

Özyeğin University

# SDG Report 2022



# 1. No Poverty



Scholary Output: **17** 



International Collaboration: **7** 





Number of Current Projects:



Number of Annual Events:

## 1. Scholarship and Financial Support

Inclusion is one of ÖzU core values. We advocate that education is a pathway to employment and economic security and should therefore be accessible to students from all backgrounds and circumstances. ÖzU celebrates and welcomes diversity, and is committed to providing appropriate support to enable students to succeed in their studies and beyond.

Of the 7,429 students enrolled in at least one semester of the 2021/22 academic year, 91% (6,739 students) have scholarships. In the 2022/23 academic year, 664 students received stipend scholarships, in addition to and 572 students receiving free accommodation, 552 students receiving dining support and 102 students receiving transportation support.

## 2. Scholarship Program for Equality of Opportunities in Education

In recognition of its social responsibility, the University launched the Scholarship Program for Equality of Opportunities in Education (EFEB) in 2015. Through the program, the University offers an outstanding higher education opportunity to prospective students who succeeded in ranking among the top 1% in the Turkish national University entrance exam but were unable to qualify for full scholarship programs, due to financial limitations. This scholarship program continues to thrive with the generous donations that made it possible to see the number of recipients soar to 115 in the 2022-2023 Academic Year.

The impact of EFEB is measured by using social impact analysis methodology to understand whether or not the transformative experience offered actually delivers the expected contribution. It has been found that a higher percentage of EFEB scholars meaningfully start job seeking earlier and there is a statistically meaningful impact on their competency development.

## 3. Özyeğin Rural Development Model

Özyeğin University carries out studies in the fields of sustainable rural development and agriculture and food systems in the components of education, academic publication, creating student experiences, and preparing local development plans. ÖzU takes the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a reference in these studies.

Özyeğin University categorizes its efforts in agriculture, critical food studies, local and rural development, and ecology under the following headings: research, program development, advocacy, capacity development, and outreach awareness.

**Certificate Programs for Local and Rural Development Expertise:** The "Local and Rural Development Expertise Training Certificate Program" has been consistently offered since 2014, and its 10th iteration is taking place this year, benefiting over 500 individuals thus far. This certificate program aims to provide participants with a holistic understanding of the fundamental issues, applications, and thematic areas in sustainable local and rural development. It has become a focal point for public sector employees, local government officials, and civil society organization staff. Distinguished by

its uniqueness, our certificate program includes contributions from



academics of various universities, NGO leaders, and representatives of producer organizations, in addition to Özyeğin University. The program's participants and instructors reinforce our university's claim to be a hub for sustainable development.

**Capacity Development Training for Cooperatives:** Capacity-enhancing training and mentorship support is provided to cooperatives engaged in agriculture and food-related activities. Within this scope, support has been extended to cooperatives and associations operating in Kilis, Bitlis, Rize, and Iğdır.

**District Investment Plans** for **Sustainable Development:** In collaboration with the Southeast Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration (GAP), investment plans have been prepared for three settlements, including Ömerli in Mardin, Besni in Adıyaman, and the Ravanda Basin in Kilis. These district investment plans, centered on holistic and community-based local development, serve as exemplary instances of cross-sector collaboration.

Integration of Rural and Urban Economies Project (KIRKEP) Research

**Report:** In cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Technology's General Directorate of Development Agencies, a research report titled "Integration of Rural and Urban Economies Project (KIRKEP)" has been prepared. This research investigates the integration of rural and urban economies in Turkey, examining integration at the district level through various lenses such as production, consumption, demographics, and social manifestations. The study has resulted in policy recommendations in these areas. Additionally, the research project has contributed to the development of a methodology and variable set specifically designed to measure rural-urban integration. It has sparked discussions among academia, civil society, and policymakers regarding spatial-level and integration-focused approaches to local and rural development.

Book on Local and Rural Development from the Perspective of Sustainable Living: The book, "Local and Rural Development from the Perspective of Sustainable Living," comprises articles by academicians who serve as trainers in local and rural development certificate programs. It has been published by Özyeğin University Publications and offers a rich resource that combines theoretical perspectives with practical insights. The book features 24 articles and interviews categorized under four main themes. It effectively addresses a significant gap in Turkish literature concerning local and rural development. Legacy and Future of Turkish Agriculture Debates: Intergenerational Seminar Series: This series aims to bring together young researchers focused on agriculture and foodrelated topics with eminent figures in Turkish agriculture and food literature. The platform allows them to engage in discussions on contemporary research topics. As of October 2023, the 14th meeting of the "Legacy and Future of Turkish Agriculture Debates" is a product of collaboration between Özyeğin University (LoafLab) and the Globe Local Studies Scientific Research Cooperative.



## ÖzU Cares Social Responsibility Projects-ÖzU Care Packages

During the Covid pandemic ÖzU staff regularly provided essential household supplies to the 57 families who are in need, residing in the surrounding neighborhood of the campus. Additionally, during the 22-23 academic year, 9. ÖzU Care Packages project was sent as stationery gifts to 75 students in Diyarbakır this time. Thus, a total of 4082 children were given gifts.

# 2. Zero Hunger

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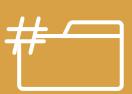


International Collaboration: **2** 

**Scholary Output:** 







Number of Current Projects: **2** 



Number of Annual Events: **13** 

## 1. Dining Scholarships

Özyeğin University provides dining scholarships based on academic success and needs. In the 2022/23 academic year, 552 students received dining scholarships the students with academic success and students who declared their need and provided necessary documents. The university management is working on different ways to support its students.

## 2. Campus Food Waste

ÖzU continues to address food waste on campus. The University encourages retailers to review portion sizes and implement retailer-specific strategies to minimize food waste. ÖzU also supports retailers to keep food waste out of landfill by participating in the University's food and organics waste collection service and encourages retailers to donate excess food.

## 3. ÖzU Gastronomy Cooperation with Starbucks

Starbucks emphasizes the importance of young people's dreams and talents by adding four new flavors created by Özyeğin University Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Department students Metehan Sepici and Özge Beydili to its food menu. The project, which aims to assist young chefs in achieving their dreams in their profession, carefully selected the recipes prepared by students to be offered to Starbucks guests. Starbucks aims to encourage all young people on the path to their dreams by presenting these flavors created by young talents to their guests. As of October 31 2022, the four new flavors, Pumpkin Eclairs, vegan-friendly Chocolate Cake, Spinach and Pastrami Tart, and Orange Cookie, are available in all Starbucks stores.



LOAF was founded in 2021 to conduct academic research in the fields of food, agriculture and local development, to produce data-based information and practice-oriented knowledge, which simultaneously includes the cause, effect and solution possibilities of the ecological crisis we are going through on a global and national scale. It was established to develop models for the emergence and dissemination of examples for sustainable agro-ecological agriculture practices, assurance and justice in accessing healthy food, strengthening local communities, increasing the management capacity of local governments, ensuring economic, social and cultural integration between rural and urban areas and combating rural poverty. The Laboratory sees academia and practice as a spiral that feeds and reproduces each other and implements its work with this understanding.

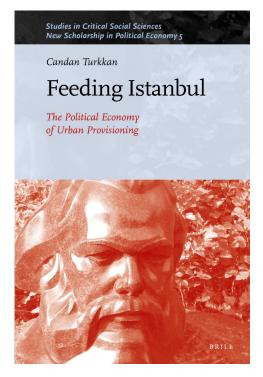


## 5. Guru Gıda-Healthy Food

Founded by Özyeğin University Faculty Member Dr.Aslı Zuluğ this company produces healthy nutrition products, receiving an investment with a valuation of 2.5 million dollars in its first investment round. The company produces Turkey's first natural collagen and protein chips' PACHA. With the vision of "science for healthy food", Healthy Food is establishing a school of food and culture between past and future, local and global with products. The initiative is also supported by TÜBİTAK and the Royal Academy.

## 6. Ecological Life and Food Club

This student club aims to apply and spread permaculture design principles, sustainable agricultural practices, and a holistic management approach. It aspires to contribute to a culture that questions the relationships between production and consumption processes, preserves biodiversity, has waste-free living habits, and is conscious of quality food. They organize activities such as introductory permaculture training, tasting events, soap-making workshop, participation in planting and harvesting of small producers, seminars and interviews, documentary screenings, and book reviews. The events organized in 2022-23 include "Swap Day I" and "Sway Day II", "Permaturk Trip", "Wasteless Snack Workshop", "Cageless Türkiye Seminnar" and events organized for the planting of the university garden "Bostan".



