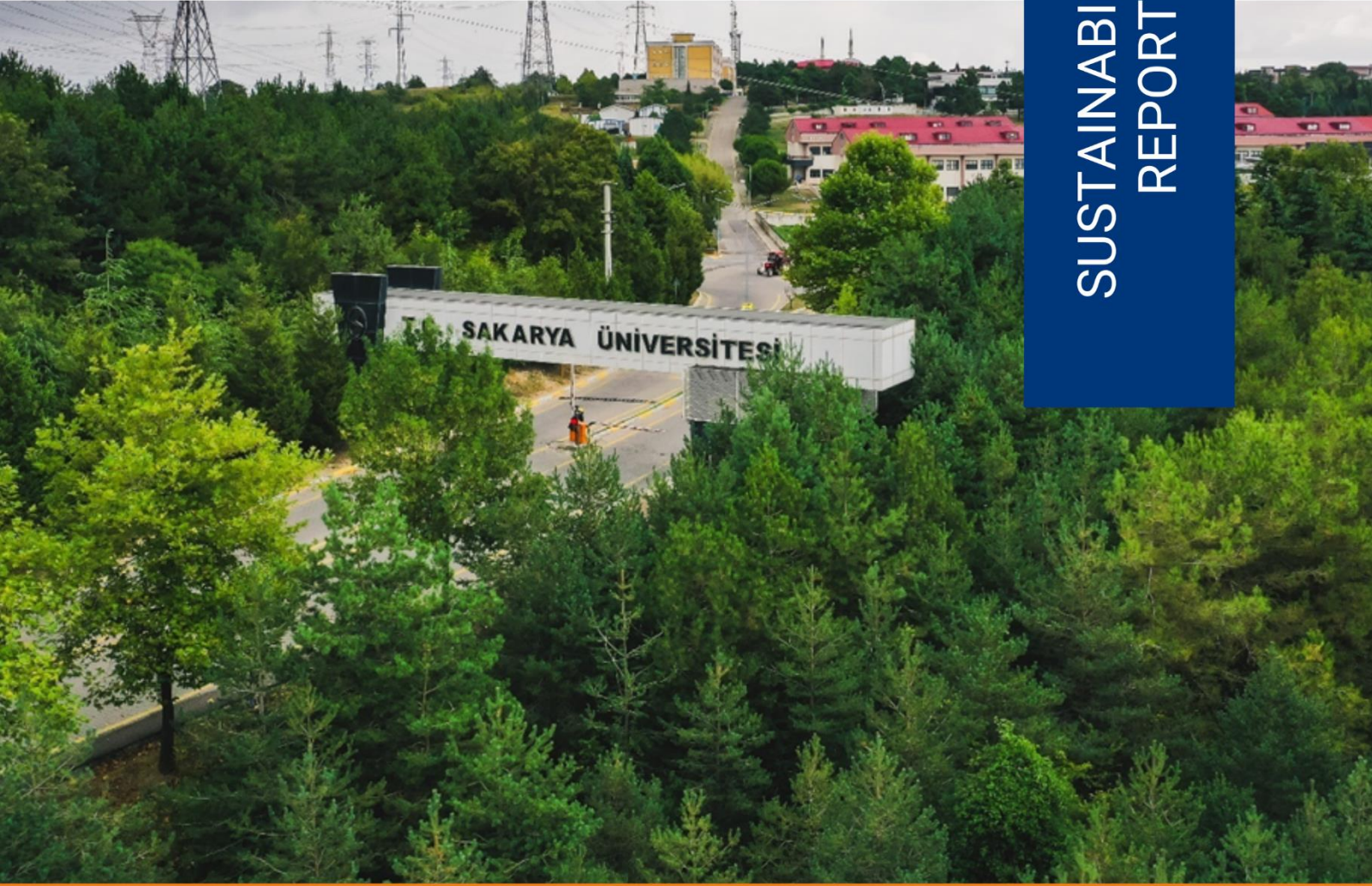
1.2. Sustainability Management

In line with the university's strategic goals and objectives, the **Community Contribution and Sustainability (TOKAS) Coordination** was established in 2023. Its mission is to implement the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), apply sustainability policies in a way that serves as a model at both national and international levels, and strengthen **sustainability within the university across all areas**.

Through 16 committees, TOKAS provides benefits to the community. TOKAS continues to build **partnerships** with representatives from **civil society, business sectors, public institutions, and student communities** to support these objectives. Additionally, TOKAS connects students with experts in their fields through its Sustainable Future Meetings.

SUSTAINABLE FUTURE MEETINGS





2. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



14 LIFE BELOW
WATER



15 LIFE
ON LAND



Our Sustainable University Policy is,

- To integrate the ecological, economic, and social dimensions of sustainability into institutional practices and services, prioritizing the Sustainable Development Goals.
- To adopt responsible resource consumption, waste management, and energy efficiency in order to minimize the university's ecological impact and reflect these practices in institutional operations.
- To embrace principles of gender equality, inclusivity, and partnerships for strong institutions and common goals in institutional governance.
- To uphold respect for fundamental, social, and economic human rights; to institutionalize occupational health and safety principles, academic freedom, and work ethics.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

In line with its environmental sustainability goals, Sakarya University implements various projects to **conserve natural resources** and reduce environmental impacts. The university has significant initiatives in areas such as **energy efficiency, water resource conservation, waste management, and biodiversity preservation**.

To achieve energy efficiency, **energy-saving technologies** are utilized in buildings, and projects focused on renewable energy sources are developed. In 2023, the university supported **renewable energy production** exceeding its own energy consumption through **International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-REC)**, particularly in solar, wind, and hydroelectric power.

For water resource conservation, rainwater storage systems, water-efficient fixtures, and aerators are used. Waste management includes **recycling programs** and **environmental awareness** training for students and staff. To preserve biodiversity, afforestation and landscaping are carried out across the campus, creating habitats and feeding areas for various species.

2.1. Carbon Emissions and Energy Management

Sakarya University takes decisive steps to **reduce carbon emissions** and **optimize energy management**. The university invests in low-carbon energy sources and renewable energy, placing great emphasis on the use of renewable energy sources.

In 2023, through International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-REC), we supported renewable energy production exceeding its own energy consumption, sourced from hydroelectric, wind, and solar power. These certificates accelerate the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, contributing to both the reduction of carbon emissions and the promotion of sustainable energy trade. **Obtaining I-REC certificates** demonstrates the university's commitment to **environmental sustainability**. Additionally, Sakarya University aims to become carbon-neutral by 2053 in line with its carbon neutrality goal.

The **National Testbed Center for Critical Infrastructure (CENTER SAU)** at Sakarya University has been designated by the Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EPDK) as the sole authorized center for competency, training, and certification of company personnel in energy sector audits under the "Competency Model Regulation for Cybersecurity in the Energy Sector."

2.1.1. Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation

At Sakarya University, 90% of durable goods are energy-efficient devices, and **85% of lighting fixtures** use LED technology, significantly reducing energy consumption. Additionally, the university's energy management units continuously monitor and report energy usage.

Public awareness efforts on energy efficiency and clean energy include seminars and training sessions organized by the university, open to the public. Student organizations also conduct various activities to inform the public about energy efficiency and conservation. Numerous seminars, press conferences, and events have been held to raise awareness about using clean energy sources.

Sakarya University is committed to **supporting 100% renewable energy**. The university hosts information panels, seminars, and conferences on renewable energy sources. Moreover, new equipment and financial resources are provided to research centers to facilitate studies in renewable energy, and guidance and support for Research & Development (R&D) projects in renewable energy are offered by the Scientific Research Projects Coordination.

The university directs its energy investments toward renewable energy sources, with **energy-efficient products** prioritized in campus equipment investments and **R&D projects**. Sakarya University has more than thirty research centers and over ten R&D laboratories where studies on **solar-powered vehicles** and **rechargeable battery technologies** are conducted.

Several research centers and academic units at the university focus their R&D efforts on developing technologies and innovations in energy efficiency, clean, and renewable energy. Among these centers, the **Research and Development Application and Research Center (SARGEM)** and **Sakarya Innovation Center (SAYMER)** lead in this area. The **Sakarya University Advanced Technologies Application Community (SAITEM)**, a student organization guided by academic advisors, works on alternative energy projects and develops innovative projects. Projects include the Sakarya Solar Car (SAGUAR), Sakarya Hydrogen Vehicle (SAHIMO), Sakarya Solar Boat (SATEK), SAGUAR-E, Sauto Autonomous, Sakarya Low-Altitude Test Satellite (SATU), and the Sakarya University Electric Car (EVrim).

SAGUAR participated in Türkiye's first solar-powered vehicle race, finishing in 4th place. SAGUAR holds achievements like 2nd place in Türkiye and 9th in the world, while SAHIMO placed 3rd in Europe. Additionally, SAITEM pioneered Türkiye's first solar-powered boat project. In 2023, SAITEM designed and produced its **8th solar car, SAGUAR-RB (REBORN)**. The SAGUAR-RB Solar Car Project Team participated in the **Bridgestone World Solar Challenge** held in Australia from August 22-29, 2023. The SPARK Electric Vehicle Team also took part in the **TÜBİTAK Efficiency Challenge** at the TÜBİTAK Gebze Campus from April 25-29, 2023.



