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 society. The 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 a 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 of 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 applied for the fourth time in 2020, were announced in December. 912 universities from 97 countries all over the world participated in the evaluation. Among the participating 56
universities from Turkey, Yeditepe University ranked second among foundation universities, 12th in overall Turkey, and 273th across the world.

UI GreenMetric World University Rankings (IWGM), has organized the 4th international GreenMetric Workshop in cooperation with Diponegoro University between the dates 8-10 April 2018, at Semerang in Indonesia. The theme of the 4th 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 in the workshop organization.

4th International GreenMetric Workshop Organisation

On 4-5 October 2019, the 2nd National Workshop on UI GreenMetric World University Rankings for Turkish Universities has been held in Zonguldak Bülent Ecevit University. The workshop aims to form a national platform to share the experiences and best practices about the sustainability of the universities and the GreenMetric expert members. Yeditepe University has participated in the workshop organization with its valuable contribution.

Since 2017, Yeditepe University participates UI Grenmetric World University Rankings every year. In October 2021, Yeditepe University has applied the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings for the fifth time. The number of participant universities increases every year and the results will be announced in December 2021.

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. Besides, Yeditepe University also conducts studies to create an Arboretum. The development and protection of plant material are continued every year in the Arboretum and the campus landscaping area.

In addition, health infrastructure facilities for students, academics and administrative staff’s wellbeing are available at Yeditepe University. Yeditepe University fulfilled the requirements of the Safe Campus Certification program for developing healthy and clean environments in higher education institutions within the scope of the Pandemic and Yeditepe University was awarded a Safe Campus Certificate by the Turkish Standards Institution.
Healthcare services are given at the campus, ranging from physical examination, laboratory examinations, vaccinations, small-scale surgical operations, dressings, injections, IV's and medical observation. Doctors, nurses and paramedics are available 24/7 at the Medical Center for first aid and emergency assistance to the students and staff at Yeditepe. There are also Yeditepe University Practical Pharmacy and ambulance service for student and staff at the campus. A “Vaccination Center” has been established within the Infirmary Unit by the request of the Infirmary Doctors in order to vaccinate students or staff, who have a history of chronical diseases or are in the risk group, with Influenza and Pneumonia vaccines. A “COVID-19 Test Center” has been established for symptomatic cases within the campus in order to get PCR samples based on the guidance of Triage Teams and Infirmary doctors. COVID-19 Test Center will be located at the yard of the Quarantine Area.
During the COVID-19 pandemic, triage areas have been established throughout the campus building entrance to identify and separate people likely to be infected. Quarantine Areas have been established at the Guesthouse building for the isolation of risky people who had contact with the infection or showing symptoms. Bed linens used by Academic, Administrative staff, and students, taken into the quarantine room, are sent to the laundry room for washing without contact, by putting them in laundry bags that dissolve in water.
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 a 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 13%. Also, the solar system for heating hot water is present on the roof of the social facilities building.
In addition, Yeditepe University aims to improve energy savings by various sustainable energy management applications. The energy consumption is monitored and energy efficient appliances and sensor systems are used throughout the campus area. 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 automated systems such as automatic doors, automatic fire alarm systems and automatic lighting.
Elements of the green building implementations that are present in all the campus buildings are; Natural Ventilation, Full Day Natural Lighting and Building Energy Management System.
There are also monitor and control elements which are checked regularly in buildings.

### Electricity Counter

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<tr>
<th>Faculty Of Fine Arts</th>
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<tr>
<td>Full Natural Day Lighting / Natural Ventilation (Yeditepe University, Turkey)</td>
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Waste Management

At Yeditepe University, a comprehensive recycling and waste reduction program is implemented for “Waste Management” and measures are taken to protect natural resources and use them efficiently.

All recyclable wastes throughout the university are collected separately in order to be recycled. To carry out this process properly, indoor waste separation units in all corridors of classes, offices and halls have been placed so as to collect and separate in their source. Besides, the used papers generated at the offices are recycled with a mechanical technique by an authorized recycling company and GHG emission resulting from the incineration has been avoided indirectly.