## 7. Feeding İstanbul

ÖzU Gastronomy faculty Candan Turkkan's new book "Feeding Istanbul" explores how the notion of "provision" as one of the tools of power has transformed over the centuries in this region with its unique economic policy and examines the social and political consequences it has created. Tracing how the sovereign's duty to provision the city and protect his subjects from hunger was gradually transferred to the market and became a responsibility of the subjects (later, citizens) alone, Feeding Istanbul makes a compelling case for situating food politics, and politics of urban provisioning in particular, at the center of the way we think about the relationship between the sovereign and the political community.

## 8. First Mesopotamia Gastronomy Summit

Özyeğin University took part in the First Mesopotamia Gastronomy Summit, in collaboration with the Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Özyeğin University Faculty of Applied Sciences, Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts, chaired by Prof. Dr. Özge Samancı, was represented in the organization and advisory board of the summit, with Murat Bayramoğlu from the Sustainability Platform as a member of the executive board. The aim is to establish the summit as a traditional event, bringing together academicians, chefs, gastronomy writers, and civil society organization leaders.

## 3. Good Health and Wellbeing





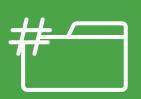
Scholary Output: **44** 



International Collaboration: **23** 







Number of Current Projects: **10** 



Number of Annual Events: **124** 

## Staff and Student Wellbeing

1.

ÖzU provides free mental health support to both its students and staff through different channels. Psychological Counseling Services aims to support students by facilitating their adaptation to university life, contributing to their personal development, assisting them in overcoming potential academic, personal and social challenges and acquiring new skills to cope with daily life problems.

All students currently enrolled are eligible for psychological counseling services and these services are free of charge. There is also a Leading Employee Assistance Program (LEAP) which is a comprehensive support program offered by Özyeğin University to all its academic and administrative staff as well as their nuclear family living under the same roof. The program is free of charge and designed to provide assistance with overcoming any challenging issues which affect employees' efficiency and quality of life.

## 2. ÖzU Couple and Family Center (ÖzUÇAM)

Özyeğin University Couple and Family Center was established in February 2017 as a training, application and research center for the Couple and Family Therapy master's degree program. The center is open to ÖzU students and university staff and also any individuals outside of the university. ÖzUÇAM aims to do scientific and societal contributions by providing accessible couple and family therapy services for the community. In addition, ÖzUÇAM is a center conducting research projects, and providing certificated training programs in couple and family therapy, as well as psychoeducation for individual and relational growth.

As of September 2023, ÖzUÇAM reached 889 counselees and provided 9152 counseling sessions. 68% of all the people receiving support from ÖzUÇam are non-ÖzU members whereas 28% are ÖzU students and 4% are ÖzU staff.







## 3. PERGEL (Positive Teenager Development) Project

Our undergraduate and graduate students collaborated with the project "PERGEL," developed by Prof. Dr. Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı and her research team, which aims to support the social and emotional development of children in early adolescence.

This project was conducted in collaboration with the Contemporary Life Support Association (ÇYDD) and the Educational Volunteers Foundation of Turkey (TEGV). Within the project, since 2021, we have reached 103 educators, 13 supervizors, 948 students and 58 groups. Four ÖzU graduate students actively contributed to the update of the project.



## 4. ÖzU Child Development and Learning Studies Lab

Research in Child Development and Learning Studies Lab focuses on individual and environmental factors affecting children's development and learning during the early years. Researchers study interactions between children's temperament and their environment as predictors of child outcomes. The, team in collaboration with other researchers in Turkey, currently works on research investigating how home and classroom processes influence children's social-emotional and academic outcomes. In addition to research, the lab also works on outreach projects by which we provide training for parents and teachers regarding child development and learning.



## 5. MEDICAL: Development of Immersive Training Environments for Myoelectric Prosthetics Project

ÖzU VR Lab puts efforts to contribute to upper limb myoelectric prosthesis training. Since conventional training methods for prosthetics fall short and need improvement for amputees, modifying conventional training methods towards Immersive Virtual Reality environments will help produce better results concerning prosthetics adoption. Moreover, adding the element of gamification can improve patient motivation and learning outcomes. Considering these facts, it is necessary to study if upper limb prosthesis training can be improved through gamified immersive virtual reality and how such an environment should be formed.

# 4. Quality Education



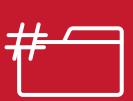
**Scholary Output:** 



International Collaboration:



**Citation Impact:** 0.95



Number of Current Proiects:



Number of Annual Events:

## Sustainability Education

1.

The University aims to get its students to internalize a sustainable lifestyle and act accordingly both as an individual and professionals. ÖzU is well aware of the fact that this goal can be achieved best through living in a culture that prioritizes sustainability. In order to instill such a culture within the University, ÖzU has developed an innovative way to provide its students with sustainability education and to raise their awareness on sustainability in the early years of their tertiary education. The essence of this approach is to integrate sustainability as content into ENG101 and ENG102 - compulsory academic English courses for English medium undergrad programs. The courses aim at not only creating a culture by providing education on sustainability but also fostering the development of various sustainability projects designed by students.

The academic curriculum also offers a wide rage of sustainability related courses. As of 2023 Fall Semester, a total number of 1,345 courses are offered, 445 of which are sustainability-related.

## 2. **Digital Campus**

A commitment to sustainability is part of the fabric of ÖzU digital learning and teaching environment. As campus access for learning and teaching activities was extensively restricted for much of 2021, learners and teachers needed support to continue their activities with as little disruption as possible. ÖzU OLTE (Office for Learning and Teaching Enhancement) worked extensively with partners (particularly Information Technology Services and college learning and teaching teams) to appropriately adapt to the digital learning environment. From a sustainability perspective, increased usage of the digital learning environment is particularly promising as it offers future opportunities for students to make choices in how and when they learn.



## 3. Vestel Technology Academy

Vestel Technology Academy is a long-term postgraduate education program aimed at providing lifelong quality education to Vestel White Goods employees and enhancing their technical knowledge and expertise. It was established through the collaboration of the Vestel Companies Group and Özyeğin University.

With this education program, employees who wish to pursue postgraduate education are encouraged to obtain master's and doctoral-level education in the areas required by Vestel White Goods. In 2022, 48 Vestel White Goods employees received a total of 5,742 hours of training within the scope of the Vestel Technology Academy. They continued their postgraduate education in Computer Science, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Data Science fields. To date, a total of 76 employees have graduated. Furthermore, 16 academic projects have been translated into industrial applications, and 6 projects have been included in the patent, publication, and incentive processes.

Established with the vision of "bringing the university campus to the company," Vestel Technology Academy also offers Vestel White Goods engineers the opportunity to become internal lecturers. Employees who are evaluated by Özyeğin University and meet the necessary prerequisites are appointed as guest lecturers. In this context, internal lecturers continued to teach at Vestel Technology Academy in the 2021-2022 academic year.



## 4. Learn and Experience Science Together Online Project (LESTO)

The main aim of the ongoing Erasmus + project LESTO, coordinated by Prof. Tufan Adiguzel, is to digitalize the physical environment and tools required by science education and eliminate the spatial dependencies of students and teachers and contribute to eliminating the gaps for disadvantaged groups. To support this aim, the "hands-on science digital education platform", "digital hands-on science education kits" and "the teacher and student" guide will be prepared within the project.



## <mark>4.</mark> ID4Excellence

ÖzU is a partner of the project ID4Excellence (Immersive Design and New Digital Competences for the Rehabilitation and Valorization of the Built Heritage Project) under Erasmus+ Program, with the leadership of Assoc. Prof. Alessandro Camiz from the Faculty of Architecture.

The main objectives of the project are; upgrading and innovating existing training programs with up-to-date Immersive Design methods and tools for the built heritage interventions; improving the effectiveness of teaching and learning through the application of an inclusive, immersive design approach to the project; increasing the synergic use of up-to-date technologies, increasing the cooperation among educational institutions and enterprises in the EU for better employability. In addition, new training programs are spread at the local level through Training of Trainers and piloted through local courses addressed to both students in third-level education and postgraduate architects, engineers, professionals in the construction sector.

## 6. Supporting "Teachers Network"

Teachers Network aims to empower teachers by creating a sustainable learning environment in which teachers can collaborate with their colleagues and stakeholders of education from various disciplines. The Network creates a platform for interaction where teachers can lead, change and transform to help improve student success and the quality of education in Turkey. Activities held by teachers and the output produced within adhocratic working groups and hybrid programs reached more than 15.000 people across 70 cities in Turkey thanks to the network model's capability of bringing together teachers with educational stakeholders.

Özyeğin University regularly hosts and supports the network's annual 3-day long "Summer Meeting" which is an education festival where teachers from dozens of cities, from different branches and levels, feed off each other, and produce together.