SAGUAR RB(REBORN) Solar Car Project Team

Sakarya University prepares local, regional, national, and global reports on clean energy and energy efficiency, sharing these reports with decision-makers. Our faculty members contribute to **local and regional strategy** development policies and decision-making processes. Additionally, regional, national, and global projects and publications are produced.

2.1.2. Smart Buildings and Energy Efficiency

Sakarya University prioritizes energy efficiency in all renovation and construction projects to enhance its contributions to **sustainable development**. The **Department of Construction and Technical Affairs** uses **energy-saving devices** in campus renovation projects, replacing outdated products with energy-efficient alternatives. These processes are carefully recorded and monitored, and energy-inefficient devices are not procured. Additionally, **natural lighting and ventilation systems** are utilized in the construction of new buildings to achieve energy savings.

New buildings are equipped with energy management units and sensor devices (for doors, lighting, flush tanks, faucets, etc.). **Since 2011**, buildings in Türkiye must comply with **energy efficiency standards**. The [Energy Performance Regulation in Buildings](#) establishes performance criteria and implementation principles, guided by the [2012-2023 Energy Efficiency Strategy Document](#), which sets out policies and targets.

Sakarya University implements various principles to promote energy savings and efficient energy use. These include the use of **energy-efficient devices**, the construction of smart buildings, the integration of smart systems into existing buildings, the increase of renewable energy sources, the reduction of electricity consumption, **green building practices**, and the **measurement and reduction of the carbon footprint**. Energy consumption is monitored and reported through energy management systems in buildings, and high-energy-consuming units are equipped with energy-saving devices.

Our university has plans to make existing buildings more energy-efficient. At Sakarya University, whenever devices malfunction or products need replacement, all technological devices are updated with **energy-saving models**. Additionally, buildings undergo **annual maintenance** by the Department of Construction and Technical Affairs. During these maintenance operations, any devices needing replacement are upgraded with electricity-saving models.

In building renovations and maintenance, selections are made in accordance with the **green certification building criteria** specified in the [Green Certification Regulation for Buildings and Settlements](#). These buildings are equipped with building management systems, fire and flood alert systems, energy management and monitoring panels, natural heating, ventilation, lighting applications, LEDs, sensors, and areas with **natural light**.

Sakarya University supports renewable energy sources. Energy is obtained from **solar panels** installed on building rooftops and **wind turbines** used in laboratory studies. Campus renovations at Sakarya University aim to achieve smarter and greener buildings. Currently, **90% of the existing buildings** are designed to utilize **natural daylight**, and **85%** have **energy control and monitoring applications**. Additionally, street lamps with solar panels are used for campus lighting along pathways. Solar panels are also installed on renewed streetlights to enable **solar energy use in campus lighting**.

Project Name	Feasible Recovery of critical raw materials through a new circular Ecosystem for a Li-Ion Battery cross-value chain in Europe
Responsible	Dr. Hasan ALGÜL (PhD)- Sakarya University - Project Partner
Programme	Horizon Europe - FREE4LIB
Budget	€ 9.283.175,00
Summary	FREE4LIB aims to develop TRL 5-6 technologies to establish six sustainable processes for EOL LIB recycling, including dismantling, pre-treatment, and four materials recovery steps. These innovative solutions target efficient recovery of metal oxides, metals, and polymers, enhancing EU secondary resource supply. Additionally, FREE4LIB includes three processes for metals and polymers re-use and electrode synthesis for new LIB manufacturing, along with exploring options for non-reusable element management.
Website	https://www.freeforlib.eu/

2.2. Waste Management and Recycling

Sakarya University adopts a comprehensive and systematic approach to **waste management and recycling**. The university's efforts in this area are conducted with the aims of preventing environmental pollution, reducing waste production, leaving a cleaner and more livable environment for future generations, and **adding value to the economy**.

In this context, the university has joined the [Zero Waste](#) initiative launched by the **Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change**. Awareness training sessions, informational meetings, promotional events, and competitions are organized by the [Zero Waste Coordination Office](#) and the [Department of Environmental Engineering](#). The procedures and principles of zero waste management also extend to our supplier companies and service-providing businesses. These rules are included in bidding or purchasing contracts.

2.2.1. Zero Waste Policy

In accordance with the [Zero Waste Regulation](#), Sakarya University has defined the [Sakarya University Zero Waste Directive](#) and established the **Zero Waste Coordination Office**. The Sakarya University Zero Waste Directive regulates the procedures and principles for implementing the **Zero Waste Management System**. Sakarya University holds the Zero Waste Certificate for its three campuses. This certificate is awarded by the Ministry to institutions that establish and operate a zero-waste management system and meet the necessary criteria.



Zero Waste Certificate

2.2.2. Waste Collection and Storage

Sakarya University fully supports the Zero Waste project to prevent environmental pollution and **promote a sustainable environment**. In this context, 1,200 waste bins have been placed in accessible areas within university buildings for students and staff. Waste collection is carried out through a **three-compartment system for plastic-glass-metal, paper, and household waste**. Additionally, each building has waste battery bins.

Recyclable waste is delivered to **licensed firms**, while **hazardous and medical waste** is stored and sent to licensed facilities in compliance with relevant regulations. **Electrical and electronic waste**, as well as metal and **wood scrap**, are also separately collected for recycling.



Zero Waste Information Poster

2.2.3. Reduction of Plastic and Single-Use Products

Sakarya University has implemented practices to **minimize the use of plastic and single-use products** as part of its **zero-waste policy**. In areas such as cafeterias, canteens, and tea stations, durable materials are used instead of single-use or plastic items, and the use of these materials is encouraged. These policies are also included in the rules specified within service procurement contracts.

2.3. Sustainable Transportation

Sakarya University actively works on **carbon management** and **reducing carbon dioxide emissions**. A [Traffic Committee](#) has been established to ensure traffic safety and organize transportation security. The procedures and principles for regulating motor vehicle traffic on Sakarya University campuses, as well as the sanctions for violations, are set out in the [Sakarya University Campus Motor Vehicle Traffic Directive](#).



Bicycle System on Campus

The university implements a **Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) policy**. Options for **bicycle, electric bicycle, and electric scooter rentals are available** for on-campus transportation. Additionally, a [paid sticker system](#) is used to limit vehicle entry to the campus, and the use of public transportation is encouraged. Measures are in place to restrict vehicle entry on weekends. To further reduce campus vehicle entry, a parking lot has been built outside the campus. **Electric vehicle owners are exempt from sticker fees**, encouraging staff and students to reduce their carbon footprint.

2.3.1. Remote Work and Education

As one of the first universities in Türkiye to initiate **distance education programs**, Sakarya University has been developing technologies, making investments, and running programs in this field since the **1990s**. Technical support and infrastructure for distance education programs are provided by the [Distance Education Research and Application Center](#).

Additionally, Sakarya University supports flexible and remote working models for its staff.

2.3.2. Walking Paths and Pedestrian Priority

According to the University Vehicle Sticker [User Agreement](#), pedestrians have the right of way on campus grounds, with a **speed limit of 30 km/h**. The pedestrian priority rule is enforced in all areas, with warning signs and traffic indicators reminding drivers of pedestrian precedence. The university aims to widen campus roads to increase the number of pedestrian and bicycle paths.

2.4. Water Management

At Sakarya University's Esentepe Campus, an integrated infrastructure system has been established by routing sewer and rainwater lines through different points. This system offers a dedicated line for rainwater collection across the campus, providing a sustainable and efficient water management solution. **Rainwater is directed to Lake Sapanca using a separate line** that utilizes natural slopes, contributing to the conservation of water resources.

Potable water is not used for irrigating green spaces on campus, and all buildings are equipped with water-saving devices. In collaboration with the Sakarya Water and Sewerage Administration (SASKİ) under the Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality, **wastewater control measures are in place** to prevent contamination of the clean water network. This environmental approach represents an important step in supporting the sustainable management of water resources.

2.4.1. Irrigation and Landscaping

Sakarya University stores **water collected within the campus in nine separate tanks** for use in irrigation. All green spaces on campus are irrigated with spring water. This process is managed within an automatic cycle, where tanks containing spring water are activated during irrigation times to transfer pressurized water to underground irrigation channels. These channels, located beneath green areas, ensure efficient water use and automatic irrigation.

Great emphasis is placed on landscaping to minimize water usage. Plants that are suitable for Sakarya's rainy and humid climate are preferred. In this climate, which is rainy and mild in winter and hot in summer, **low-maintenance plants, especially pine and cedar trees**, are planted in campus landscaping. This ensures that the water needs of green spaces are met through natural resources, without using municipal water.

