

# 11.Sustainable Cities and Communities



Scholarly Output:

74



International Collaboration:

33



Field-weighted Citation Impact:

1.33



Number of Current Projects:

16



Number of Annual Events:

38

1.

## ÖzU - Istanbul Municipality Collaboration on Smart Cities

Özyegin University's participation in the **Yeşil Şehir Eylem Planı çalıştayını** (Green City Action Plan Workshop) is a significant milestone in the university's commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. The workshop likely involved collaborative efforts with various stakeholders, including local government, businesses, and civil society, to develop a comprehensive plan aimed at making cities more environmentally friendly and sustainable. The signing of a **protocol with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)** signifies a strategic partnership to implement the plan's objectives. This collaboration with EBRD is a positive step towards securing financial and technical support for green initiatives, which can ultimately lead to improved urban sustainability, cleaner environments, and enhanced quality of life for the communities involved. It showcases **Özyegin University's dedication to addressing pressing environmental issues and fostering sustainable urban development.**

### Istanbul Yeşil Şehir Eylem Planı



2.

## Urban & Housing Research LAB

The **UHL-City and Housing Research Laboratory**, a part of Özyegin University's Faculty of Architecture and Design, is a research, education, and application laboratory dedicated to global and local urban and housing issues. It adopts a perspective that recognizes the necessity of reflecting the current, rapid, and multi-dimensional changes and transformations in the field of 'Urban and Architecture' research and education, focusing on Istanbul as a complex city in particular. With an **emphasis on sustainability, societal benefits, and environmental sensitivity**, it aims to serve as a center that responds to interdisciplinary needs at both national and international levels, keeps up with and reflects current knowledge and technological advancements. The laboratory's goals include **facilitating the widespread use of accumulated knowledge within the university on a national scale, enhancing this knowledge through interaction with the public and private sectors, and translating it into practical applications.**





### 3. yaklaş - Co-Act Co-Art

The “Co-Art Co-Act / yaklaş\_2030” selection, aims to initiate dialogue and experience sharing on Sustainable Development Goals. It hosts selections, panels and speeches created by matching the works in the university art collection -UNIART- with SDGs. Details of the ongoing project until the end of 2022 can be obtained from [www.yaklas.org](http://www.yaklas.org).

Since 2019, “Art walks” ensure that the works of art exhibited in different places on the campus are included in the student orientation and that the students get closer to the cultural heritage. With the transfer of the works on campus to digital due to the pandemic, the Özü Arts website was created, and thus, works of art are shared with both Özü members and the public at [www.arts.Özyegin.edu.tr](http://www.arts.Özyegin.edu.tr).

### 4. Documentation and Preservation of Panagia Paramythia Church Project

Özyegin University is initiating the restoration of Panagia Paramythia Church with the support of the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP). The restoration of Panagia Paramythia is projected to last three years (2022-2025) and will contribute not only to the protection of the historical urban social fabric of the Fener neighborhood, but also to expanding tourism activities therein.

Once the project is completed, the Panagia Paramythia Church will become a cultural center bringing the Fener community together with the specialists and academics engaged in cultural heritage while also hosting events like concerts and exhibitions.

### 5. Özü Post Earthquake Relief Efforts

Özü’s relief efforts after the february 6th Earthquake include: Participation as a speaker in the ‘The Effects of Earthquakes on Agriculture and Food Systems’ Panel, hosted by the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality and the Agriculture and Food Ethics Association, Relief Campaign for 1400 Earthquake Victims accommodated in Sancaktepe KYK Dormitory (provided aid kits, including personal hygiene items, baby diapers, clothing, toys, shoes, snacks, milk, fruit juice, and stationery), Donation of Food to Earthquake Victims (Prepared by students and professors from the Gastronomy Department, approximately half a ton of four different types of food and sweets sent to the Hatay Disaster Platform Logistics Center through the Basic Needs Association), Donation of Food and Supplies to Earthquake Victims (Coordinated through the TOKTUT Association, Provided 26 boxes of food and other essential items).

Sustainability Platform also organized several events to facilitate discussions on Earthquake Impacts: First meeting on April 18, titled ‘The Özyegin Ecosystem and Post-Earthquake Activities.’ Second meeting addressing rights violations experienced by workers in the earthquake-affected areas, with the participation of the President of the United Textile, Weaving, and Leather Workers’ Union. The third meeting featured Nil Tibukoglu, General Director of the Basic Needs Association (TİDER), and Özlem Kermen Erbaş, Director of Resource Development and Communication, sharing their experiences in the field of food banking in the earthquake-affected areas.