# 5. Gender Equality

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Scholary Output: **14** 



International Collaboration: **7** 



Field-weighted Citation Impact: **2.07** 



Number of Current Projects:



Number of Annual Events: **10** 

## 1. Gender Equality in Recruitment and Career Planning

Led by the Gender Equality Action Plan, ÖzU continued to identify and address barriers to women's inclusion and career progression. The University remains focused on delivering strategic, sustainable and meaningful change across priority areas: leadership and governance, employment conditions, and women's career advancement. As of July 2022, 58% of the academic staff and 55% of the administrative staff are women.

## 2. ÖzU Gender Ideathon

The ÖzU Gender Ideathon event was organized by the Gender Equality Office as part of activities for March 8, International Women's Day, with the aim of asking Özyeğin University students to question the gender inequalities that have infiltrated and entrenched in daily life and to mobilize students to be part of the solution. ÖzU organized two major activities: a series of talks titled "Searching for Gender Inequalities in Everyday Life and a competition-formatted idea marathon. The teams participating in the Ideathon developed solution proposals and created their own projects. By the end of the Ideathon 3 projects (a project to prevent sexism in communication materials of the university, a project to disseminate gender equality awareness at kindergartens and a project to design a support mechanism for stakeholders of the university who feel threatened by gender-based violence) were awarded.

#### 3.

## Gender Equality Office (GEO) Workshops

#### Workshops on Relationship and Dating Violence:

In the series of events themed "Safe Relationships" organized by the Psychological Development Unit, 2 different workshops "They saw you online" and "Let's name it: Violence" were held by the GEO. "They've Seen You Online" workshop was also offered to ÖzU Cares volunteer students.

#### Workshops in Summer School for High School Students:

Within the scope of Özyeğin University High School Summer School, a total of 6 gender equality-focused courses were offered. In addition to the lectures given by GEO advisory board member Berna Zengin, the Office held 2 different sessions attended by 200 students followed by a workshop on "Domestic Unpaid Labor" with 50 students.

## <mark>4.</mark> UniSAFE

Although Özyeğin University uses in-house mechanisms to track gender equality, it additionally participates in EU-funded UniSAFE project that aims to produce better knowledge on gender-based violence and sexual harassment in research-performing Organizations. Related surveys shared with all internal stakeholders, including students, administrative units and academic staff and the data will guide the university in determining its long-term plans.



## 5. Gender Backlash Project -Turkey

This research project was founded by the Institute of Development Studies and coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Çimen Günay Erkol, is part of a research consortium on countering gender backlash in different countries. The project team aims to analyze the emphasis by certain agents on family values as the primary institution in which women are to be empowered, which creates a liminal space that is closely related to the gender backlash discussions. The Turkish leg of the project is carried out at our university.

## 6. Collaboration with Ataşehir Municipality Project

As part of the collaboration protocol between Ataşehir Municipality and Özyeğin University, ÖzU Gender Office and the Faculty of Law at Özyeğin University designed an educational program. Within this framework, 30 law students were included in a one-semester-long gender equality awareness training. This training covered essential topics such as Gender 101, Discussing Gender with Children, Workshop Facilitation, and Children's Rights. Nine students were selected from the group of students, and four workshops on Gender Equality were conducted with children participating in activities at Ataşehir Municipality. In total, 37 children benefited from these workshops. The related project will continue this year as well.

## 7. Abusive Supervision, Workplace Incivility, Mobbing, Sexism and Sexual Harassment (AIMSS) Project

The ongoing AMISS project funded by TÜBİTAK and supervised by ÖzU Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Dr. Canan Sümer, aims to provide an extensive study on workplace mistreatment. Studies conducted in Turkey point to the pervasiveness of workplace mistreatment especially in the form of mobbing and abusive supervision.

The Project AIMSS seeks to understand the different types of workplace mistreatment and their consequences in the workplace by using measurement tools that also reflect the cultural context. Moreover, we also aim to develop prevention and intervention programs to address different mistreatment types.

## CONTERING BACKLASH RECLAIMING GENDER JUSTICE

## 6. Clean Water and Sanitation





**Scholary Output:** 



International Collaboration:





Number of Current Projects:

1.65

Number of Annual **Events:** 

## **Operational water use**

ÖzU's Sustainability Policy provides guidance and direction to minimize resource consumption through good design, including actively promoting efficient water use and maximizing its reuse across the University. In alignment with its environmental consciousness within the framework of ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems, Özyeğin University has recently published an Institutional Water Footprint Report. Compliant with the ISO 14046 Water Footprint Standard, this report serves as an extension of the university's previous carbon footprint reports. In 2022, Özyeğin University's blue water footprint value is 189,190 m3. The grey water footprint value amounted to 245,088 m3 for COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand), 54,990 m3 for SS (Suspended Solids), and 300,078 m3 in total. The virtual water footprint was calculated as 1,842,182 m3.

ÖzU actively encourages conscious water usage by sending messages to ÖzU community to promote reusable water bottles and advise students and staff to report dripping and leaking taps and toilets. ÖzU has drinking fountains and refill taps in kitchens and kitchenettes, providing students, staff and visitors with free drinking water.

As part of the National Water Efficiency Mobilization initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in 2023, in response to climate change, rising temperatures, and the potential for prolonged drought periods in the future, action is required to ensure there are no water shortages and to preserve water resources. The goal is to achieve a 25% water saving in buildings. In line with this, ÖzU has prepared and implemented a water efficiency plan in its buildings.

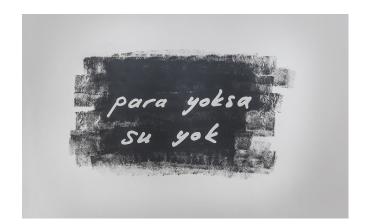


# Özyeğin Campus

Özyeğin University campus buildings have LEED Gold certification. During the planting studies, it is aimed to reduce the consumption of water and the use of chemical fertilizer by selecting local and adapted plants. The ratio of hard floors is kept low and permeable surfaces are used as much as possible to minimize the burden of the construction on the infrastructure especially on the rainwater network. It is also planned that rainwater is collected and used again. Grey water collected from the faucets is purified and recycled in the siphon. In addition, water fixtures are used in the building and watersaving properties in vitrification are sought. These selections are based on EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) standards.

## 3. Video Workshop - Synthetic Water

In April 2023, a collective video workshop conducted by artist Elmas Deniz aimed to explore the relationship between nature and humanity from an artistic perspective and create a new outlook by examining the relationship itself. The workshop, with a particular focus on water, aimed to open discussions about the various aspects of this relationship, while emphasizing the liberating nature of art, critical thinking, and a multidimensional approach for the participants. In this context, the workshop prioritized the experience of thinking and creating together with an artist over technical knowledge acquisition.



## 4. Start-Ups Supported by ÖzU Fit Startup Factory

Aqualley Information Technologies provides access to water with a single click through our mobile application in all public areas. Protect the environment and fill your bottle with fresh water at a much more reasonable cost. Aqualley is a startup within the Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub.

Blueit produces a water management platform that monitors and optimizes water consumption in industrial facilities and commercial buildings in real-time.







### 5.

## Awareness About Drought in Turkish Lakes

Özyeğin University Bicycle Club Raises Awareness About Drought in Turkish Lakes with "Pedal Your Way to Save a Lake" Event

Özyeğin University students, renowned for their exemplary social responsibility projects in Turkey, continue to represent and pride our ÖzU family through their off-campus activities. In their latest initiative, the ÖzU Bicycle Club orchestrated the "Pedal Your Way to Save a Lake" event, as part of the "Pedal Your Way to Life" Project. The primary goal of this event was to draw attention to the increasing drought and water scarcity caused by climate change.

Placing sustainability at the heart of their initiative, club members pedaled along a route adorned with prominent lakes in the Lakes Region to raise environmental awareness and consciousness among university stakeholders and in society. Some of the key objectives of the event included observing the harm inflicted on agriculture and farming practices in Anatolia due to humaninduced water scarcity, its repercussions on animal migration routes, and the resulting impact on the ecosystem and the challenges faced in human life. Members of the ÖzU community from various departments also joined the students in this meaningful activity.



## 7. Affordable and Clean Energy





Scholary Outpu



International Collaboration: **43** 





Number of Current Projects:

1.65



Number of Annual Events: **15** 

## 1. Energy Use

ÖzU continues to operate onsite tri-generation plants at the campus and it has installed solar PV across the rooftops of the University building portfolio, maximizing the use of on-site renewable energy generation wherever practical.