Environmental protection campaigns are being conducted to raise environmental awareness among the students and academic and administrative staff. Examples of the campaigns can be given as waste battery collection, fluorescent light collection, plastic cover collection and safely disposal of expired drugs. The university is supported by the municipality with the joint projects carried out for recycling.
Drug Collection Campaign

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

Çevreye olan sorumluluklarınızzı dikkate alarak gerektiğinde çıktı almayınız. Gerektiğinde siyah-beyaz ve çift taraflı çıktı alın.
Please consider the environment before printing. Print black and white and double-sided where possible.

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.

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

All wastes from Yeditepe University Campus are being treated separately. Non-recyclable inorganic wastes are collected in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization. In order to avoid environmental pollution, odor and leakage from these wastes, an Underground Waste Container System is used. In addition to this, by using Recycling Units, Packaging Units and Indoor Waste Separation Units for recycling are available in common areas of the campus. The wastes are thrown to the Indoor Waste Separation Units that are placed in the corridors of the classes, offices and halls. These wastes are then daily controlled for separation according to their types and are given to the recycle company which is authorized for recycling by the Municipality. Additionally, the outdoor waste bins have been categorized and labeled so as to separate the waste material in their source. New indoor waste bins have also been provided for the separation of indoor wastes in their source as well.

At our university, organic wastes are collected during the pruning of plants, mowing of the lawns and after processes in the compost plant. The organic waste supplied from the plant
materials in the campus landscape is utilized by a recycle machine. The compost produced is fully used in the campus for landscape maintenance. The amount of organic waste recycled increases every year significantly.

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)

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.

Sewerage Disposal (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

Water Resources

A new water conservation program has been implemented in 2019. Rainwater from the building roofs is being collected in rain water tanks for watering indoor and outdoor planting. Also, a ground water tank construction is still in preparation in the Arboretum area. The capacity of the Ground Water Tank is 6000 m³.

Water Conservation – Rain Water Collection (University of Yeditepe, Turkey)
Following the water treatment process, the recycled water is taken from the storage tank by an electrical system which uses booster pumps. Then the recycled water is sent to a piping system which distributes the recycled water to the garden irrigation system and the campus toilet system.

The Use of Water Efficient Appliances in the campus buildings; flow rate decreasing appliances for water taps are used in all the campus WCs. In addition, all the WCs are provided with low flush toilet equipment.
During the Covid-19 pandemic, additional handwashing and sanitation facilities have been provided throughout the campus buildings.

All the enclosed areas are disinfected by the Yeditepe University

Hand Sanitizers (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

**Transportation**

At Yeditepe University ‘Sustainable Transportation Practices’ are applied. In order to reduce the use of vehicles in the campus, vehicle entries are restricted. The Shuttle Services are
available for journeys within the campus and the ride is free. But due to COVID-19 measures, shuttle buses are not operating since March 2020. Entrances to the campus and transportation within the campus are carried out in the form of pedestrian circulation.

Zero emission vehicles are available within the campus area. An electrical car provides shuttle services from campus building area to the parking lot at the arboretum area carrying 4 passengers for each trip at regular intervals daily. For the same route, another alternative transportation is planned. Bicycle racks are located to specific locations and free bicycles are provided for use. A zero emission electric car is present in the campus area which is designed by Yeditepe University Automotive Club and exhibited in different scientific occasions.
In addition, various pedestrian path alternatives were created in the campus circulation 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”, “Sustainable Energy”, “Design and Innovation for Sustainable Food Systems” graduate programs. On the other hand, School of Applied Sciences established “Agricultural Trade and Management” undergraduate program. Furthermore, we plan to integrate these programs and related courses throughout the university. Every year total number of courses offered at Yeditepe University increases. A new course named “Sustainable Development” is offered for all the students of the university which focuses on the sustainable development goals of the United Nations.

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, “Sustainability Study Group” which is composed of specialized academic and administrative staff, has been started their studies to coordinate the sustainability efforts of the whole university. Also, several student organizations have been established in order to increase the participation of students in sustainability activities.