2.4.2. Water Conservation

Sakarya University implements various practices to maximize water conservation and promote water reuse. Water collected from rainwater harvesting systems across the campus is utilized for purposes such as irrigation and providing water for stray animals. Water consumption is carefully managed on

campus, with priority given to the use of water-saving devices. Examples of these devices include **spray filters, automatic urinal controls, waterless urinals, low-volume toilets, low-volume faucets, and automatic taps** that restrict water usage in sinks. The university applies water-saving building standards, with most buildings over five years old and all new buildings equipped with water-efficient devices.

Faucets, spray attachments, and sensor-based accessories that reduce consumption and increase efficiency contribute significantly to water savings. Currently, **over 60% of water-use devices** at Sakarya University have water-saving features. These comprehensive approaches reflect the university's commitment to water conservation.

2.4.3. Wastewater Treatment

According to the [Metropolitan Municipality Law](#), it is the duty and responsibility of metropolitan municipalities to provide water and sewerage services. Wastewater generated at Sakarya University is treated at treatment facilities operated by the Sakarya Metropolitan Municipality. In areas such as cafeterias, where oily waste is generated, **vegetable waste oil storage units are installed** to prevent oil from contaminating the wastewater.

The [2023 Activity Report](#) provides a detailed description of the wastewater treatment facility's operating principles and performance.



Karaman Wastewater Treatment Facility, Sakarya

2.4.4. Drinking Water and Water Quality

As tap water in Sakarya is drinkable, students, staff, and visitors at Sakarya University have **free access to drinking water**. Numerous analyses related to water safety have been conducted, and reports have been published with contributions from Sakarya University faculty members. **Water dispensers are available** in open areas on campus, and anyone who wishes may use them free of charge.



Water Dispensers on Campus

Due to Sakarya's location in a first-degree earthquake zone, wastewater channels are protected against potential earthquake risks. For this purpose, as part of the Metropolitan Municipality's efforts, a steel transmission line has been installed in the area where Sakarya University is located.

The SASKİ General Directorate **periodically examines samples** taken from water sources with a mobile water quality monitoring laboratory team, ensuring a constant supply of potable water. The quality of water from treatment facilities exceeds national and international standards, and drinking water **analysis results are shared monthly** through the [Water Quality Report](#).

2.5. Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Management

Due to its location around Lake Sapanca and its proximity to water-rich areas, Sakarya University conducts various academic research and projects focusing on water ecosystems and water quality. Some faculty members collaborate with local stakeholders on specific studies aimed at monitoring, improving, and ensuring the sustainability of aquatic ecosystems.

The university undertakes direct initiatives to preserve and enhance existing ecosystems and the biological diversity of plants and animals. Special research is conducted at the Sakarya University Plant Tissue Research and Production Laboratory to protect endangered ecosystems and increase biodiversity, with a particular focus on the sustainability of sensitive ecosystems.

On campus, the plant cover primarily consists of pine and cedar trees, which are well-suited to the **region's humid climate and require minimal irrigation**, ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources. These environmental efforts are supported by awareness activities led by student organizations, the creation of animal feeding areas, and tree-planting events.

Tree species on the Esentepe campus include Plane, Linden, Cherry Laurel, Oak, Maple, Weeping Willow, Black Willow, Acacia, Top Acacia, Catalpa, Magnolia, Paulownia, Judas Tree, Ornamental Apple, Ornamental Plum, Ornamental Peach, Bead Tree (Melia Azedarach), Salt Cedar, Palm, and Phoenix Palm. Shrub species include Mountain Medlar, Firethorn, Ligustrum, Flame Tree, Japanese Maple, Viburnum, Snowball Bush, Oil Viburnum, Goat's Beard, Golden Bell, Lilac, Hollyhock Rose, Oleander, Yellow Dyer's Broom, Wisteria, Bottle Brush, Boxwood, Spindle Tree, Pittosporum, Vangelya, Barberry, Rosemary, Erica Heather, Pampas Grass, and Rose.

All plant and tree species on the university campus, along with detailed information and the results of the labeling project, can be accessed at <https://bitki.sakarya.edu.tr/>.



Tree Species on Campus

Various animal groups, including **mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and insects**, can be found on the Sakarya University campus. The [flora](#) and [fauna](#) of Sakarya University are published on the university's website.



Photos of Some Animals Living on Campus

2.6. Environmental Awareness

Sakarya University organizes various training and events to raise awareness about environmental sustainability and educate the community. Courses, seminars, and panels offered by the Department of Environmental Engineering are open to all students and engage broader audiences through public informational activities. Continuous development in areas such as climate change, ecosystem health, waste management, and sustainability is achieved through events organized by student communities and scientific projects conducted by faculty members.

To raise awareness about zero-waste management, energy efficiency, and water conservation, the Zero Waste Coordination Office and the Department of Environmental Engineering conduct informational meetings, promotional events, and competitions focused on waste classification, recycling, energy saving, and conscious water use. These activities are shared on the university's website and social media platforms and are conducted publicly to reach the community. Environmental and sustainability courses included in the curriculum provide education to all students;

lecture notes are made accessible via the Educational Information System to enhance students' environmental awareness.

Awareness initiatives regarding energy and resource management are supported by devices that promote energy conservation, visuals, and informative materials, while modeling of energy, water, and waste management systems at the Testbed Center contributes to academic work.

In 2023, a **sustainability course** was introduced as a **common elective course** at the university. This course aims to teach students about environmental sustainability, equality, and quality education while introducing the Sustainable Development Goals. The course equips students with the knowledge and skills necessary to adopt sustainable living practices, encouraging them to create a more livable world for future generations.

Student organizations play active roles in promoting sustainability and environmental awareness through activities such as tree planting, nature walks, and the establishment of animal feeding areas. These efforts reflect Sakarya University's commitment to strengthening its overall approach to environmental sustainability and fostering sensitivity both on campus and in the broader community. A table is provided to show the relationship between the activities conducted by student organizations and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Student Activities and SDGs

SDG	Sustainable Development Goal	Number of Activities
SDG1	No Poverty	15
SDG2	Zero Hunger	12
SDG3	Good Health and Well-being	82
SDG4	Quality Education	296
SDG5	Gender Equality	7
SDG6	Clean Water and Sanitation	12
SDG7	Affordable and Clean Energy	6
SDG8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	32
SDG9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	53
SDG10	Reduced Inequalities	28
SDG11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	11
SDG12	Responsible Consumption and Production	10
SDG13	Climate Action	13
SDG14	Life Below Water	4
SDG15	Life on Land	14
SDG16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	42
SDG17	Partnerships for the Goals	16



3. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND SOCIETY

1 NO
POVERTY



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



Our Community Contribution Policy

- To manage community contribution activities institutionally through defined processes within the university.
- To maintain stakeholder-focused, transparent, and accountable governance in line with the university's responsibilities toward its stakeholders.
- To conduct programs aimed at nurturing individuals with a strong sense of responsibility in line with the development of the university ecosystem and society, carrying out scientific studies addressing community needs and environmental health, and providing support.
- As a responsible university, to support sustainable communities by adopting principles of human rights, employee rights and welfare, occupational health and safety, academic freedom, and work ethics.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Sakarya University prioritizes social responsibility projects and community-focused activities to fulfill its mission of providing community benefits and contributing to a sustainable future. In this context, the university collaborates with local governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to implement initiatives in education, health, environment, and social services targeting various segments of society.

3.1. Centers and Units Contributing to the Community Development

At Sakarya University, various academic and administrative units actively engage in community contribution activities, particularly through centers such as the [Addiction Combat Application and Research Center](#), [Youth Studies Application and Research Center](#), [Sakarya Economic and Social Research Center](#), [Women's Studies Application and Research Center](#), [Disaster Management Application and Research Center](#), and [Fire Application and Research Center](#). These centers focus on developing projects that address community needs and enhance social responsibility awareness.

3.2. Alumni Relations and Social Transcript

The [Alumni Relations Coordination](#) aims to strengthen the ties between graduates and the university and to contribute to their personal and career development. Additionally, to encourage students' participation in social responsibility projects, the "**Social Transcript**" application was launched in 2020, which records students' community activities, cultural and artistic events, and volunteer work.

3.3. Community Development through Student Participation

Sakarya University organizes events that benefit the community by involving students in social responsibility projects. **Students take active roles in projects such as volunteer work, environmental cleanup activities, and support for disadvantaged groups.** These initiatives aim to enhance community welfare by expanding educational opportunities, raising environmental awareness, and supporting local development projects.

For instance, at the "**Earthquake and Disaster Management Summit**" organized by the Sakarya University Ideas and Future Student Community, experts such as Earthquake Specialist Yoshinori Moriwaki, Dr. Hacer Canatan, Social Entrepreneur Ahmet Türker, and Myfi Founder Hamid Reza Assariha shared their knowledge and experiences on disaster management.