In 2022, ÖzU consumed 9,000,000 kWh of energy. Approximately 122,000 kWh of electricity was saved by using renewable energy sources on the university campus. It is expected that this savings will increase to 565,000 kWh (4X) in 2023 and be sustained in the coming years.

The total solar energy capacity on the ÖzU campus is 378 kWp. Every saving in our operational expenses, particularly in energy costs, contributes to the creation of funds for the Equal Opportunities in Education Scholarship (EFEB) at our university. The savings in 2022 and beyond are equivalent to approximately 1-2 EFEB student scholarships.



ÖzU has several applications to restrict its carbon footprint including the use of wind power and solar panels on all the non-green roofs, as well as a trigeneration system for heating and cooling. It has recently started using a web-based carbon footprint calculator and carbon management software that provides the capacity to measure, track, report and manage its carbon footprints based on the guidelines of "The Greenhouse Gas Protocol". Özyeğin calculates Scope One and Two Emissions: emissions intensity and emissions reductions, using 2018 as the base year. ÖzU carbon emission calculation shows 6.316 tonnes Co2 for the year 2022 with 0,931 tonnes per person Co2 calculations.

### 2.

## The Energy Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability of Housing (EEESH) Working Group

ÖzU Architecture faculty Ebru Ergöz Karahan is one o the coordinators of The Energy Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability of Housing (EEESH) Working Group under European Network for Housing Research. The working group provides a forum for research-based discussions about specific aspects of energy efficient housing, as well as wider environmental sustainability aspects of housing. It aims to look at key concepts and methodologies; technologies and policies, applications for different stages in the housing process i.e. planning/ policy, design, certification, regulation/ legislation, construction, occupation, renovation/ demolition, pre- and post-occupancy evaluations etc., lessons and implications for policymaking and industry.

## 3. University-Business World Cooperation Award

Özyeğin University has been honored with the "University-Business World Cooperation Award" in the "Institutional Outstanding Achievement" category at the YÖK Outstanding Achievement Awards 2022 organized as part of the Opening Ceremonyofthe2022-2023AcademicYearforHigherEducation.

The prestigious award was conferred in recognition of an exemplary project led by Dr. Göktürk Poyrazoğlu, a faculty member at the Electrical-Electronics Engineering Department. The project "Harvesting Energy Efficiency in the Electric Distribution Sector (Harvest Phase 2 Project)- Transformer Efficiency Work Package (TRAFORM)" was implemented in cooperation with eight electric distribution companies and the Electric Distribution Services Association with the approval and support of the Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EPDK).



## 4.

## Turkey's Energy Efficiency Outlook in Industry' Project

Özyeğin University's Center for Energy, Environment and Economy (CEEE/EÇEM) and Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD) Jointly Launch 'Turkey's Energy Efficiency Outlook in Industry' Project

EÇEM and the Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD) are collaborating on a new project called "Turkey's Industrial Energy Efficiency Outlook". The kick-off meeting was held at TÜSİAD Headquarters on Sep. 13, 2023. The goal of the project is to raise awareness about energy efficiency through the project, to highlight the potential for energy efficiency and savings in the leading sectors of our industry by comparing them with international references, and to contribute to the process of transitioning from energy savings to efficiency by preparing guidelines.



## <mark>5.</mark> LEGOFIT Project

Özyeğin University is a partner in the LEGOFIT project which aims to work adaptable technological solutions based on early design actions for the construction and renovation of Energy Passive Homes.

The project is coordinated by Demir Enerji and is composed of 19 partners representing 10 countries, bringing together a multidisciplinary team, involving academic partners, small, medium and large enterprises from the energy and building sector and large European networks. Due to the residential building characteristics, it is urgent to promote actions aimed at increasing the share of both existing buildings and new dwellings built with higher efficient standards and promoting energy renovation strategies at a large scale.

The LEGOFIT project aims to revolutionize energy efficiency in multi-family residential buildings by designing, implementing, and validating a flexible and integrated approach. This innovative approach is tailored for renovations but will also be adapted for new constructions during the project. It addresses long-standing challenges faced by LEGOFIT partners over the past decade in implementing energy-efficient projects in residential buildings.



## 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth





Scholary Output: **31** 



International Collaboration: **14** 



Field-weighted Citation Impact: **1.12** 



Number of Current Projects:



Number of Annual Events:

47

1. Careers and Employability of Our Students

ÖzU Professional Development team organizes seminars, training, case studies, mock interviews and on-campus interviews in cooperation with leading companies, in order to contribute to the students' professional life and job search processes. The team offers a rich selection of training to students to vest them with the required skills before they take the leap into professional life. The training programs focus on key skills, including CV development, interview techniques, and interpersonal communication. In addition to required internships, a rich selection of non-credit internship opportunities both at home and abroad is offered.

In 2022, students received careers guidance and support through professional development services which includes peer-to-peer appointments and one-on-one appointments. The unit also provided events including resume reviews, and job-ready workshops. Students received 5 CV and cover letter writing training, 201 one to one CV counseling, 72 in-campus interviews, 9 interview counseling, and 45 unplugged talks adding up to more than 4600 students participating in Professional Development events.

## 2. University Policy Commitments

ÖzU Human Resources Policy states that any form of forced or bonded labor is not used or tolerated. All work must be voluntary. Employees are free to terminate their employment. Recruitment that involves payments by employees to an agent will not be used.

ÖzU is committed to offering equal opportunities to all its employees concerning recruitment, promotion, and any aspect of employment. Discrimination is not tolerated in any form based on gender, race, nationality, ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age, or sexual orientation.



## 3. Pre-Employment Training (PrET)

PrET is an exclusive education program designed for Özyeğin University senior students in collaboration with Özyeğin University's Sectoral Education and Professional Development Unit and TbeMark, the common platform of Education and HR professionals from Turkey's leading companies. It aims to expand the employment and skills development opportunities of students, by offering informal education and training activities designed to support the growth of our students as responsible professionals and citizens. The program has been organized since 2019.



## 4. AIMSS Project

The ongoing AIMSS (Abusive Supervision, Workplace Incivility, Mobbing, Sexism and Sexual Harassment) project funded by TÜBİTAK and supervised by Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Dr. Canan Sümer, aims to provide an extensive study on workplace mistreatment.

Studies conducted in Turkey point to the pervasiveness of workplace mistreatment especially in the form of mobbing and abusive supervision. While these studies point to the seriousness of the issue, in most of them scales developed in different cultural contexts have been used, and the focus was on a single type of workplace mistreatment in relation to an antecedent or outcome variable. To fill the gaps in the literature, Project AIMSS seeks to understand the different types of workplace mistreatment and their consequences in the workplace by using measurement tools that also reflect the cultural context. The project also aims to develop prevention and intervention programs to address different mistreatment types.

## 5. ILO Participatory Gender-Audit Facilitator Certification

ÖzU Gender Equality Office members received the certification which provide facilitators with a method of organizational analysis for detecting and mapping discrimination at work, analyzing accountability, evaluating and monitoring systems and instruments, developing a change-management approach, action planning, and identifying new challenges and possible improvements.



## <mark>6.</mark> Trade Unions in Turkey Report

ÖzU International Relations faculty Alpkan Birelma prepared report on the Trade Unions in Turkey for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation.

#### Some points from the report include:

Turkey's inflation soars to 61 percent as of March 2022. As a reaction, in the first two months of 2022, the country witnessed an unauthorized strike wave. Thousands of mostly non-union workers staged a total of 108 strikes.Union laws in Turkey are far from aligned with ILO conventions. The right to strike was further restricted recently. Since 2016, according to the ITUC, Turkey has been among the ten worst countries for workers. Union density rose from 8% in 2013 to 13% in 2021. This was mainly because of the unionization of workers employed by subcontractors working for public institutions. In the private sector, the density stagnates around 6%.



### 7. Sectoral Education

In line with the ÖzU's Education Policy, the academic curriculum is backed by an innovative sectoral education program and experiential learning. The Sectoral Solutions courses provide students with a series of elective courses on a wide range of subjects including sectoral expertise, learning how to learn, introduction to data science, and general systems thinking.

As of the Spring semester 2022-23, Program 16 consists of 16 courses. Some courses include SEC 101 (Introduction to University), offered in coordination with the OLTE Unit and Student Life Office, while SEC 150 (Living with Mindfulness), SEC 250 (Learning to Learn), and SEC 280 (Digital Strategy and Transformation, provided under the Sectoral Education Office, SEC 210 (Data Science For Everyone), and SEC 402 (Business Integration) offered in coordination with the Faculty of Business, SEC 405 (Artificial Intelligence: Impact on Humanity, Society and Business) with the Faculty of Engineering, Social Sciences, and Law, and SEC 499 (Building a New Business) with the Entrepreneurship Center.