There are several educational programs to cope with Covid-19 pandemic. YU-LEARNT, Directorate of Teaching and Learning Unit, E-Resource Collection, Cep Kütüphanem (Pocket Library) Application, COADSYS Online Education System, Google Meet / Google Classroom. YU-LEARNT was founded in March 2021, to provide new and innovative teaching and learning techniques to our academic staff, students, and alumni; new tools for research fields and support services in career development; organize certificate programs and workshops.
Various activities have been organized throughout the university to raise awareness about “Sustainability and the Environment”:

Webinar of the Directorate of Teaching and Learning Unit. YU-LEARNT was founded in March 2021, to provide new and innovative teaching and learning techniques to our academic staff, students, and alumni; new tools for research fields and support services in career development; organize certificate programs and workshops.

A webinar titled "Forest Fires, Subsequent Disaster Risks, and Ecological Effects" was organized by the Department of Civil Engineering of the Faculty of Engineering on October 8, 2021, through the corporate zoom account of our university.

Our university participated in the Yeditepe University Erasmus Days in order to raise awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals.

Member of our university's Sustainability Study Group, Asst. Prof. Dr. Barış Gençer Baykan and YUSLP team cleaned the garbage in Maltepe with Lets Do It Turkey within the scope of World Cleanup Day.
Protecting the health of employees at Yeditepe University and its affiliated institutions has always been among the first priorities and continues to be. Especially during the pandemic period we are in, the protection of the health of our healthcare professionals is of particular importance. In order to draw attention to this issue, an awareness raising meeting was organized by Yeditepe University, Yeditepe University Hospitals and Sustainability Study Group.

Vocational School, within the scope of Yeditepe University 25th Year Seminars;

‘How Much Can Nuclear and Solar Energy Contribute to Electricity Generation in Turkey in 2030?’ 'The Factory of the Future', 'From Manufacturing Industry to Original Products… How?’ seminars were organized.
Yeditepe University has displayed its projects that light the future, R&D efforts, and university-industry collaborations on the 25th anniversary of its foundation. Attending the Education Center Program of Bloomberg HT, Yeditepe University has declared its vision for the future with its academics, students, and alumni. Head of the Department of Material Science and Nanotechnology at Faculty of Engineering of Yeditepe University, Prof. Dr. Taner Akbay has been hosted by Turgut Özay on 19 June, Saturday, at 11.35. Prof. Dr. Taner Akbay has provided information about the recent developments in material science and nanotechnology fields and has talked about their efforts in this field for sustainability.

Member of the Department of Genetics and Bioengineering at Yeditepe University’s Faculty of Engineering, Dr. Bahar Soğutma Özdemir has been hosted by Turgut Özay on 29 May Saturday, at 11.35, on the Education Center Program. Özdemir has provided information regarding the R&D efforts that are conducted in the department, such as “Agricultural Improvement”, “Agricultural Digitalization” and “Antique DNA”, for contributing to the field of agriculture and sustainability in agriculture.

Examples of Events Related to Environment and Sustainability (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

A webinar organized by the collaboration of the Department of Economics and Sustainability Study Group, titled “Planning and Service Delivery Through Asset Management, Equity, and Affordability Considerations at the Portland Water Bureau”, we were hosted Mert Müftügil, Engineer at Asset Management Branch and Erich Pacheco, Equity and Policy Manager.

A webinar organized by the collaboration of the Department of Economics and Sustainability Study Group, titled “UNDP’s Role and Applications in Sustainable Development” we were hosted by Aslı Çağın Dağlı, Project Manager at Inclusive Sustainable Growth Portfolio of UNDP Turkey.

A webinar organized by the collaboration of Department of Economics Sustainability Study Group, titled “Sustainable Development and Climate Change”, we were hosted Dr. Nurşen Numanoğlu, Deputy General Secretary toTÜSİAD.
In the event organized by the Faculty of Fine Arts, Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts, and held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 18.00, Dr. Marion NESTLE was with us.

In the second event that is organized by the collaboration of the Department of Economics and Sustainability Study Group, titled “Sustainable Development Goals For Business”, we were hosted Gaye UĞUR SARIOĞLU, Deputy Executive Director to Global Compact TR and Sustainability and Investment Environment Director to TÜSİAD.

