

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

*Global challenges require collective solutions.
Özyeğin University strengthens this goal
through international collaborations, active
participation in global university networks,
partnerships with industry and civil society,
and research projects that connect local
actions to global outcomes.*



22 **91**
Funded Projects Student-Led Activities



ATTUNE: Activate The University for Climate Change

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 Türkiye as part of the Erasmus+ KA220-HED project.

The initiative collaborated with 10 different organizations including universities and NGOs to create five main online education modules on sustainability (water, energy, food consumption, waste, and transportation). Piloted in 5 different universities in 5 different countries, this model can now be implemented in any university. Over the past academic year, ATTUNE has achieved significant results: 5 universities across Europe leading change on their campuses against climate change, 50,000 visits to the website, active participation of 1,700 members from the university community, and 31 research-action teams working on specific topics on campus.





ÖzÜ Sustainability Platform

The Sustainability Platform is a multidisciplinary, multi-participant, comprehensive, and integrated model to present ÖzÜ's commitment to partnerships and sustainability. The office offers an integrated model to manage sustainability initiatives of ÖzÜ 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.

Institutional Partnerships and Collaborative Framework

Özyeğin University recognizes that the success of the SDGs agenda requires genuine collaboration among governments, the private sector, civil society, and universities. The university plays an important role in fostering cooperation and amplifying sustainable development work through innovation and leadership. The ÖzÜ 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 ÖzÜ in tackling the SDGs include institutions such as the International Sustainable Campus Network (ISCN), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United

Nations (FAO), WWF, Women in Renewable Energy, and Xi'an Jiaotong University, as well as government institutions and municipalities. In addition, Özyeğin University is a member of the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) initiative and the European University Association (EUA), both of which strengthen its global engagement and commitment to responsible education and sustainable development.

Memorandum of Understanding with Women in Renewable Energy (WiRE)

Özyeğin University has entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Women in Renewable Energy (WiRE) network. Signed by President Prof. Barış Tan, the MoU aims to identify areas of collaboration between the university and WiRE, facilitating cooperation and joint initiatives in areas of shared interest. The collaboration includes collaborative research, joint events, workshops, and other activities to be mutually agreed upon by both parties. Founded in 2013 in Toronto, Canada, WiRE has rapidly expanded to over 25 chapters worldwide. Its mission is to advance the role and recognition of women and other underrepresented groups in the renewable energy sector while promoting equal opportunities.

A roadmap proposal has been prepared to facilitate the design of short, medium, and long-term smart city strategies in selected cities. The pilot cities for the project include Istanbul, Izmir, Gaziantep, Konya, Bursa, Ankara, London, Paris, and Berlin. The project facilitated participation in virtual workshops on 'Data Management,' 'Access to Financing,' and 'Disaster/Risk Management.' A workshop on 'Collective and Integrated Data Management' was also held in Istanbul in cooperation with the Consulate General of Germany, where pilot cities discussed common challenges and proposed solutions.



2C1N: Sustainable Youth Reports Project

Mentored by ÖzÜ Sustainability Platform and conducted with the collaboration of Zorlu Holding and Simurg Association, the 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 SDGs are completed.

ÖzÜ Social Impact Study

Özyeğin University believes that sustainable development can only be achieved through the active participation of all segments of society. Accordingly, the university prioritizes building bridges among the public sector, private enterprises, civil society, and academia to foster a culture of multi-stakeholder learning and collaboration. Guided by its institutional values, Özyeğin University

strives not only to generate knowledge but also to translate that knowledge into tangible social value through an integrated impact ecosystem.

The university is conducting a comprehensive internal impact study aimed at understanding, measuring, and managing its institutional impact. The study seeks to identify potential impact areas across academic units, student communities, and external partnerships, while assessing how current activities create value in terms of social benefit, inclusivity, and stakeholder engagement. The findings will serve as the foundation for a data-driven impact management model aligned with the university's sustainability vision, enabling the university to move from organically emerging impacts toward a more strategic, traceable, and measurable impact framework.

Türkiye & Europe: Smart and Green Cities Alliances

TÜSİAD, in partnership with TÜRKONFED, Institut du Bosphore, Berlin Bosphorus Initiative, Özyeğin University (ÖzÜ), and ÖzÜ-TÜSİAD Sustainable Development Forum, has initiated a project called 'Türkiye and Europe: Integrated Services - Tools - Technology Roadmap Project for Smart Cities.' This project aims to strengthen coordination among municipalities, providing a platform for experience and knowledge sharing.

Diversified Research Funding Framework

Özyeğin University has established robust partnerships with national industry organizations and secured funding from both national and international funding institutions. Primary funding sources include the European Union, TUBITAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye), Ministry Funds, Foundation Funds, Consulate Funds, and Development Agencies. In terms of total funding volume distribution, TUBITAK represents the largest share at 34.13%, followed by university-industry collaboration at 24.42%, the EU at 23.8%, other international institutions at 8.4%, and development agencies at 5.6%.

Industry partnerships span a diverse range of sectors, reflecting the breadth and depth of collaborative research capabilities. These stakeholder groups include home appliances (Vestel, Arçelik), defense industry (Roketsan, Tusaş Motor Sanayi), technology and telecommunications (Nokia, Huawei), food and beverage, financial services and insurance (Anadolu Hayat Emeklilik, Kredi Kayıt Bürosu), furniture and textile, aviation and tourism (Pegasus, Swisshotel), construction and materials, and NGOs (TÜSİAD). These multisectoral partnerships enable the university to address real-world challenges through innovative research while contributing significantly to Türkiye's economic and technological advancement.