# 9. Industry, Innovationand Infrastructure



Scholary Output: 95



International Collaboration: 42



Field-weighted Citation Impact:



Number of Current Projects: **38** 



Number of Annual Events:

## 1. Knowledge, Technology Transfer and Entrepreneurship Center

Özyeğin University has an umbrella unit that encompasses the ÖzU Technology and Transfer Office (TTO), Center for Entrepreneurship, Lifelong Learning Academy (LLA) and Openfab that work in cooperation to coordinate and enhance ÖzU's contribution to knowledge dissemination. With the support of the unit, the university has 314 patent applications , 107 granted patents and 4 granted utility models.

With a unique UIC model: Onsite Academy, Vestel (2013), Turkcell (2015) and Turk Telekom (2020) companies support academic chairs at ÖzU which entails salaries and the research budget. Research activities are carried out and joint patent applications are made with the companies. As of 2021-22 academic year, 239 students working in these companies are graduate students at ÖzU, 321 company employees are a part of ÖzU alumni, 55 R&D projects have been conducted and 126 joint patents have been acquired.

#### **D**ZU Center for Entrepreneurship Seminars and Training:

#### ÖzU Entrepreneurship Factory 11. Health and Education Foundation Schools' Mission Possible Project: Entrepreneurship Seminars

The 5th Mission Possible project competition, which has the goal of contributing to a sustainable future, aims to give our high schoolers the opportunity to design their projects in the most efficient way. Özyeğin University provides a 6-module education program which gives students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in project management, leadership and entrepreneurship.

#### Master Club Training within the Scope of the Platform for Women Leaders in Real Estate:

GKL Master Club Training offered by the Platform for Women Leaders in Real Estate focused on "Technology" and "Sustainability" for those who want to deepen their professional life, "Entrepreneurship" for those who want to establish and develop their own business, and "Personal Development" for those who need individual development in order to overcome the difficulties in business life.

## 2. Higher Education Innovation Growth and Training- HEIght Project

HEIght project supervised by the ÖzU Center for Entrepreneurship is supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) Higher Education Institutions (HEI): Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education Program. The goal of the project is to boost the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of universities and their stakeholders such as students, faculty, staff and alumni.



Call for International Entrepreneurs HEight Project offers an exclusive entrepreneurship program for ôx<sup>0</sup> international Student Apply to HEight Project to develop your skills and Instruct the student students

With this project, ÖzU aims at creating more opportunities for International Students to be more involved in Entrepreneurship Ecosystem. As of the 2022/23 academic year, international students from 20 countries are trained as a part of the program. Entrepreneurs who complete the program, receive a Certificate of Achievement and benefit from financial support opportunities for their eligible projects. "Investment Preparation Program for Technology Entrepreneurs" is another component of the HElght project, which is carried out in cooperation with Kavlak Law Firm. The program aims to develop the capacity of technology entrepreneurs with rapid growth potential to manage their investment processes in the most efficient way.



## 3. ÖzUBEX Industrial Transformation Center Opens!

The "Establishment of Industry 4.0 Competency Center for Digital Transformation of SMEs in Turkey" project, funded within the framework of financial cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Turkey and led by the Ministry of Industry and Technology, has been launched under the Competitive Sectors Program. The project is being implemented in partnership with the White Goods Sub-Industry Association (BEYSAD), Özyeğin University, and the Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD). The Competitive Sectors Program aims to increase the competitiveness of SMEs and entrepreneurs, thus contributing to social and economic development.

The "Establishment of Industry 4.0 Competency Center for Digital Transformation of SMEs in Turkey" project primarily targets the digital transformation skills of SMEs and entrepreneurs in all sub-industry sectors, with a particular focus on the white goods sector. The goal is to enhance their skills and make them globally competitive. The project, which has been ongoing since 2017, has a total budget of approximately 10 million Euros allocated to it.





Istanbul Game Entrepreneurship Academy: 9999in1 Space Project

The Istanbul Game Entrepreneurship Academy is an initiative that aims to bring together key stakeholders in the Istanbul gaming vertical, with the goal of strengthening network and community relationships within the digital gaming ecosystem. It focuses on making sectoral progress sustainable and supporting game entrepreneurs from the idea validation stage to the commercialization stage, while also providing education and events.

Supported by the Istanbul Development Agency and prepared by the Çekmeköy Municipality, the project, which is run in partnership with Özyeğin University, Oyunder, and Helyum, has provided over 2,000 hours of training to approximately 400 students to date. The Academy achieves its goals through education and mentorship programs, extensive conventional and digital promotional efforts, panels involving all stakeholders in the gaming ecosystem, gameathons, demo days, webinars, and digital channel broadcasts, all aimed at helping game entrepreneurs establish themselves in the industry.The Istanbul Game Entrepreneurship Academy is also recognized as one of the 25 game entrepreneurship centers, as highlighted in recent reports by the Presidency of the Digital Transformation Office.

## 5. "Researcher Training Program for the Defense Industry"

ÖzU Technology Transfer Office has signed a cooperative protocol with the companies and universities partaking in the Research Training Program for the Defense Industry (SAYP). SAYP aims to develop the Turkish defense industry and train qualified R&D experts. As part of the protocol, Aselsan, C-Tech, Havelsan and Roketsan employees will pursue their graduate studies at our graduate programs, and complete their thesis projects in the priority areas defined by the Undersecretariat for Defense Industries. Graduate students will be trained as highly qualified R&D experts specialized in defense industries through the facilities and amenities offered by defense companies.

# 10. Reduced Inequality



Scholary Output: 52



International Collaboration: **19** 







Number of Current Projects: **16** 



Number of Annual Events: **25** 

## 1. Accessibility

Ensuring ÖzU is physically, technologically and culturally accessible for people with a disability remained a key area of focus in 2021. In the 2021/22 academic year 91% (6739) of 7.429 students received a form of tuition scholarship.

ÖzU promotes inclusion for thousands of students with disability through individual education support plans, professional counselors, mental wellbeing programs, mentoring and internships, and accessible teaching and learning materials.

#### Disabled Students Unit

Disabled Students Unit organized under Psychological Counseling Services aims to facilitate access to all services and opportunities offered in the university and works in collaboration with other units to ensure the active participation of students who need special care, counseling and support in university life. In addition to standard support services, the Disabled Students Unit organizes creative drama workshops, art therapy workshops, seminars, plays, conversation, sharing group, movie screenings and awareness activities about disability.

In the 2022/23 academic year, this office served 40 students according to their disability types. A total of 10 activities were organized in 7 genres such as art therapy workshops, movie screening, sharing groups, seminar, conversation, play and stand. 79 students participated in these activities.

#### MyÖzU Campus Navigation

Özyeğin University took another step and included a navigation system to their own mobile app MyÖzU that shows the accessible pathways for physically disabled people.

## 2. INCLAVI (Inclusive Aviation Curriculum) Project

INCLAVI (Inclusive Aviation Curriculum) Project aims to address the skill mismatches that exist in the aviation sector related to the freedom of movement of persons with disabilities (PwDs) and accessibility requirements in line with the EC Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030. Within the scope of this project, important actors from around the world came together. The specific objectives of INCLAVI are (i) Understanding the actual passenger journeys of PwDs across all stages of a passenger; (ii) Identifying the best practices of inclusive aviation across the aviation sector, (iii) Developing the curriculum contents and structure; (iv) Enabling the curriculum in the long term; (v) Publishing policy recommendations for EU and global stakeholders and (vi) Annually improving the passenger journey.



## DÎSÎPLÎNLERARASI ÇOCUK HAKLARI LABORATUVARI

## 3.

## Interdisciplinary Child Rights Studies Research Laboratory

The Interdisciplinary Child Rights Studies Research Laboratory aims to carry out interdisciplinary studies with an international rights-based perspective -interactive between theory and practice - in the field of child rights-based culture and child rightsbased vocational education and training at universities and the protection of children's rights in the field of academic capacity building. The laboratory started its activities in 2019 with a foundational meeting of the Child Rights Network in Academia and workshops on the topic 'Towards to Child-Friendly Justice System,' which were both organized by Özyeğin University Law Faculty with the support of Research Worldwide Istanbul and The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law.

4.

## Collaboration with Deep Poverty Network - Mobile Food Bank Project

In the project carried out in partnership between the Basic Needs Foundation (TİDER) and the Deep Poverty Network, work was conducted directly in the focus areas for one year. The activities progressed with a focus on access to basic rights. In the neighborhoods where we worked, we identified which basic rights and public services adults and children in households could not access due to their specific needs and circumstances.