We talked about what we have done and what we plan to do in the field of sustainability at the "Projects Realized at Yeditepe University as part of Sustainability Studies and Industry Collaborations" organized by the Sustainability Study Group.
Member and the Deputy Head of the Department of Public Administration at Yeditepe University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Dr. Barış Gençer Baykan, and Member and the Deputy Head of the Department of Urban Design and Landscape Architecture at Yeditepe University, Faculty of Architecture, Dr. Bengi Korgavuş will be hosted by Turgut Özay on 17 April 2021 Saturday, at 11.35, on Educational Center program, answered Turgut Özay’s questions. Baykan and Korgavuş talked about what can be done individually and socially for a sustainable world.

Within the scope of Yeditepe University Clubhouse Streams, “What Are We Doing for Sustainable Yeditepe?” has been organized.

Examples of Events Related to Environment and Sustainability (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

Umut-Elazığ Project aims to develop sustainable and alternative architectural design solutions for the city of Elazığ, which was struck by an unfortunate earthquake disaster in January 2020. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, which had an impact around the World, the focal point of the design process is designing to cope with extraordinary situations such as natural disasters and pandemics for Elazığ. The design studio is part of a social responsibility project, and participants are expected to synthesize topics of environmental awareness, sustainability, ecological living, and visionary approaches into their designs.

Project Presentation of Umut-Elazığ Project was conducted by Yeditepe University’s Faculty of Architecture and Emre Arolat Architecture, in collaboration with the Municipality of Elazığ and Elazığ Chamber of Trade and Industry.
Examples of Events Related to Environment and Sustainability (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

PTT World Environment Day - Sustainability and Upcycling Stamp Design, Department of Graphic Design. Within the scope of our collaboration with PTT for our project course, the design of Ayşe Ezgi Kafkas has been selected and published among the designs created by our students. Today, as upcycling becomes more of a priority within the context of “sustainability”, our students aimed to raise awareness regarding the topic with their designs.

“The Future of Sustainable Development” conference has been held with the participation of sustainability leaders from different institutions. Jeffrey D. Sachs who is the director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University has been invited as the keynote speaker for the event. He has introduced and signed the last version of his book ‘The Age of Sustainable Development’ which has been translated to Turkish lately by the Yeditepe University Press (31 October 2019).
During the conference, also a structure in the form of a tree has been designed and located at several locations for collecting plastic bottles throughout the campus area and a campaign has been started among the students and the staff to raise awareness for the global plastic waste problem.

“Sustainable Urban Furniture with waste materials”, workshop & exhibition (24-25-26 April 2019, Istanbul) has been conducted as a collaborative effort by Yeditepe University Faculty of Architecture, Department of Industrial Design, Interior Design, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture, Directorate of Environment as well as Landscape collaboration with İstek High School students.
Sustainability Ambassador Student Group organized ‘Sustainability Summit’ event for the second time this year. At the event, speakers from different industries dealing with sustainability have given important aspects of their studies. During the event a symbolic cup has been designed from recycled materials and been used for collecting waste to raise environmental awareness among students and staff.

RGBE Certificate Program in Practical Horticulture is being organised at regular intervals with the cooperation of Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and Nezahat Gökyiğit Botanic Garden. The aim of the certificate program is to increase the number of the specialized staff in sustainability practices.
“Light On” International Design Workshop & Exhibition was conducted with the collaboration of Bern University of Applied Sciences and 700 DCC-Design Communication Consultancy, Yeditepe Üniversitesi Faculty of Architecture, on 2-6 September 2019. Tutor. The design workshop focuses on the concept of light at any scale, as an opportunity to design a sustainable industrial product or to enlighten an indoor/outdoor space.

Public Administration Department organized a field visit to Kadıköy Municipality City Council on 05 November 2019. Students met with councillors and participated in hearings and voting processes of the City Council. An other field visit to Eskişehir City Council, Tepebaşı Municipality and Tepebaşı District Governorship and Odunpazarı Municipality organised between 29-30 November 2019. Students met with mayors, vice mayors and councillors and discussed on local governmental issues in Eskişehir.

