# CLIMATE ACTION PLAN







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## INTRODUCTION

Climate change, poverty, and inequality are among the most significant challenges of our time. It is crucial to address these issues together, considering their social, environmental, and economic connections. The COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impacts have been devastating. Many countries are deeply immersed in the COVID crisis while also facing the growing impacts of climate change. These crises have exacerbated the increasing structural vulnerabilities of the past decade. To promote green, resilient, and inclusive development, the need to integrate climate and development strategies into regular strategies must be addressed promptly. Even if the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are achieved by 2030, climate change could easily undermine these gains.

Turkey's Climate Action Plan in Education focuses on raising awareness among young people about climate change, fostering environmental sustainability awareness, and equipping them with the necessary skills for climate action. Within this framework, various strategies and actions are included in Turkey's educational system to build awareness of climate change. These include Climate Change and Environmental Awareness in the Curriculum, Training Programs for Educators, Sustainable Practices in Schools, Zero Waste and Recycling Practices, Climate Crisis and Disaster Awareness Training, Disaster and Climate Crisis Awareness Programs, Climate Resilience Education, Research and Development Support for Climate and Environmental Studies in Universities, Campus Sustainability Projects, Partnerships with Civil Society and the Private Sector, Student Participation, and Awareness Campaigns.

Turkey's Climate Action Plan in Education aims to instill environmental awareness and promote sustainable and climate-friendly habits among younger generations. Such educational programs play a vital role in creating a society sensitive to environmental issues in the long term.



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### RECTOR'S MESSAGE

At Istanbul Okan University, we recognize that climate change is one of the most critical issues facing our planet. This global crisis impacts not only the environment but also communities, economies, and the living standards of future generations. For this reason, our university aims to lead society towards a sustainable future by taking concrete steps together with our students and staff.

This Climate Action Plan will provide a comprehensive roadmap for Istanbul Okan University's commitment to combating climate change. Our goal is to reduce the university's carbon footprint, increase energy efficiency, protect natural resources, and integrate all environmental sustainability into our activities by expanding waste management practices. Our action plan also aims to instill environmental awareness in our students and staff, create awareness around climate change, and inspire society towards a green transformation.

The Istanbul Okan University Climate Action Plan aims to promote climate-friendly practices across all areas, from campus life to academic and research activities. We acknowledge our shared responsibility in environmental sustainability and the fight against climate change, believing that each step we take will significantly contribute to a more livable, healthier, and sustainable world.



Prof. Dr. Güliz MUĞAN Rector

Istanbul Okan University

## PLAN OUTLINE



#### Reducing Carbon Footprint, Increasing Energy Efficiency, Waste Management and Education

Istanbul Okan University has developed a comprehensive climate action plan to create a sustainable campus life and reduce its environmental impact. This plan encompasses reducing the carbon footprint, increasing energy efficiency, improving waste management, and raising awareness through environmental education. These four interconnected focus areas represent concrete steps taken to contribute to environmental sustainability and to fulfill the university's mission to lead society by example.



## CARBON FOOTPRINT

To reduce its carbon footprint, which is fundamental to combating climate change, Istanbul Okan University focuses on making its energy consumption and transportation activities more environmentally friendly.

Various initiatives, from recycling to transitioning to renewable energy sources, support our university's goals to reduce carbon emissions.



#### Situation Analysis

**Carbon Footprint Measurement:** Evaluations will be conducted for Scope 1 (direct emissions), Scope 2 (indirect energy emissions), and Scope 3 (other indirect emissions).

**Data Collection and Analysis:** Data will be gathered and analyzed from sources such as energy consumption, transportation-related emissions, and waste management.



#### **Goal Setting and Task Allocation**

**Short-Term Goals (1-3 years):** Improve energy efficiency, establish infrastructure for lower emissions, and organize awareness campaigns.

**Medium-Term Goals (3-5 years):** Transition to renewable energy sources and develop systems for carbon emission monitoring and reporting.

**Long-Term Goals (5+ years):** Achieve a net-zero emission target across the campus.

**Responsibility Allocation:** Define departments and assign roles responsible for achieving each goal.



#### Monitoring and Reporting

**Data Monitoring:** Regular monitoring and updates on carbon emissions data.

**Reporting:** Conduct annual reporting according to standards and create awareness within the university.

**Feedback Mechanism:** Establish mechanisms to collect feedback from students and staff to assess the plan's effectiveness and make improvements as needed.



