# **Yeditepe University Sustainability Report**

Yeditepe University, within the framework of the "Sustainable Environmental Policy", has adopted continuous improvement as a pioneering educational institution aiming international recognition and respectability in the fields of education, scientific research and social service, while focusing on environmental awareness and sustainability issues. Yeditepe University has identified its activities and goals in line with the Sustainable Environmental Policy.

In line with these objectives, we plan to become a leading educational institution at the national and international level with studies on "Environment and Sustainability" issues. We aim to increase social awareness by introducing these studies and practices within the scope of service to the society. Demonstration of sustainability efforts in various areas has been identified as a priority in order to create a sustainable campus life. Environmental issues were taken into consideration in all academic and administrative decisions as well as activities at Yeditepe University.

In 2017, a "Sustainability" network was initiated by Yeditepe University in order to exchange information and collaborate with other universities. Firstly, by becoming a member of the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings (IWGM) system, the university became part of the "2017 GreenMetric International Assessment". Secondly, we became member of the "International Sustainable Campus Network" (ISCN) system and related studies were initiated.

UI GreenMetric is recognized as the world's first rating agency for sustainability. The UI GreenMetric University Sustainability Rating evaluates and compares the sustainability efforts at university campuses worldwide. The evaluation platform was established by the University of Indonesia in 2010 and evaluates participating universities every year.

GreenMetric is a platform that promotes internationalization, raises awareness to sustainability and tries to attract global awareness for environmental issues. It is open to the participation of all higher education institutions in the world. Every year, many universities from different countries are evaluated by GreenMetric in areas such as infrastructure, energy and climate change, wastes, water resources, transportation and education, are scored for each assessment category and as a result higher education institutions are ranked according to their total scores from these evaluations. The evaluation is carried out by a team of experts from the University of Indonesia.

The results of UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, which Yeditepe University first applied to in 2017, were announced in December. 619 universities from 76 countries all over the world participated in the evaluation. Among the participating 25 universities from Turkey, Yeditepe University ranked first among foundation universities, fourth in overall Turkey, and 225th across the world. UI GreenMetric World University Rankings (IWGM), has organized the 4<sup>th</sup> international GreenMetric Workshop in cooperation with Diponegoro University between the dates 8-10 April 2018, at Semerang in Indonesia. This year's theme of the 4<sup>th</sup> international GreenMetric Workshop Organisation has been determined as "Universities impacts and sustainable development goals". At the platform established for the workshop the universities have shared their best practices on 'Sustainability'. Yeditepe University has participated the workshop organization.



4<sup>th</sup> international GreenMetric Workshop Organisation

Yeditepe University evaluates its activities on "Sustainability" in 6 main categories:

### **Campus Setting and Infrastructure**

Sustainability criteria are applied in structural elements and green areas at the Yeditepe University Campus. All campus buildings have green building features such as natural ventilation, full day natural lighting, and an energy management system.

Green areas within the campus take up a large space. Sustainability criteria are used in the design, maintenance and application of green areas. In addition, Yeditepe University also conducts studies to create an Arboretum. The development and protection of plant material is continued every year in the Arboretum and the campus landscaping area.



## **Energy and Climate Change**

Yeditepe University has identified measures related to the Energy and Climate Change category. In the first phase, a solar energy system started to be used as renewable energy production on campus. For this purpose, solar panels were installed on campus building terraces. The ratio of renewable energy production to total annual energy use is 10%.



In addition, energy efficient devices and applications are used in campus buildings. While there are LED illuminations and energy saving lamps throughout the campus, energy efficient devices are used in laboratories.



At the same time, all buildings have automatic systems such as automatic doors, automatic fire alarm systems and automatic lighting.





There are also monitor and control elements which are checked regularly in buildings.



At Yedite







Program to Reduce the Use of Paper and Plastic in Campus (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

Within the campus, **inorganic wastes** are collected and evaluated separately according to their types. More than 50% of the waste is recycled. Non-recyclable inorganic wastes are collected and later disposed in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization. An underground waste container system is used to avoid environmental pollution, odors and leaks from waste.



At our university, **organic wastes** are collected during the pruning of plants and mowing of the lawns and after processes in the compost plant, they are converted to compost fertilizers and used to feed and develop plants in green areas.



Organic Waste Collected from the Landscape Maintenance



The disposal of toxic waste is carried out by keeping an inventory. All toxic wastes from our university are sent to disposal companies with environmental license permit and national waste transportation forms. All records are kept and the entered into the system of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization at the end of the year.



Toxic Waste Handled (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

In addition to these, various applications started to be used within the scope of the 'Program for Reducing Paper and Plastic Usage'. To this end, new computer systems have been implemented for corporate correspondence (EDYS) and course management (Moodle). In addition, programs such as double-sided printing are implemented within the framework of the policy of reducing the number of prints.





There is a biological treatment plant in the campus for the treatment of waste water. In the plant, approximately 30% of the total amount of water used annually is treated and recycled as water.



## Water Resources

A program has been created at Yeditepe University to provide 'water saving". For this purpose, the construction of a 6-ton water reservoir has been initiated in order to collect and store rainwater in the Arboretum area.



The water used in the treatment plant are recycled and used in irrigation systems of green areas and toilet systems.



In addition, water-pressure reducing devices are used in bathroom taps on the campus to provide water efficiency.



### The Use of Water Efficient Appliances in the campus buildings.

### Transportation

At Yeditepe University 'Sustainable Transportation Practices' are applied. In order to reduce the use of vehicles in the campus, vehicle entries are restricted. Public transportation is provided by ring services on the campus.



In addition, various pedestrian path alternatives were created in the campus circulatory system to encourage walking.



### Education

At our university, courses, research, academic publications and academic activities related to 'Environment and Sustainability' are encouraged. In this regard, the Graduate School of Natural Applied Sciences established the "Sustainable Built Environment" and "Urban Design and Landscape Architecture" Master's Degree programs. Furthermore, we plan to integrate these programs and related courses throughout the university.

We aim to encourage, direct and support activities related to "Environment and Sustainability" by both academic and administrative staff as well as by student organizations. In relation to this, the "Environment and Ecology Club"," Sustainability Student Team" and "Sustainability Design Team" have been established in order to increase the participation of students in sustainability activities. Student Organizations organize various activities to raise awareness about "Sustainability and the Environment".















Examples of Events Related to Environment and Sustainability (Tealtepe Oniversity, Turkey)



security and rural development can change the future of migration. During the seminar, a highly nutritious and inexpensive traditional soup, "Strained Red Lentil", was served by the students.