Earthquake and Disaster Management Summit

3.4. Education and Awareness Programs

The university regularly organizes training programs and seminars to raise awareness about community contribution and social responsibility. These programs support the achievement of sustainable development goals and contribute to the environmental, economic, and social development of the community. Training on topics such as sustainability, climate change, and energy conservation strengthens the university's understanding of social responsibility.

Starting from the 2023-2024 academic year, the university has introduced a common elective course titled "**Youth and Volunteering**," aimed at strengthening the bonds between the university and the community by encouraging students to use their knowledge, skills, and experiences for the benefit of society. Within this course, students are encouraged to participate in volunteer activities on various issues, including migration, disasters, individuals with special needs, and disadvantaged groups, while developing sensitivity to humanitarian, social, and economic problems. Students participating in the course engage in a wide range of activities, from visiting individuals in need of care to drilling wells in countries facing water shortages.

Projects accepted from Sakarya University under the TÜBİTAK-supported "**Natural Disasters Focused Field Study Emergency Support Program**" have made significant contributions in this regard:

- 06.02.2023 Kahramanmaraş Earthquakes: Identification of Geotechnical Problematic Areas in the İskenderun-Antakya Region, Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Ertan Bol.
- Assessment of Current Situations in Tent Cities for the Reconstruction of Human Security Post-Disaster: A Case Study of Malatya Tent Cities, Project Leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Handan Akyiğit.
- Identification and Analysis of Fire Risks and Incidents that May Occur During and After Earthquake Disasters, Project Leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gökhan Coşkun.
- The Relationship Between Religious Belief and Mental Health in Young People During Natural Disasters, Project Leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdullah İnce.
- Kahramanmaraş Earthquakes and Their Effects: Examination of Damage Conditions of Public Structures and Identification of Damages Resulting from Secondary Hazards After the Earthquake, Project Leader: Instructor Dr. Tuba Tatar.
- Experiences of Earthquake Survivors and Search and Rescue Teams Regarding Disaster Prevention and Response: Preparation for the National Disaster Prevention and Response Action Plan, Project Leader: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Havva Sert.
- On-site Examination of Administrative Malfunctions in the First and Emergency Response Process During the Crisis Stage After the Earthquake and the Psycho-Social Problems Experienced by Earthquake Survivors, Project Leader: Prof. Dr. Yusuf Genç.

3.5. Cultural and Artistic Interaction

Public concerts and theater performances are held on campus to encourage participation in cultural and artistic events among both students and local residents. These activities increase the community's interest in the arts and strengthen the bond between the university and society. The university's [Sakarya Şehir Hafızası](#) platform serves as a digital archive, preserving the city's historical and cultural heritage. It offers comprehensive access to information on Sakarya's history, culture, architecture, and socio-economic structure. By digitally archiving a wide range of content—from notable figures in Sakarya and its surroundings to cultural heritage, urban architecture, and sports history—the platform aims to safeguard the city's memory and pass it on to future generations.

3.6. SABIS Community Contribution and Sustainability Module

To effectively manage community contribution and sustainability activities, the Information Technologies and Software Team has developed the Community Contribution and Sustainability Module in **Sakarya University Information System (SABIS)**. This module allows academic staff and student organizations to record their activities related to social responsibility and sustainability, associating them with sustainable development goals along with evidence. Thus, data regarding the university's community contribution and sustainability efforts can be effectively monitored.

3.7. Social Responsibility and Corporate Culture

These community contribution efforts reflect that Sakarya University views social responsibility not just as a duty but as a fundamental component of its corporate culture. The university is progressing with the goal of spreading social responsibility awareness among all its stakeholders to achieve growth and development in collaboration with the community.

The **Sakarya University Volunteer Natural Disaster Search and Rescue Unit (SAÜDAK)** was established in 2019 to coordinate search, rescue, and first aid activities with university personnel and students during disaster situations. Operating on a volunteer basis, SAÜDAK enhances disaster awareness through regular training, drills, and awareness campaigns, ensuring swift and effective intervention. SAÜDAK offers comprehensive support during disasters with various teams focused on search and rescue, firefighting, first aid, and psychosocial support.

Following the 7.7 magnitude earthquake in Kahramanmaraş, the Sakarya University Volunteer Natural Disaster Search and Rescue Unit (SAÜDAK) provided support for search and rescue operations in the affected area. While the SAÜDAK team worked in the earthquake-affected regions, university students and staff also supported the Red Crescent's blood donation campaign.

Additionally, a delegation consisting of expert academic personnel visited the earthquake zone to conduct on-site inspections and research on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change.



SAÜDAK Search and Rescue Team



4. EDUCATION & TRAINING

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Our Education and Teaching Policy

- To adopt a competency-based, innovative, and application-oriented education model in collaboration with the industry that equips learners with the skills needed for the future, lifelong learning abilities, and professional skills.
- To provide learners with learning opportunities that meet the requirements of an evolving and changing era, offering these opportunities face-to-face, online, blended, or hybrid.
- To strengthen the relationship between undergraduate and graduate education programs and research and development activities through applied training and new models.
- To continuously improve education and teaching processes with the participation of students and other stakeholders, enhancing national and international collaborations.

EDUCATION - TEACHING

4.1. Accreditations

Sakarya University offers programs accredited by various **national and international accreditation** bodies. These accreditations guarantee that educational quality is maintained and conducted within certain standards. Some of the accreditations held by our programs are as follows:

- **AACSB Accreditation:** The programs of the Faculty of Business and the Institute of Business are accredited by AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business).
- **MÜDEK Accreditation:** Our engineering programs are accredited by MÜDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Engineering Programs).
- **FEDEK Accreditation:** The programs of the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences are accredited by FEDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculty of Science, Literature, Language and History-Geography Programs).
- **EPDAD Accreditation:** Our Faculty of Education programs are accredited by EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs).
- **HEPDAK Accreditation:** Our Faculty of Health Sciences programs are accredited by HEPDAK (Nursing Education Evaluation and Accreditation Association).
- **SABAK Accreditation:** Our Faculty of Health Sciences programs are also accredited by SABAK (Health Sciences Accreditation and Audit Board).
- **IAA Accreditation:** Our Faculty of Theology programs are accredited by the IAA (Islamic Sciences Accreditation Agency).
- **ILEDPAK Accreditation:** The programs in our Faculty of Communication are accredited by ILEDPAK (Communication Education Evaluation and Accreditation Board).

Sakarya University develops innovative approaches that promote sustainability in education and research. The university offers various opportunities for students and academic staff to adopt and implement sustainability principles.

Education programs are enriched with courses and curricula covering sustainability topics. There are specialized departments and programs in areas such as environmental engineering, renewable energy, climate change, and sustainable development. Thus, students are trained as **individuals with a strong awareness of sustainability**. Updates have been made in the SABIS system to establish connections between courses, publications, and projects with the Sustainable Development Goals.

4.2. Education Programs

Sakarya University is an innovative and dynamic educational institution that conducts its educational and research activities in accordance with international standards. The university's educational policies are continuously updated and improved to enhance students' academic success and contribute to their professional development.

4.2.1. Associate and Bachelor's Programs

Sakarya University offers a wide range of undergraduate programs. These programs enable students to acquire in-depth knowledge and skills in various fields that align with their career goals. The

university's undergraduate programs focus on developing students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and innovation skills.

Of the associate degree program courses, **91 are associated with the Sustainable Development Goals**. Some of these courses include Earthquake Hazards and Risk Management, Occupational Health and Safety, Health Information Systems, Medical Waste Management, Healthy Living and Exercise.

Of the bachelor's program courses, **1,425 are linked to the Sustainable Development Goals**. Some of these courses include Sustainability, Urbanization and Environmental Planning, Environmental Education, Environmental Ethics and Awareness, Environmental Impact Assessment, Environmental Law, Environmental Geology, Environmental Health Management, Environmental Toxicology, Environment and Energy, Environmental Management Systems, Renewable Energy Sources, and Green Marketing.

4.2.2. Graduate Programs

Graduate education is one of the strongest aspects of Sakarya University. Master's and PhD programs allow students to enhance their research skills and gain in-depth knowledge in their areas of expertise. These programs are conducted by internationally recognized academics and provide students with a robust research infrastructure.

Of the master's program courses, **2,207 are associated with the Sustainable Development Goals**. Some of these courses include Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Education, Global Climate Changes, Global Plastic Pollution and Sustainability, Introduction to Renewable Energy Sources, Agriculture-Based Renewable Energies, Introduction to Disaster Science and Fire, and Energy Supply in Disasters.

Of the PhD program courses, **602 are linked to the Sustainable Development Goals**. Some of these courses include Watersheds, Risk Assessments in Water Management and Climate Change, Sustainability and Integrated Reporting, Rural Development (Agriculture, Tourism, Culture), Clean Energy, Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, and the Use of Treatment Sludges in Agriculture.

4.2.3. Distance Education and Lifelong Learning

Sakarya University aims to enhance accessibility in education by providing opportunities for distance education and lifelong learning. [Distance education programs](#) offer students a flexible learning environment, allowing them to learn at their own pace. Additionally, various certificate programs and short courses are available to promote lifelong learning.

