

6. Clean Water and Sanitation



Scholarly Output:

4



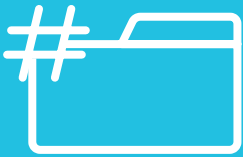
International Collaboration:

2



Field-weighted Citation Impact:

1.65



Number of Current Projects:

1



Number of Annual Events:

2

1.

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](#), Özyegin 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, Özyegin 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.



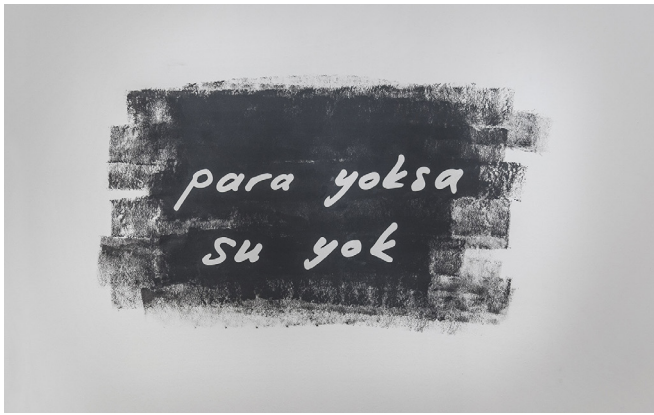
2.

Özyegin Campus

Özyegin 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 water-saving 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

Özyegin University Bicycle Club Raises Awareness About Drought in Turkish Lakes with [“Pedal Your Way to Save a Lake”](#) Event

Özyegin 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 human-induced 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](#).