#### **Continuous Improvement**

**Review and Evaluation:** Annually review the climate action plan's outcomes and make necessary adjustments.

**Standard Updates:** Keep the plan up-to-date with changes in standards and regulations.

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Scope	Data
Scope 1: Direct Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Consumption data from installations on campus that directly consume fossil fuels, such as boilers, generators, and heating systems.
Scope 1: Direct Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Fuel consumption data for university-owned vehicles.
Scope 1: Direct Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Usage Data of Chemicals in Science and Engineering Laboratories That May Release Greenhouse Gases
Scope 1: Direct Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Yangın söndürme cihazlarında kullanılan gazların envanteri ve tüketimi.
Scope 2: Indirect Energy Emissions	Annual electricity consumption data for campus buildings.
Scope 2: Indirect Energy Emissions	Consumption of energy sources (e.g., natural gas) supplied from off-campus providers.
Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions	Emission data from the production processes of goods, materials, and services purchased by the university, including library books, laboratory supplies, cleaning products, etc.

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Scope	Data
Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions	Çalışanların ve öğrencilerin kampüse ulaşım için kullandıkları araçların (özel araç, otobüs, tren, uçak vb.) ortalama yolculuk mesafesi ve sıklığına dair veriler.
Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions	Üniversitenin ürettiği atık miktarları (organik atık, geri dönüştürülebilir atık, tehlikeli atık vb.) ve bunların yönetim süreçleri.
Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions	Kampüsteki su tüketim verileri ve atık su yönetim süreçlerinden kaynaklanan dolaylı emisyonlar.
Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions	Eğer kampüs dışında kiralanmış tesisler veya işletmeler varsa, bu alanların enerji tüketimi ve karbon emisyonlarıyla ilgili veriler.
Other	Her bir enerji türü ve emisyon kaynağı için belirlenmiş emisyon faktörleri (örneğin, elektrik veya doğalgaz tüketiminin karbon eşdeğeri).
Other	Bina kullanım saatleri, öğrenci ve personel sayısı gibi veriler, enerji tüketimi ve karbon emisyonlarını normalize etmek için önemlidir.
Other	Üniversitenin kampüs içinde ürettiği güneş veya rüzgâr enerjisi gibi yenilenebilir enerji miktarı.

**Climate Action Plan** 

### PROCESS OUTCOMES



**Climate Action Plan** 

### PROCESS OUTCOMES



### CARBON CERTIFICATE

Istanbul Okan University has developed a mobile application for carbon footprint measurement in collaboration with Fibabanka's subsidiary, Commited. As a result, the university has obtained a carbon certificate for 64 tCO2e. During the 2023-2024 academic year, students from the Entrepreneurship course collected data on food, transportation, and household information through the app. This data was used to calculate the total carbon footprint for the academic year. Based on the calculations, a carbon-neutral certificate was issued for the university.

Istanbul Okan University invites all its stakeholders to become carbon-neutral by practicing conscious consumption, promoting recycling, avoiding fossil fuels, and purchasing carbon certificates.



Retirement certificates are hosted on the Gold Standard Impact Registry, view your certificate.

Gold Standard | Chemin de Balexert 7-9 1219 Châtelaine, International Environnment House 2, Switzerland | goldstandard.org. +41 22 788 70 80, help@goldstandard.org

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## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

#### Increasing energy efficiency is an important step for more effective use of resources.

In line with this goal, our university is working to reduce energy consumption by implementing smart systems, green buildings, and environmentally friendly technologies that promote energy efficiency. These initiatives aim to significantly lower the university's overall energy usage while contributing to a more sustainable and eco-friendly campus.



#### **Situation Analysis**

Identify the types of energy used on campus (electricity, natural gas, etc.) and their sources.

Conduct a detailed analysis of energy consumption points (buildings, laboratories, heating/cooling systems, etc.).

Develop energy performance indicators (KPIs).

Collect, analyze, and create an energy consumption profile based on data.

#### Energy Management System (EnMS) Setup

Establish an energy management system at the university in compliance with ISO 50001.

Define energy policies and goals; develop procedures necessary to achieve energy savings.

Form and empower an energy management team.