Within the project, a collaboration was established with Özyeğin University's Faculty of Law. As part of this collaboration, senior law students, along with mentor lawyers, prepared information notes based on the needs arising in the field, conducted workshops, and provided counseling services for individuals' legal needs.

Through the project, 1360 food parcels from TiDER were delivered to households through regular distribution over a period of 8 months. In addition to the received parcel support, collaboration with various donors and NGOs was carried out to diversify the support content according to the households. This included the distribution of clothing, hygiene products, stationery, hot meals, school meals, general hygiene products, and detergents. Another aspect of the project involved informing households about the social service mechanisms, directing them, and monitoring the application process by a social worker. Individual interviews were conducted with one adult from a total of 380 households.

As part of the social service efforts, efforts were made to ensure individuals' access to public resources. Referrals were made to the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İBB), as well as the district Social Service Centers affiliated with the Ministry of Family and Social Services, and the Social Aid Foundations (SYDV) affiliated with the governorships. Information about İBB's services, such as food cards, newborn kits, employment offices, and support for the disabled department, was provided, and 144 individuals were able to access these services.

53 individuals who were directed to receive disability care, disability allowance, elderly allowance, and social economic support services provided by the Sancaktepe and Çekmeköy Social Service Directorates began receiving support. Information was provided to households about the support that could be obtained from district governorships and SYDV for stoves, coal, electricity bills, and cash assistance, and 54 individuals were directed to receive these supports.



# 11.Sustainable Cities and Communities



Scholary Output: **74** 



International Collaboration: **33** 



Field-weighted Citation Impact: **1.33** 



Number of Current Projects:





Number of Annual Events: **38** 

# 1. ÖzU - Istanbul Municipality Collaboration on Smart Cities

Özyeğin University's participation in the Yeşil Şehir Eylem Planı çalıştayı (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 Özyeğin University's dedication to addressing pressing environmental issues and fostering sustainable urban development.

İstanbul Yeşil Şehir Eylem Planı



## 2. Urban & Housing Research LAB

The UHL-City and Housing Research Laboratory, a part of Özyeğin 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 / yaklas\_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.

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 ÖzU Arts website was created, and thus, works of art are shared with both ÖzU members and the public at www.arts.Özyeğin.edu.tr.

#### 4.

## Documentation and Preservation of Panagia Paramythia Church Project

Özyeğin 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 Ankara Metropolitan bv the 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 facilitate discussions on Earthquake Impacts: to First meeting on April 18, titled 'The Özyeğin Ecosystem and Post-Earthquake Activities.' Second meeting addressing rights violations the earthquake-affected experienced bv workers in areas, with the participation of the President of the United Textile, Weaving, and Leather Workers' Union. The third meeting featured Nil Tibukoğlu, General Director of the Basic Needs Association (TIDER), and Özlem Kermen Erbaş, Director of Resource Development and Communication, sharing their experiences in the field of food banking in the earthquake-affected areas.



## 12. Responsible Consumption and Production





Scholary Output: 52



International Collaboration: **17** 



Field-weighted Citation Impact: 0.95



Number of Current Projects:



Number of Annual Events: 52

### 1. Waste Management of ÖzU Campus

In 2022, the total waste at the campus was 176.991 kg, 58% of this waste is recyclable, 40% is organic waste and 2% is hazardous waste. Apart from the packaging wastes and garbage that are routinely given to the municipality, hazardous waste and other waste are given for disposal and recycling in return for a fee. A total of 25 trucks of waste were transported and disposed of. By generating income from waste instead of spending waste with the principle of polluter pays, while the cost of the expenditure was covered, an extra 52,116.60 TL corporate profit was achieved.



## 2. Electronic Waste Management at ÖzU

At Özyeğin University, we recently developed a comprehensive electronic waste management plan based on the 3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) approach in alignment with environmental legislation and the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Standard. The plan includes the following items.

**1.** Awareness and Training: One of our fundamental principles is to raise awareness among all stakeholders. We regularly conduct training sessions and announcements to educate students, faculty, administrative staff, and the entire university community about the importance of responsible electronic waste management.

2. Electronic Devices Usage: We provide laptops to all of our academicians and administrative staff, totaling 502 faculty and 350 administrative staff members. To reduce electronic waste, we operate on a 6-year laptop replacement cycle. When laptops are replaced, their old components are carefully evaluated for reusability. This practice not only minimizes electronic waste but also results in substantial cost savings.

In 2022, we retired 146 computers, and 144 of these were repurposed and found new uses. This approach not only minimizes electronic waste but also contributes a significant financial value of 150,000 Turkish Lira.

# 3."ToplaGel" waste collecting application

Elif Bilge Gürgür, a junior Industrial Engineering student at ÖzU and founder of the startup "ToplaGel", came in first with her teammates at the Turkey Red Bull Basement Program. The aim of this startup is to collect waste and deliver it to the best places. The people working for ToplaGel will come to the people's doors, collect the waste and give out some gift cards, etc. depending on the amount of waste.

### 4.

## "Turkey & Europe: An Integrated Service-Device-Technology Roadmapping for Smart and Green Cities Alliances" Project

TÜSİAD, alongside its Project Partners Institut du Bosphore, TÜRKONFED, Berlin Bosphorus Initiative, Özyeğin University and ÖzU – TÜSİAD Sustainable Development Forum is implementing an interactive dialogue platform entitled "Turkey & Europe: An Integrated Service-Device-Technology Roadmapping for Smart and Green Cities Alliances".

This project brings together through virtual meetings the representatives of 9 European and Turkish pilot cities – namely Istanbul, Izmir, Gaziantep, Konya, Ankara, London, Paris, Berlin, and Utrecht-, the ministries and various key stakeholders to explore how a connected green & smart ecosystem can meet the challenges of the future. A roadmap for an integrated service – device – technology for smart and green cities will be devised based on the interactive discussions.

Turkey and Europe An Integrated Service-Device-Technology Roadmapping Project for Green and Smart City Alliances

#### STAKEHOLDERS MEETINGS





## 5. Let's Do It

At Özyeğin University, we actively participated in the global clean-up initiative, "Let's Do It," in celebration of World Cleanup Day on September 16.

"Let's Do It" unites individuals and organizations at over 350 clean-up sites across Turkey on September 16 with the shared goal of making our world cleaner and brighter. The initiative not only makes a tangible impact on the clean environment but also opens doors to a series of events designed to promote environmental awareness and sustainability within our society.

As a token of our appreciation to our stakeholders who actively partake in the cleanup initiative, we offered access to the "waste" workshops to be orchestrated as part of the "ATTUNE (Activate the University for Climate Change)" project, in which our University stands as one of the global partners representing Turkey. An employee and a student with the most successful projects will have the honor of representing ÖzU at the award ceremony in Germany.

## 6. Ozyeğin Ecology Club- SWAP DAY

ÖzÜ Ecology Club regularly organizes swap days with the idea as with every product we use, the transformation journey, "review your needs, let go, reuse, repurpose, and recycle," is applicable to our clothes, accessories, and household items.

# 13. Climate Action





Scholary Output: **27** 

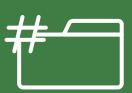


International Collaboration: **5** 



Field-weighted Citation Impact:

1.55



Number of Current Projects:

12



Number of Annual Events:

## 1. Emissions

ÖzU has several applications to restrict its carbon footprint including the use of wind power and solar panels on all the non-green roofs, as well as a trigeneration system for heating and cooling. It has recently started using a web-based carbon footprint calculator and carbon management software that provides the capacity to measure, track, report and manage its carbon footprints based on the guidelines of "The Greenhouse Gas Protocol" Özyeğin calculates Scope One and Two Emissions; emissions intensity and emissions reductions, using 2018 as the base year. ÖzU carbon emission calculation shows 6.316 tonnes of Co2 for the year 2022 with a 0,931 tonnes per person Co2 calculation.





# 2. "Capture the Interaction 2022 – High School Students Digital Photography Competition"

ÖzÜ Communication Design's 6th annual "Capture the Interaction" photo competition's theme was "Climate."

What will the world be like in 2050? How will the climate crisis affect our world?

Regarding these questions, Communication and Design Department students produce short documentaries making use of visualization skills such as animation, stop-motion and drawing for an interactive climate map in the light of climate crisis data. At COD 301 Design Studio III course, students produce many projects focusing on UN SDG's.



## 3. EIT Climate-Knowledge and Innovation Community Partnership

Supported by the European Institute of Innovation and Technology, EIT Climate-KIC is a Knowledge and Innovation Community (KIC), that ÖzU participates in; to work on accelerating the transition to a zero-carbon, climate-resilient society.