Some of the trainings provided by the Sakarya University [Continuous Education Application and Research Center](#) include:

- Sustainable Development Training for Climate Change Adaptation - SDG 13 (Climate Action)
- Certificate Program in Building and Collective Structure Management - SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
- Occupational Health and Safety Training - SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)



5. RESEARCH

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES

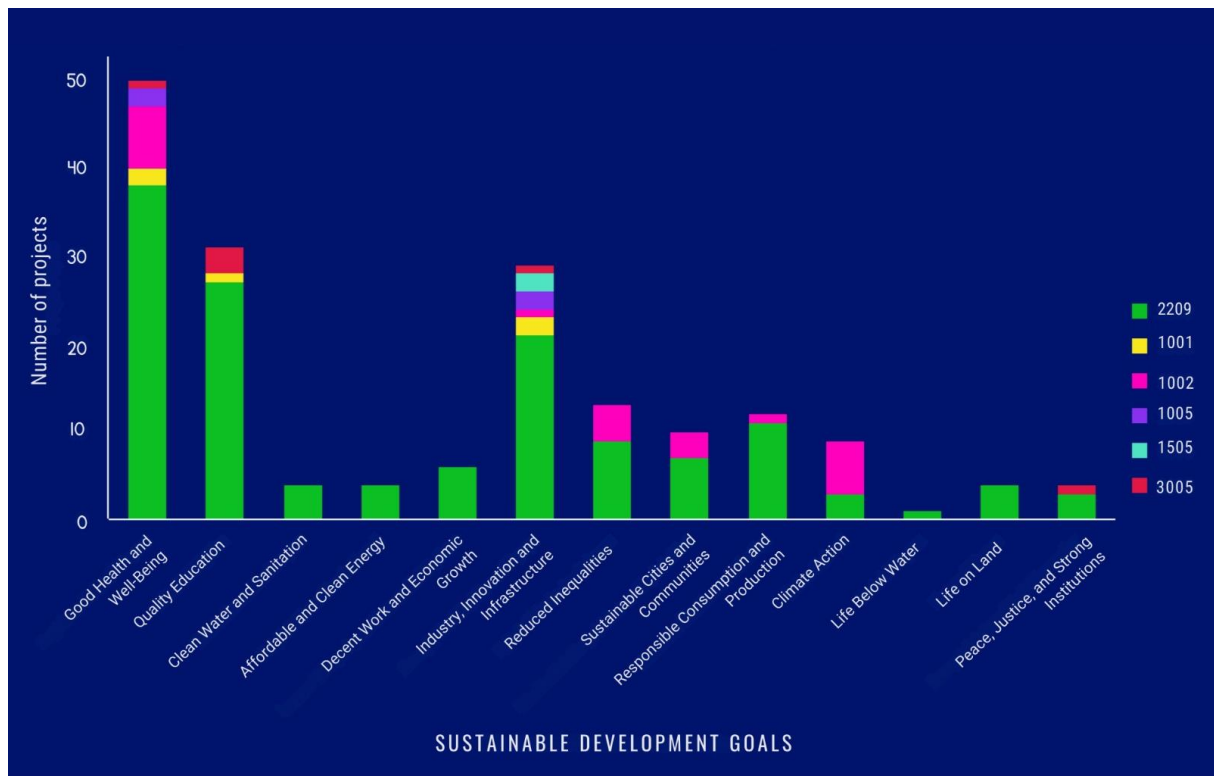


Our Research and Innovation Policy

- To strengthen the research ecosystem that enables researchers' ideas related to research and innovation to be transformed into projects or scientific work.
- To conduct research and innovation activities in a coordinated manner in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and national priorities.
- To emphasize multidisciplinary, international, and national collaborations within research and innovation activities and provide the necessary environments.
- To create a research climate where researchers and strategic stakeholders are recognized and rewarded, fostering an open science environment.
- To provide support in guidance, financial matters, and intellectual property rights to maintain a sustainable research environment and conditions.
- To adopt a continuous improvement approach by periodically evaluating the university's research footprint.

RESEARCH

Sakarya University places great importance on research activities and makes significant investments in this area. The university's research strategy aims to promote interdisciplinary collaboration to develop innovative and sustainable solutions.



Distribution of Projects Supported by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) According to Sustainable Development Goals

In 2023, academic staff at Sakarya University filed **a total of 33 invention disclosures**. During this process, the number of national patent applications reached 22, with 2 national utility model applications and 14 international patent applications. Additionally, the number of national patent registrations was documented as 2.

Some titles of national patents and utility model applications that support sustainability efforts are as follows:

- Excavator for Separating and Sampling Macroplastics, Mezoplastics, Microplastics, and Other Debris from Beach Sand (utility model)
- Recycling Method and System for Solar Panels (patent)
- Water Channel Made from CTP Cutting Waste (patent)
- Composite Material (patent)

5.1. Research Centers and Laboratories

The university's various research centers and laboratories provide students and academics with opportunities to conduct advanced research. These centers are equipped with modern technologies and offer the capability to conduct research across various scientific disciplines. In particular, there are

strong research infrastructures in the fields of engineering, medicine, social sciences, and natural sciences.

Research activities are supported by pioneering work in sustainability. The university's research centers and laboratories conduct projects in areas such as **energy efficiency, waste management, water resource management, and biotechnology**. Additionally, participation in national and international research projects is facilitated, and the knowledge and technologies gained from these projects are made available for the benefit of society.

5.2. Projects and Publications

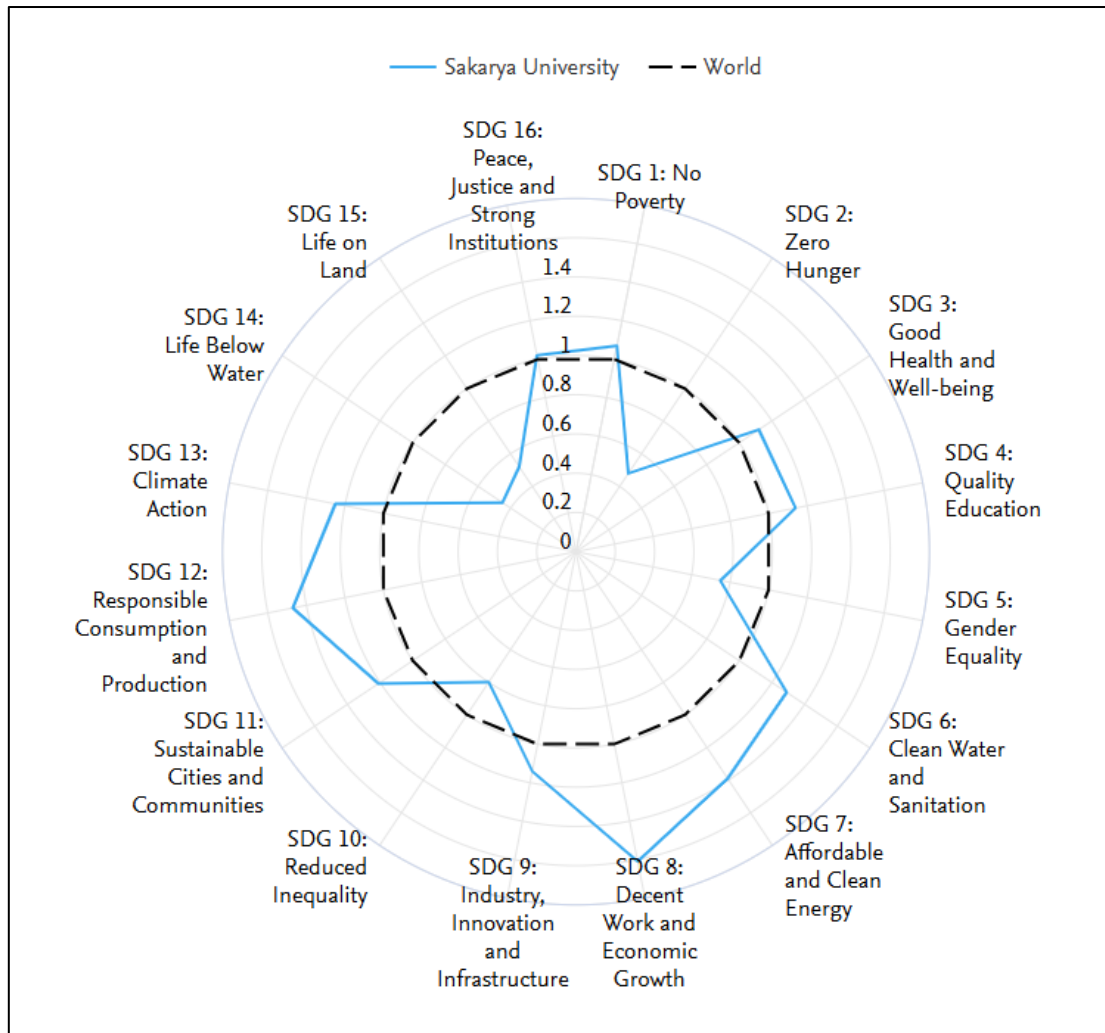
Sakarya University is involved in numerous research projects at both national and international levels. These projects are conducted in collaboration with the public and private sectors, providing solutions across a wide range of social, economic, and technological fields. The university's academic staff publishes many papers in prestigious journals each year, contributing significantly to the scientific community through these publications.