Food Engineering Department organized a series of seminars on Sustainable Food Systems. Public Administration Department organized a seminar on Air Pollution, Cities and Energy Politics. Public Administration Department organized a seminar on the experiences of department graduates in NGOs (Non-governmental issues) on 15 October 2019. MARC (Management Application and Research Center) and Yeditepe Public Administration Department organized a seminar on the “Role of Municipalities in Environmental Management, Climate
In the Arboretum area of the Yeditepe University, annually a “Student Tree Planting Activity” is put into practice during the academic year to encourage the students to take part in nature conservation by the Yeditepe University Directorate of Environment and Landscape.

Designer Habitat Designers’ Habitat Workshop”, Yeditepe University, Department of Industrial Design & İzfaş A.Ş. collaborative work Fuar İzmir, Designing the sustainable “Design Thinking Area”. (27-30 March 2019)

“Using Natural Stone as an element of Design” (27-30 March 2019)
Examples of Events Related to Environment and Sustainability (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

Ataşehir Municipal Science & Art Center -Department of Industrial Design, Interior Design, Urban Design and Landscape Architecture, Directorate of Environment And Landscape colloboration. This organization was conducted in order to emphasize the importance of Recycling –“Product design with waste materials” workshop with children aged 8 to 12 years old. Exhibition (November 2018)

Examples of Events Related to Environment and Sustainability (Yeditepe University, Turkey)

Organic Agriculture Propagation Techniques have been practiced by the students of Yeditepe University as an application of a course in a greenhouse located within the campus area every semester.
“Sustainability and Environmental Awareness Workshop Event”; the study of making use of waste materials and greening the environment. The project have been practiced in corporation with Yeditepe University and ISTEK High School to raise awareness and sustainability among high school students.

A workshop organized by Yeditepe University and Atasehir Municipality; concerning the children of the residents living within the municipality area. The workshop had been dealing with the product design using waste materials and vertical garden design and application.
A workshop had been organized by the Industrial Design, Interior Architecture Design and Graphic Design departments from Yeditepe University in cooperation with Ataşehir Municipality. A city park within the boundaries of Ataşehir Municipality has been designed reconsidering sustainable design criterias. Industrial Design, Interior Architecture Design and Graphic Design students redesigned the city park by using sustainable Street furniture elements and the student works has been demonstrated at Istanbul Design Week exhibition.

Yeditepe University participated in the 7th International Student Triennial with the “Sustainable Value in Packaging” workshop.
The Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts promoted a World Food Day through a seminar on Global Food Security and Sustainability. The purpose of the seminar was to spread awareness among university students as to how food security and rural development can change the future of migration.

Yeditepe University Environment and Ecology Student Organization has organized a “Forest Cleaning Activity” at Aydos Forest in Istanbul. The various kinds of wastes have been collected by the students from the forest with a joyful activity.
Yeditepe University Environment and Ecology Student Club has executed a seminar hosting TEMA (The Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and Protection of Natural Habitats) with the subject of “TEMA in 25 Years”.

Yeditepe University Environment and Ecology Student Club has organized a “Bicycle Festival” to attract attention to the environmental and human health impacts of the Coal-Fired Thermal Power Plants at Princess Islands at Istanbul.
Yeditepe University Environment and Ecology Student Club has organized a Botanical Garden Technical Trip to Nezahat Gokyigit Botanical Garden in Istanbul to get to know the different plant species.

The Yeditepe University Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Department supports scientific and nonprofit activities to promote healthy eating environments.

Annually a tree planting activity is carried out for the memory of the students who lost their lives in a space reserved at the campus.

An exhibition is held at Yeditepe University about the maintenance of Urban Trees in Istanbul to remark the significance and consequences of improper pruning in the cities.
Yeditepe University has conducted an Organic Tea Project in Yesiltepe Village in cooperation with Caykur General Directorate to support the production of organic agricultural tea production in order to achieve sustainability goals in the East Black Sea Region.

A project about the recycling of the batteries and plastic covers is carried out in cooperation with the student organization and the municipality.