The organization aims to identify and support innovation that helps society mitigate and adapt to climate change founded on the belief that a decarbonized, sustainable economy is not only necessary to prevent catastrophic climate change but presents a wealth of opportunities for business and society.



## 5. Project PHOENIX

Susan Rottman from the Faculty of Social Sciences is the principal investigator in the project Human Mobility, Global Challenges and Resilience in an Age of Social Stress (Phoenix) supported by Belmont Forum. This is a study about Global Changes , including environmental and climate changes, demographic changes, changing consumption patterns, energy and land-use, developments in the politics of food and mental health, and socio-cultural transformations.

The project conducts two human-centric case studies of social tipping points: (1) food security and belonging and (2) cultural survival and resilience. These case studies provide new ways of looking at how climate (im)mobilities and their social tipping points are shaped by socio-cultural contexts and the psycho-social health of populations. Drawing on natural sciences like climate and sustainability studies and on the social sciences of political science, sociology, psychology, economics and anthropology, the project adds to the interdisciplinary diagnostic and prognostic toolbox of Global Change and mobility as well as vulnerability and resilience assessments.

## 6. URClimate

URClimate is a spin-off start-up of the Alcazar company, one of the members of the ÖzU supported start-up ecosystem. At URClimate, a team of data scientists, technologists and climate experts came together for climate and environmental risk analytics solutions. With climate change, even the largest financial institutions lost their resilience in the face of natural disasters.

The goal of the company is to provide data that will help organizations reposition themselves according to changing climatic conditions. It continues to focus on people, economies and our planet as we make decisions that affect the lives of millions of people and tens of thousands of businesses.

## 4. No.13 Climate Action

Özyeğin University is a partner to the Sustainable Development Goals and Turkey Symposium and International Student Seminar Series which took place online from 12 to 13 April 2023 with a focus on SDG 13. In the program organized by nine universities; There were 2 chairpersons, 9 moderators, 7 team coaches, 11 scientific committee members, 11 academicians who made presentations and 18 students who made presentations. More than 160 people actively participated in the program.



# 15. Life on Land



#

Scholary Output:



International Collaboration: **2** 



Field-weighted Citation Impact: **1.14** 



Number of Current Projects:



Number of Annual Events: **22** 

### 1. Waste disposal

In 2022, the total waste at the campus was 176.991 kg, 58% of this waste is recyclable, 40% is organic waste and 2% is hazardous waste. Apart from the packaging wastes and garbage that are routinely given to the municipality, hazardous waste and other wastes are given for disposal and recycling in return for a fee. A total of 25 trucks of waste were transported, transported and disposed of. By generating income from waste, instead of spending waste with the principle of polluter pays, while the cost of the expenditure was covered, an extra 51,116.60 TL corporate profit was achieved.

## 2. LOAF Lab

Agriculture, Food and Local Development Research and Application Laboratory (LOAF) aims to conduct academic research in the fields of food, agriculture and local development, to produce data-based information, to produce practice-oriented best practices, which simultaneously contain the cause, effect and solution possibilities of the ecological crisis we are going through on a global and national scale. was established to develop models for the emergence and dissemination of examples. Sustainable agro-ecological agriculture practices, assurance and justice in accessing healthy food, strengthening local communities, increasing the management capacities of local governments, ensuring economic, social and cultural integration between rural and urban areas, and combating rural poverty are among the laboratory's main areas of interest and work.

Research on Agricultural Transformations and New Peasants in Turkey aims to define the formation of the new peasantry (neopeasantry), which became visible after the 2000s, to determine the characteristics of the new peasants and to determine the transformations in the agricultural structures of the new peasantry.

## 3. Özyeğin Rural Development Model

Özyeğin University carries out studies in the fields of sustainable rural development and agriculture and food systems in the components of education, academic publication, creating student experiences, and preparing local development plans. ÖzU takes the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a reference in these studies.

ÖzU Rural Development Model, which is shaped by the experience of integrated, rights-based programs initiated by Özyeğin Foundation in 2007, has made it its mission to build bridges between academia, the public,

non-governmental, and producer organizations to strengthen rural life. In this context, more than 400 professionals have benefited from the "Local and Rural Development Specialization Certificate Program" in which academics, local governments, civil society, and both public and private sector representatives share their knowledge and experiences.

ÖzU Sustainability Platform prepared the "Research Report on the Integration of Rural and Urban Economies" in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Technology and Özyeğin University in 2021.



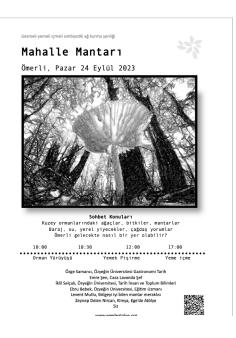
This research examined the integration based on districts in terms of different axes such as production, consumption, demographics, and manifestations of social life, and produced policy recommendations on these axes. 170 districts included in the scope of the research were measured and classified over 41 different economic, social and cultural variables. The research report is the first study to analyze the integration of rural-urban economies according to quantitative data.

Investment Plans for Mardin/Ömerli, Adyaman/Besni districts, and Kilis/Ravanda Basin were prepared by the cooperation between the Southeastern Anatolia Project (GAP) Regional Development Administration, Özyeğin Foundation, and Özyeğin University. District investment plans, which focus on holistic and sustainable local development, set an efficient example of multisectoral cooperation with the active role of universities, civil society, and public institutions.

The model also enables ÖzU students and academicians to experience sustainable rural development practices on-site. In this context, the villages where the Hüsnü M. Özyeğin Foundation has implemented rural development programs in Bitlis and Kilis are visited. During these visits, support is provided to meet the material needs of village schools. 4.

## The Legacy and Future of Turkey's Agriculture Debates: Intergenerational Seminar Series

The seminar series is designed to create opportunities for younger generations of researchers to discuss their research with veterans of food-agriculture literature in Turkey. Young researchers and senior academics working on agriculture, food, rural development and peasantry attend the seminars. Researchers both gain the opportunity to share their own research and receive feedback on their research, and also have the opportunity to discuss with senior lecturers how and to what extent the knowledge in the relevant literature responds to new questions produced by the day.



### 5. Community Fungi events

Aegean Atelier is a platform of interdisciplinary liberal arts teaching and learning based on local crops of Anatolia. The recent project (Mahalle Mantarı) focuses on mushrooms and truffles of the Ömerli-Şile region. A fundamental aspect of this interdisciplinary research group is sustainability, the interrelationship among the assemblage of humans, animals and plants. In tune with the priorities of Özyeğin University regarding environmental issues, sustainability and outreach to local communities, the NGO organized the first two events of the project Mahalle Mantarı where İklil Selçuk from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Özge Samancı from the Faculty of Applied Sciences were the co-facilitators.

# 16.Peace,Justice and Strong Institutions



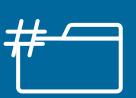


Scholary Output: 16



International Collaboration:





Number of Current **Projects:** 

0.88



Number of Annual Events:

## 1. Law Clinics and Legal Support to Provide Advice and Information to Students on a Range of Legal Issues

The Law Clinics aim to provide legal information to individuals who have difficulties accessing justice while offering students opportunities to strengthen the skills and values they will need in their professional lives. 206 students who have taken the Law Clinics course so far, have had the opportunity to get to know the forensic field applications by going out on the field, watching, and analyzing the legal problems of individuals who are exposed to social exclusion and do not have sufficient economic conditions to benefit from legal support.



## 2. ÖzU Law Clinics' Application for free sanitary pads in penal institutions

The ÖzU Law Clinics applied to the Ombudsman Institution within the scope of its Ombudsman Clinic's activities. Remarking that women and girls in penal institutions experience menstrual poverty, and not having access to free and adequate sanitary pads in closed penal institutions is a violation of the right to health, Law Clinics requested that the Ministry of Justice makes the necessary arrangements to ensure free access to sanitary pads.

16 students from Özyeğin University, who volunteer at the Ombudsman Clinic, completed their preparations by receiving clinical training on the "Ombudsman Institution", "Life in Prison" and "How to prepare an effective application petition" prior to the application.

The Ombudsman Institution forwarded the application to the Ministry of Justice in an effort to reach a friendly solution. The Ministry took the application into consideration, and issued a general letter to all penal institutions and Chief Public Prosecutor's Offices, stating that feminine hygiene products should be provided free of charge, without any delay or discrimination.

With this decision, all women, girls, babies, and children will now have free access to hygienic products, and their right to health will be protected. Özyeğin University Law Clinics will follow up on the decision, and continue to serve people who have difficulty in accessing justice with unwavering commitment.

3.