In line with its research and innovation policy, Sakarya University has established the [Research Dean's Office](#) (ARDEK) to manage all research and development activities in 2022. Under the management of ARDEK, support services such as project writing training and focus group identification are provided in relation to the goal of becoming a research university.

Sakarya University has been included in the Research University Candidate Monitoring Program by the Council of Higher Education (Yükseköğretim Kurumu, YÖK) in 2023, depending on its efforts to enhance research. In 2023, our academic staff initiated 12 general research projects, 48 graduate thesis projects, 6 career support projects, and 1 collaborative project.

Sakarya University's external resources consist of revenue from revolving funds, [Technology Transfer Office](#) revenues, and external project support. As of 2023, the university is managing 40 TÜBİTAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye) projects, 1 TÜSEB (The Health Institutes of Türkiye) project, 1 TAGEM (General Directorate of Agricultural Research and Policies) project, 1 Erasmus+ KA210 project, 1 Erasmus+ KA203 project, 2 Erasmus+ KA220 projects, 1 U.S. Department of State Federal Assistance Award (Grant), and 1 Horizon Europe project. Postdoctoral research activities at Sakarya University are supported under the [Career Start Projects](#).

Under the Horizon Europe Marie Curie Actions, the project titled **The Science for Stronger Societies – Science4Future**, conducted under the coordination of Sakarya University, was one of five projects from Türkiye that qualified for grant support under the MSCA and Citizens (MSCA&Citizens) call for proposals. The aim of the project is to promote resilient cities and sustainable development under the European Union's Green Deal Strategy within the Horizon Europe Programme (for more information please visit, [Science Future Project](#)).



SAU Relative Activity Graph: Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Scival)

The above graph illustrates Sakarya University's relative activity in contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) compared to the global average. Notable strengths are observed in SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action) where the university's activity levels exceed the global average. Other significant contributions are seen in SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) reflecting the university's commitment to environmental and sustainable practices.

5.3. Funding and Support Programs

To support research activities, Sakarya University offers various funding and support programs. These programs are conducted with funding obtained from both internal university sources and external sources. Students and academics can secure the necessary financing for research projects through these programs.

Among Sakarya University's international activities are the KA103, KA131, and KA171 projects conducted under the title "Mobility for Higher Education Students and Staff."

Project Name	Developing a Higher Education Curriculum in SET Teaching for the Health Protection
Responsible	Dr. Ahmet FİDAN (PhD) - Sakarya University - Project Partner
Programme	Erasmus+ KA220
Budget	€ 120.000,00
Summary	This project aims to support the education of students with intellectual disabilities by enhancing special education competencies among teacher candidates. A collaborative higher education curriculum and e-learning module will be developed, with effectiveness tested through piloting. Five transnational meetings, four local panels, and an international conference will facilitate feedback and result-sharing. The project will boost teachers' knowledge in health protection and digital skills, benefiting both teachers and students with ID.
Website	https://projecthid.com/



6.CAMPUS LIFE

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Our Customer Satisfaction Policy

- To ensure the monitoring of feedback and complaints from service recipients and to address complaints objectively, ensuring they are resolved as quickly as possible.
- To create transparent and effective communication mechanisms with service users to enhance current and potential customer participation and feedback in the processes.
- To ensure the continuous improvement of the quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of processes, services, and applications within the framework of corporate quality management by measuring the value propositions offered to service recipients.

CAMPUS LIFE

Campus life offers a wide range of social opportunities for students and staff. The library, sports facilities, and social venues enrich campus life, while students have the chance to enhance their social lives through various events and club activities.

In 2023, Sakarya University established the [Accessibility and Support Coordination Office](#) to ensure equal opportunities for students with special needs to participate in university life and meet their needs. This office works to provide equal opportunities in education, enhance the accessibility of structures and services at the university, and develop projects for students with special needs. "**Accessibility Representatives**" have been appointed from each faculty, vocational school, and administrative unit to ensure effective communication with students.

Sakarya University has been awarded the "Accessible University Award" as part of the "Accessible Access" and "Accessible Education" themes organized by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). The university received **a total of five flag awards**, including two awards for "Accessibility in Location" and three awards for "Accessibility in Education," as well as six nominations for accessibility awards in various locations.



The lecture halls, conference rooms, classrooms, and laboratories used by students are designed to accommodate the student capacity. Additionally, there are social areas on campus, including canteens, a central cafeteria, Kahve Keyfi, Kitap Keyfi, and Çınaraltı Akademi.

Library users have 24/7 access to subscribed databases and electronic resources through the [VETİS Campus External Access](#) system.



Kitap Keyfi Book Cafe

Sakarya University provides dining services through 8 cafeterias for students and staff, with 4 located on the Esentepe Campus and 4 on other campuses. Additionally, during exam periods, soup or meal offerings are available in the library. Free iftar meals are provided during Ramadan, and throughout the year, local municipalities serve soup to students.

The [Medico-Social Center](#), licensed by the Ministry of Health as a primary healthcare facility, offers normal and emergency outpatient services, as well as psychological counseling and guidance services. There are 2 artificial turf fields, 2 tennis courts, 2 basketball-volleyball courts, and 1 basketball-tennis court available for use by students and staff by appointment; these facilities were renovated in 2023.

Various activities are organized for students and staff in sports such as football, basketball, volleyball, handball, karate, taekwondo, judo, wrestling, table tennis, badminton, rowing, boxing, tennis, arm wrestling, and chess.



Kahve Keyfi Cafe

The main campus is connected to the **ULAKNET backbone via a 3500 Mbps Metro line**, with Metro Ethernet connections ranging from 50 to 200 Mbps to the satellite campuses. Students and staff have free internet access through these connections, and the same infrastructure is utilized for distance education activities.



The Youth Office aims to provide a comprehensive range of activities for students, including social, artistic, and sports activities, as well as volunteer projects, environmental awareness events, social

responsibility projects, youth camps, and historical and cultural trips. Security checkpoints have been increased on campus, and security phone numbers are available in every building for students to reach out to any time.



7. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

16 PEACE AND JUSTICE
STRONG INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



PARTNERSHIPS FOR GOALS

7.1. Stakeholder Analysis

The expectations, requirements, and support of all stakeholders are crucial elements for Sakarya University to achieve its vision. For the identification of all stakeholders, they are primarily categorized into three groups:

1. **Service Recipients:** These are students and business stakeholders who benefit from the university's core activities in education, research and development, and social services. Business stakeholders refer to institutions and organizations that receive services under research-development and community service activities.
2. **Service Providers:** These include project partners of Sakarya University, such as employees, suppliers, and organizations involved in applied education models that provide the necessary workforce, equipment, buildings, and other support for the execution of the university's fundamental processes.
3. **Other External Stakeholders (Core Stakeholders):** These are stakeholders that influence the university or are influenced by its actions and decisions.

The primary stakeholders, identified as strategic stakeholders, including students, academic and administrative staff, alumni, the Council of Higher Education, the Higher Education Quality Council, the Interuniversity Board, the Ministry of National Education, Sakarya Teknokent A.Ş., and Sakarya University of Applied Sciences.

7.2. Institutional Protocols and Agreements

Sakarya University signs protocols and agreements with various institutions and organizations to contribute effectively to higher education. In this context, the university participates in advisory commissions of the Council of Higher Education, contributing to the development of education and research policies.

- Member of the Legal Sciences Advisory Commission of the Council of Higher Education
- Member of the Business Sciences Advisory Commission of the Council of Higher Education
- Assigned to the Legal Sciences Advisory Commission of the Foreign Higher Education Diploma Recognition and Equivalence Commission
- Provincial Working Group for Roman Citizens of the Sakarya Governorate Family, Labor, and Social Services Provincial Directorate
- Provincial Anti-Drug Working Group of the Sakarya Governorate Health Directorate
- Explosive Substance Control Commission of the Sakarya Governorate Provincial Security Directorate
- Coordination Meeting with Institutions and Organizations for TAMP-SAKAMP Psychosocial Support by the Sakarya Governorate Family and Social Services Provincial Directorate

7.3. Contribution to Public Policies

Our university actively participates in shaping and implementing public policies and develops projects to address social issues through collaborations with local governments. Collaborations with significant

institutions such as the Sakarya Chamber of Commerce and Industry contribute to the creation of effective strategies tailored to the region's needs.

- Working Group Meeting on Pre-Earthquake Preparations with the Sakarya Chamber of Commerce and Industry,
- Collaborations with the General Directorate of Water Management of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry,
- Decisions of the Sakarya Governorate Disaster and Emergency Management Provincial Directorate Regarding Industrial Accidents and Technological Disasters under the IRAP.

7.4. Collaborations

Sakarya University develops collaborations in various fields, transferring academic knowledge and experience to society to provide social benefits. Projects conducted in partnership with organizations such as the Ministry of Family and Social Services offer significant grounds for the development of social services and the strengthening of social solidarity.

- Participation in the Ministry of Family and Social Services' work in the field of autism,
- Field research in Kahramanmaraş and Gaziantep provinces,
- Collaborations with the General Directorate of the Status of Women of the Ministry of Family and Social Services,
- Health Tourism Workshop with the Sakarya Governorate Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorate,
- Active Fault Zones Project in the Spatial Planning Process with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change.



8. FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS

16 PEACE AND JUSTICE
STRONG INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

FUTURE PLANS AND GOALS

Sakarya University has established its goals and objectives through the [2023-2027 Strategic Plan](#).

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1 - To achieve Qualified Education by providing higher education services that equip learners with the knowledge and skills necessary for their evolving career needs, in accordance with international standards.

- **Objective 1.1** - To utilize continuous improvement processes to enhance the quality of academic programs and strengthen internal quality assurance mechanisms.
- **Objective 1.2** - To increase the use of new approaches, techniques, and tools (innovative teaching technologies) in education and training programs and to adapt learning environments accordingly.
- **Objective 1.3** - To implement systematic approaches to improve students' learning strategies and faculty members' teaching competencies.
- **Objective 1.4** - To develop and expand student support services such as student counseling, accessibility for disabled students, and career counseling based on diversity.
- **Objective 1.5** - To offer a variety of programs that facilitate reskilling and skill development within the framework of lifelong learning.

Goal 2 - To lead the regional research development and innovation ecosystem by providing knowledge, projects, technology, and art production that will expand the university's research footprint.

- **Objective 2.1** - To increase the university's research and innovation outputs through high-quality publications.
- **Objective 2.2** - To enhance knowledge production through national and international qualified projects, scientific, and artistic activities.
- **Objective 2.3** - To increase scientific and innovative outputs that add value within research activities and provide the necessary environment for technology transfer.
- **Objective 2.4** - To strengthen structural, sustainable, and systematic collaborations with stakeholders in the research and innovation ecosystem.
- **Objective 2.5** - To secure sustainability by strengthening and supporting the university's research capabilities.

Goal 3 - To strengthen the understanding of community service and social responsibility through the bond between the university and the community, while implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals with respect for nature, humanity, and society in all processes.

- **Objective 3.1** - To improve the institutional governance structure to enhance relationships with the community and ensure sustainability; to present more university data for open access to ensure accountability and transparency.
- **Objective 3.2** - To strengthen collaboration, partnerships, and coordination with SAU's internal and external stakeholders.

- **Objective 3.3** - To enhance green campus practices that contribute to reducing the ecological footprint on campus, increasing energy efficiency, and integrating smart technologies.

Goal 4 – To increase the university's international preferability, collaboration, and visibility by benefiting from mobility programs, international collaborations, and global opportunities.

- **Objective 4.1** - To increase the number of international mobility opportunities.
- **Objective 4.2** - To strengthen the university's international collaborations.
- **Objective 4.3** - To enhance the university's level of internationalization.
- **Objective 4.4** - To strengthen the university's institutional capacity and competencies regarding internationalization.
- **Objective 4.5** - To increase the university's international recognition through international promotion, rankings, and enhancing global visibility.

Goal 5 - To ensure organizational agility and institutional quality by empowering employees and embracing change management.

- **Objective 5.1** - To enhance the effectiveness of the University Advisory Board and the Advisory Boards of its units.
- **Objective 5.2** - To ensure quality by measuring and developing institutional service quality in collaboration with stakeholders.
- **Objective 5.3** - To manage financial resources in line with the university's goals.
- **Objective 5.4** - To continuously improve the university's institutional capacity and human resources.

Sakarya University will continue its efforts to achieve sustainability goals in the future. The university aims to train individuals who are sensitive to society and the environment by adopting sustainability principles in its education and research activities.

Future plans include goals such as increasing energy efficiency, conserving water resources, improving waste management, and protecting biodiversity. Additionally, the university aims to strengthen collaborations at both national and international levels to achieve sustainable development goals.

By taking a pioneering role in sustainability, Sakarya University will continue to contribute to the protection of society and the environment. The university aims to collaborate with all stakeholders to successfully implement impactful projects in the future.

Table of Alignment with GRI Standards and Sustainable Development Goals

<u>GRI Standard</u>	<u>GRI Title</u>	<u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>	<u>pg.</u>
Mission			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	4
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	4
Vision			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	4
GRI 419	Socioeconomic Compliance	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	4
Core Values			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	4
GRI 405	Diversity and Equal Opportunity	SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	4
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	4
GRI 419	Socioeconomic Compliance	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	4
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	4
Strategic Goals and Objectives			
Strategic Goal 3			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	4
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	4
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	4
Objective 3.1			
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	5
GRI 419	Socioeconomic Compliance	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	5
Objective 3.2			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	5
GRI 414	Supplier Social Assessment	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	5
Objective 3.3			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	5
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	5
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	5
Quality and Sustainability Management			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	7
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	7
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	7
1.1. Quality Management			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	7
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	7
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	7
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	7
GRI 416	Customer Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	7
ISO 9001 Quality Management System			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	7
GRI 416	Customer Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	7
Strategic Planning and Performance Management			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	7
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	7
Student and Staff Satisfaction			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	7
GRI 416	Customer Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	7
Quality Committee and Units			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	7
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	7
Comprehensive Approach to Accreditation and Quality Management			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	8
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	8
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	8
1.2. Sustainability Management			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	8
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	8
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	8
Community Contribution and Sustainability (TOKAS) Coordination			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	8
GRI 414	Supplier Social Assessment	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	8
Sustainable Future Meetings			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	8
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	8
Sustainable University Policy			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	10
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	10
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	10
Integration of Ecological, Economic, and Social Sustainability			
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	10
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	10
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	10
Responsible Resource Consumption and Waste Management			
GRI 301	Materials	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	10
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	10
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	10
Gender Equality, Inclusivity, and Partnerships			
GRI 405	Diversity and Equal Opportunity	SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	10
GRI 414	Supplier Social Assessment	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	10
Human Rights, Occupational Health and Safety, and Work Ethics			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	10
GRI 406	Non-discrimination	SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	10
GRI 410	Security Practices	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	10
GRI 412	Human Rights Assessment	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	10
Environmental Sustainability			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	11
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	11
GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 15: Life on Land	11
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	11
2.1 Carbon Emissions and Energy Management			
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	11
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	11
I-REC and Carbon Neutrality Goal			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	11
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	11
National Testbed Center for Critical Infrastructure			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	11

<u>GRI Standard</u>	<u>GRI Title</u>	<u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>	<u>pg.</u>
2.1.1 Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	11
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	11
Energy Efficiency and Public Awareness			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	11
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	11
R&D in Renewable Energy			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	11
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	11
Renewable Energy and R&D in Energy Efficiency			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 13: Climate Action	12
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	12
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	12
Research Centers and Alternative Energy Projects			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	12
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	12
Student-Led Renewable Energy Projects			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	12
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	12
Clean Energy Reports and Strategy Contributions			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	12
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	12
2.1.2 Smart Buildings and Energy Efficiency			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	13
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	13
Energy Efficiency Standards and Smart Building Practices			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	13
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	13
Energy Management Systems and Monitoring			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	13
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	13
Green Certification and Sustainable Building Practices			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	13
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	13
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	13
Building Management and Energy-Efficient Upgrades			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	13
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	13
Renewable Energy Initiatives			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	13
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	13
Smart Campus Lighting and Renewable Energy Integration			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	13
Natural Light Utilization and Energy Monitoring			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	13
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	13
Waste Management and Recycling			
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action	14
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	14
2.2.1 Zero Waste Policy			
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	14
Zero Waste Initiative and Supplier Compliance			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
GRI 308	Supplier Environmental Assessment	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
Awareness and Training Activities			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	14
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
2.2.2 Waste Collection and Storage			
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action	14
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
Waste Sorting and Licensed Disposal			
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	14
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	14
2.2.3 Reduction of Plastic and Single-Use Products			
GRI 301	Materials	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	15
GRI 308	Supplier Environmental Assessment	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	15
Encouraging Durable Materials in Service Areas			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	15
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	15
2.3 Sustainable Transportation			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	15
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	15
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	15
Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Policy and Transportation Options			
GRI 305	Emissions	SDG 13: Climate Action	16
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	16
2.3.1 Remote Work and Education			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	16
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 13: Climate Action	16
2.3.2 Walking Paths and Pedestrian Priority			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	16
2.4 Water Management			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	16
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	16
Rainwater Collection and Resource Conservation			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 15: Life on Land	16
Potable Water Management			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	16
2.4.1 Irrigation and Landscaping			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 15: Life on Land	16
Efficient Irrigation Systems and Climate-Adapted Landscaping			
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 13: Climate Action	16
2.4.2 Water Conservation			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	16
Water-Saving Devices and Reuse Practices			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	17
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	17
2.4.3 Wastewater Treatment			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	17
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	17