# Projects on Migration, Identity and Social Integration

ÖzU Social Sciences faculty Dr. Susan Beth Rottmann supervises and participates in several projects addressing issues of democracy and inequality and contributing to the social integration of immigrant communities:

1. OppAttune (Countering Oppositional Political Extremism through Attuned Dialogue: Track, Attune, Limit) is a project supported by "Horizon Europe Cluster 2: Call for Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Societies "and has 17 participating organizations. The project aims to monitor the evolution of oppositional extremist ideologies and protectionist decisionmaking, develop an innovative model of adaptation, and test a range of interventions at national and transnational levels that limit the spread of extremism.

2. The project "GAPs: De-centring the Study of Migrant Returns and Readmission Policies in Europe and Beyond" unites 17 participating organizations. It examines the gaps between expectations and the actual results of return migration policies. The project is also supported by "Horizon Europe Cluster 2: Call for Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Societies."

3. The project "Food, Home-cooking and Social Integration of Syrian Women in Istanbul, Gaziantep and Hatay" supported by the TÜBİTAK1001 program seeks to understand how immigrants' home-making activities, especially food consumption and cooking practices have changed and how these practices affect their social integration through in-depth qualitative research with Syrian women. By comparing three cities that have received high numbers of migrants from Syria to Turkey in 2011, the project examines how cooking and sharing food are tools to strengthen community integration and express cultural heritage.

4. The HIDDEN (History of Identity Documentation in European Nations: Citizenship, Nationality and Immigration) project is supported by the COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) program of TÜBİTAK. It explores issues of identity, citizenship and immigration by linking historical research on identity documents to modern, digital forms of identity documents and examines the laws that create and govern them. HIDDEN will hold academic and public events to enhance policy dialogue on identity documentation in Europe.

#### 4.

## Protocol of Cooperation Between Özyeğin University and Directorate General of Prisons and Detention Houses

Within the scope of the "Enhancing the Effectiveness of Civil Monitoring Boards in line with European Standards" carried out by the Council of Europe; A cooperation protocol has been signed between the Rectorate of Özyeğin University and the Ministry of Justice Directorate General of Prisons and Detention Houses; for the training of civilian monitoring board members of penal institutions and prisons, including financial and technical support and expert support, which lasted until May 31, 2022.



## 5. DE-CONSPIRATOR

The project DE-CONSPIRATOR (Detecting and Countering Information Suppression from a Transnational Perspective) to be conducted under the coordination of Associate Prof. H. Akın Ünver from the International Relations Department Funded under the Cluster-2 of the Horizon Europe Program is the second multi-partner project coordinated by a Turkish institution under the "Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Societies" Cluster of Horizon Europe.

The DE-CONSPIRATOR project aims to measure the impact of Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) strategies, which have been increasingly employed in digital communication tools in recent years, on political, social and societal incidents in 25 EU member states and 3 partner countries, including Turkey, and to develop counter-strategies to combat this. At the end of the project, it is planned to develop definitive solution proposals by understanding more broadly and comparatively the causes, means, and consequences of foreign information manipulation strategies observed in international politics. The project also aims to increase the resilience and awareness of Turkey and EU member states about international disinformation with the ultimate goal of protecting the freedom to receive and consume information.

The DE-CONSPIRATOR project will be coordinated at Özyeğin University and will be jointly conducted by 12 partner organizations, including Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI), Italian international relations think tank, Riga Stradiņš University, University of Groningen, Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), University of Amsterdam, Heidelberg University, Lithuanian Center for Advanced Cognitive Studies (AdCogito), Barcelona Center for International Affairs (CIDOB), Center for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM Istanbul) and Georgia's Reforms Associates (GRASS).

## 17.Partnership for Goals



Number of Current Projects: **1 ∩** 



Number of Annual Events:

## 1. ÖzU Sustainability Platform

The Sustainability Platform is a multidisciplinary, multi-participant, comprehensive, and integrated model to present ÖzU's commitment to partnerships and sustainability. The office offers an integrated model to manage sustainability initiatives of ÖzU such as encouraging cross-disciplinary and cross-faculty research on sustainability, designing, delivering, and promoting extracurricular activities related to SDGs and maintaining a sustainable campus.

## 2. ÖzU's commitment to partnerships with institutions

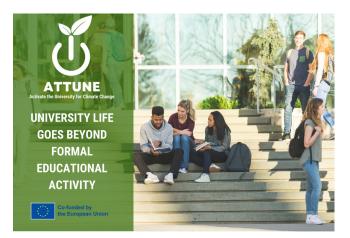
ÖzU recognizes that the success of the SDGs agenda requires genuine collaboration among governments, the private sector and civil society and the universities can play an important role in fostering cooperation and amplifying sustainable development work through innovation and leadership. ÖzU Social Contribution Framework is a statement of the University's commitment to adopt a leadership role at a national and international level to shape a sustainable environment and society, contributing to the SDGs.

Özyeğin University started a collaboration with the Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD) in 2015 for institutional representation. Other partnerships of ÖzU on tackling SDG's include institutions like the International Sustainable Campus Network, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Sustainable Mobility Initiative, government institutions, municipalities.

## 3. ATTUNE

The project "Activate The University for Climate Change" (ATTUNE) has produced an innovative learning program that directly addresses climate change on the university campus and encourages students, academic staff, and administrative personnel to act together. The program is being simultaneously conducted at five different universities in Germany, Italy, Spain, Poland, and Turkey as part of the Erasmus+ KA220-HED project.

We collaborate with 10 different organizations including universities and NGOs to create five main online education modules on sustainability (water, energy, food consumption, waste, and transportation). The program aims to successfully unite students, academicians and administrative staff to create a project that offers a sustainable solution to any of the problems.







## 4. Co-Art Co-Act

The 2022 Co-Art Co-Act activity aims to leverage the university's art collection for a deeper awareness of planetary challenges and as a springboard for multidisciplinary discussions toward 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs).

During 2022 we launched the Co-Art Co-Act exhibition where 17 works of art signifying each of the SDGs were identified and displayed at the 400m2 two-story glass building at the campus quad. One wall of this exhibit hall was dedicated to visitors as a "call to action" for posting their feelings, thoughts and suggestions. Using the exhibit as a springboard, Sustainability Platform team organized discussion panels, video and photography studios, ecological art workshops and upcyle design workshops with byproducts of the aforementioned activities throughout the year. In the process, Co-Art Co-Act became a catalyst for building partnerships across the whole spectrum of K12 to university students, businesses, community groups, municipalities and NGOs.

In 2022, we started working on showcasing our campus-wide sustainability movement with the creation of a collaborative artwork involving all ÖzU constituents in celebration of our university's 15th anniversary and the 100th year of the Turkish Republic. At ÖzU, we are committed to the innovative use of arts to inspire others to develop their own model for making a positive impact toward a world where all living things thrive.

## 6. FAO Partnerships

In line with its role as a national hub for discussions on suggesting solutions to societal problems, Özyeğin University organized several events with the Food and Agriculture Organization of UN(FAO).

On the occasion of World Food Day 2022, FAO-Türkiye launched the 2022 edition of The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World at Özyeğin University. This annual flagship report, jointly prepared by FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO, contains the most recent and authoritative estimates of the extent of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition around the world. ÖzU students had an opportunity to ask questions of the heads of the respective UN agencies in Türkiye, who will also participate in a panel to examine the facts presented in the 2022 edition of The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World.

As part of World Food Day 2023, FAO has organized the event "Sustainable Water Policies for Sustainable Living" in conjunction with Özyeğin University and the Water Institute of Türkiye. The event discussed the place of water within the 2030 Sustainability Agenda, and featured the participation of public research institutions, universities, private sector and university students.

The Panel "Understanding Global Developments Through Water Footprint" took place under the auspices of Özyeğin University in observance of World Food Day took place at ÖzU on October 16 marking the anniversary of FAO. This year's World Food Day on October 16 is being celebrated with a series of distinguished events under the theme of 'Water is Life. Water is Food. Leave No One Behind,' spanning across the globe, including Türkiye in 2023. The events are designed to foster global awareness and drive change toward the achievement of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

## 5. 2C1N



Mentored by ÖzU Sustainability Platform and conducted with the collaboration of Zorlu Holding and Simurg Association, 2C1N Project aims to assist young people in making their voices heard about the SDGs. 2C1N is a project in which high school students analyze the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set for the year 2030, and the question of 'What will happen after 2030 ?' is discussed by high school students, and the answers are compiled into reports by university students. The 2C1N project, which will take place over a period of 9 years starting in 2021, publishes Sustainable Youth Reports every August 12th, Youth Day. Its goal is to publish the Sustainable Youth Manifesto on August 12, 2030. As of 2023, pilot reports on the first 9 SDG's are completed.