<u>GRI Standard</u>	<u>GRI Title</u>	<u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>	<u>pg.</u>
Vegetable Waste Oil Storage and Treatment Compliance GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	17
2.4.4 Drinking Water and Water Quality GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	17
GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	17
Water Quality Monitoring and Safety Measures GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	17
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	17
Earthquake-Resistant Infrastructure for Wastewater Channels GRI 307	Environmental Compliance	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	18
Monthly Water Quality Reporting and Public Access to Drinking Water GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	18
2.5 Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Management GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 15: Life on Land	18
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 14: Life Below Water, SDG 15: Life on Land	18
Water Ecosystems and Aquatic Biodiversity Research GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 14: Life Below Water	18
Endangered Species Research and Biodiversity Enhancement GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 15: Life on Land	18
Sustainable Plant Cover and Resource Conservation GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 15: Life on Land	18
Student Engagement and Community Awareness GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	18
Flora and Fauna Documentation and Public Awareness GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 15: Life on Land	19
2.6 Environmental Awareness GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 13: Climate Action	19
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	19
Environmental Education and Community Engagement GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 15: Life on Land	19
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	19
Zero Waste, Energy Efficiency, and Water Conservation Awareness GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action	19
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	19
Sustainability and Environmental Curriculum Integration GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	19
Student Organizations and Community Awareness Activities GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 15: Life on Land	20
Testbed Center and Academic Modeling of Sustainability Practices GRI 302	Energy	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 13: Climate Action	20
Community Contribution Policy GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	22
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	22
Stakeholder-Focused Governance GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	22
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	22
Programs Addressing Community Needs and Environmental Health GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	22
GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 15: Life on Land	22
Support for Sustainable Communities and Human Rights GRI 412	Human Rights Assessment	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	22
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	22
Collaborations with Local Governments and NGOs GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, SDG 4: Quality Education	22
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	22
3.1 Centers and Units Contributing to the Community GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	23
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	23
3.2 Alumni Relations and Social Transcript GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	23
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	23
3.3 Student Participation in Community Contribution Activities GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	23
Earthquake and Disaster Management Summit GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	23
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	23
Community Engagement through Social Responsibility Projects GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	23
3.4 Education and Awareness Programs GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	24
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	24
Youth and Volunteering Course GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	24
TÜBİTAK-Supported Natural Disasters Projects GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 13: Climate Action	24
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	24
3.5 Cultural and Artistic Interaction GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	24
3.6 SABİS Community Contribution and Sustainability Module GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	25
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	25
3.7 Social Responsibility and Corporate Culture GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	25
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	25
SAÜDAK (Sakarya University Volunteer Natural Disaster Unit) GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	25
Disaster Response and Community Support Initiatives GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	25
Student and Staff Volunteer Activities in Disaster Response GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	25
Research and On-Site Inspections by Academic Experts GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	25
Education and Teaching Policy GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	27
Competency-Based, Application-Oriented Education GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	27
Flexible Learning Models (Face-to-Face, Online, Blended) GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	27
Integration of Education with R&D and Applied Training GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	27

<u>GRI Standard</u>	<u>GRI Title</u>	<u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>	<u>pg.</u>
Continuous Improvement with Stakeholder Participation			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	27
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	27
4.2 Accreditations			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education	28
AACSB, MÜDEK, FEDEK, EPDAK, HEPDAK, SABAK, IAA, ILEDAK			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education	28
Research University Candidate Program			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	28
Integration of Sustainability into Education Programs			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 13: Climate Action	28
Sustainability-Related Courses and SABIS Updates			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	28
Research Centers and Sustainability Projects			
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	28
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	28
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	28
Participation in National and International Research Projects			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	28
4.2 Education Programs			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	28
4.2.1 Associate and Bachelor's Programs			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action	28
Courses Linked to SDGs in Associate and Bachelor's Programs			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action	29
4.2.2 Graduate Programs			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 13: Climate Action	29
Courses Linked to SDGs in Master's and Doctoral Programs			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 13: Climate Action	29
4.2.3 Distance Education and Lifelong Learning			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	29
Lifelong Learning and Certificate Programs			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	29
Research and Innovation Policy			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	31
Strengthening the Research Ecosystem			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	31
Alignment with SDGs and National Priorities			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	31
Multidisciplinary and Collaborative Research			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, SDG 4: Quality Education	31
Recognition and Rewards for Researchers and Stakeholders			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	31
Support for Guidance, Financial Matters, and IP Rights			
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	31
Continuous Improvement of the Research Footprint			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	31
Research Strategy and Interdisciplinary Collaboration			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	32
Distribution of TÜBİTAK-Supported Projects by SDGs			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	32
National and International Patent Applications and Registrations			
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	32
Patents Supporting Sustainability			
GRI 301	Materials	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	32
5.1 Research Centers and Laboratories			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	32
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	32
Research Infrastructure in Engineering, Medicine, Social, and Natural Sciences			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	33
5.2 Projects and Publications			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	33
Collaboration in National and International Research Projects			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	33
ARDEK (Research Dean's Office) and Research Management Support			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	33
Supported Research Projects and Career Development Initiatives			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	33
External Project Funding and Technology Transfer Revenues			
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	33
Horizon Europe and MSCA Science4Future Project			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	33
5.3 Research Funding and Support Programs			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	35
Internal and External Funding Sources for Research			
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	35
International Mobility Projects (KA103, KA131, KA171)			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	35
Project: Developing a Higher Education Curriculum in SET Teaching for Health Protection			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	35
Focus on Special Education and Digital Skills Development			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	35
Customer Satisfaction Policy			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	37
Monitoring Feedback and Complaint Resolution			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	37
Transparent Communication with Service Users			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	37
Continuous Improvement in Service Quality and Efficiency			
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	37
Campus Life and Social Opportunities			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	38
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	38
Accessibility and Support Coordination Office			

<u>GRI Standard</u>	<u>GRI Title</u>	<u>Sustainable Development Goals</u>	<u>Pg.</u>
GRI 405	Diversity and Equal Opportunity	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	38
Accessible University Award for Location and Education			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	38
Unit Accessibility Representatives in Faculties and Units			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	38
Student-Capacity Accommodations in Lecture Halls and Facilities			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	38
Social Areas on Campus (Cafeterias and Study Spaces)			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	38
24/7 Library Access to Electronic Resources (VETiS)			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education	38
Dining Services and Meal Offerings			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	39
Healthcare and Counseling Services (Medico-Social Center)			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	39
Sports Facilities (Fields and Courts)			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	39
Sports Activities and Events			
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	39
Internet Connectivity and Infrastructure			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	40
Free Internet Access for Students and Staff			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	40
Support for Distance Education			
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	40
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	40
GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 15: Life on Land	40
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	40
GRI 403	Occupational Health and Safety	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	40
7.1 Stakeholder Analysis			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	43
7.2 Institutional Protocols and Agreements			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	43
Participation in Advisory Commissions and Working Groups			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	43
7.3 Contribution to Public Policies			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	43
Pre-Earthquake Preparations and Industrial Accident Measures			
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action	44
Collaborations with Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry			
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 15: Life on Land	44
Collaborations with Ministry of Family and Social Services			
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	44
Field Research and Social Service Development Projects			
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	44
Health Tourism and Environmental Planning Collaborations			
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	44
Active Fault Zones Project in Spatial Planning			
GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 13: Climate Action	44
Goal 1	Qualified Education		
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	46
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 4: Quality Education	46
GRI 405	Diversity and Equal Opportunity	SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	46
Goal 2	Regional R&D and Innovation Leader		
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	46
GRI 203	Indirect Economic Impacts	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	46
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	46
Goal 3	Community Service and Social Responsibility		
GRI 413	Local Communities	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	46
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	46
GRI 103	Management Approach	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	47
Goal 4	International Preferability, Collaboration, and Visibility		
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals	47
GRI 404	Training and Education	SDG 4: Quality Education	47
Goal 5	Organizational Agility and Institutional Quality		
GRI 102	General Disclosures	SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	47
GRI 201	Economic Performance	SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions	47
Sustainability Efforts	Environmental Impact and Resource Conservation		
GRI 302	Energy	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	47
GRI 303	Water and Effluents	SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	47
GRI 306	Waste	SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	47
GRI 304	Biodiversity	SDG 15: Life on Land	47

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: Sakarya Üniversitesi Esentepe Kampüsü Kemalpaşa
Mahallesi Üniversite Caddesi 54050 Serdivan / SAKARYA

Phone: +90 (264) 295 54 54

E-mail: bilgi@sakarya.edu.tr

Website: www.sakarya.edu.tr