#### Monitoring and Reporting

Monitor performance annually to assess progress toward energy performance goals and prepare reports.

Publish sustainability reports that include annual energy consumption and carbon footprint results.

Evaluate the effectiveness of energy efficiency projects and identify areas for improvement.



#### **Continuous Improvement**

Continuously monitor the performance of the energy management system and set new targets.

Analyze data from implemented measures to identify areas for improvement in the energy management system.

Gather feedback from staff and students, and assess suggestions to enhance energy efficiency.

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Scope	Data	Description
Energy Consumption Data	Electricity Consumption	The total electricity consumption across the campus (in kWh) measured over specific periods (daily, monthly, annually).
Energy Consumption Data	Natural Gas and Other Fuel Consumption	The amount of natural gas used for heating, hot water production, cooking, and other purposes.
Energy Consumption Data	Water Consumption	Energy-related water usage (e.g., water treatment, hot water production).
Energy Consumption Data	Renewable Energy Usage	The amount of energy derived from renewable sources such as solar and wind energy used on campus.
Energy Consumption Data	Energy Consumption in Different Buildings	The energy consumption data for each building, classroom, or other campus areas.

Scope	Data	Description
Energy Performance and Efficiency Data	Energy Intensity	The amount of energy consumed, related to campus size, student numbers, or activities (e.g., kWh/student, kWh/m <sup>2</sup> ).
Energy Performance and Efficiency Data	Equipment Efficiency	The efficiency of energy used in relation to the output (e.g., energy efficiency of lighting systems, HVAC systems, office devices, computers, etc.).
Energy Performance and Efficiency Data	Energy Efficiency Improvements	Energy efficiency projects implemented and the energy savings they have achieved.
Carbon Footprint Data	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	CO2 emissions resulting from energy consumption. This data is used to calculate the carbon emissions from various energy sources.
Carbon Footprint Data	Carbon Footprint Monitoring	Measuring the total carbon emissions resulting from energy consumption across the campus.

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Scope	Data	Description
Distribution of Energy Sources	Energy Source Distribution	The proportions of energy types used (electricity, natural gas, renewable energy, etc.) and their respective consumption.
Distribution of Energy Sources	Energy Distribution Systems Condition	The condition of the infrastructure used to deliver energy to the university (electric grid, energy transport systems, etc.).
Energy Management Projects and Improvement Activities	Energy Saving Projects Implemented	Details of energy efficiency improvement projects, upgrades, and investments made on campus to enhance energy efficiency.
Energy Management Projects and Improvement Activities	Monitoring of Improvement Activities	Monitoring of energy savings targets and assessing whether those targets have been achieved.
Energy Management Projects and Improvement Activities	Equipment Maintenance and Renewal Data	Data related to the maintenance, changes, and renewal of equipment that impacts energy consumption.

Scope	Data	Description
Operation and Maintenance Data	Energy Demand and Consumption	The variation of daily, monthly, and annual energy demand over time.
Operation and Maintenance Data	Maintenance Activities and Monitoring	Maintenance activities on systems affecting energy efficiency and their impact on energy consumption.
Operation and Maintenance Data	Outages and Energy Losses	Recording energy outages and situations of inefficient energy usage.
Monitoring and Performance Evaluation	Energy Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Energy performance indicators (KPIs) set within the energy management system, tracking changes and improvements in energy usage.
Monitoring and Performance Evaluation	Data Analysis and Reporting	Regular energy consumption analysis and performance reports.

Scope	Data	Description
Education and Awareness Activities	Education Programs	The number of training sessions conducted on energy management and efficiency, along with participation rates.
Education and Awareness Activities	Awareness Campaigns	Data measuring the awareness levels of campus members regarding energy conservation.

### ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Istanbul Okan University holds the ISO 50001 Energy Management System certification as a demonstration of its commitment to achieving high standards in energy management.

This international certification is a concrete expression of our university's commitment and systematic approaches to improving energy efficiency, reducing our carbon footprint, and creating a sustainable campus. The ISO 50001 certification contributes to the university's goal of continuously improving energy performance and serving as a role model to society as an environmentally conscious educational institution.



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### WASTE MANAGEMENT "

### Sustainable waste management ensures the creation of a cleaner and more environmentally conscious system across the campus.

Istanbul Okan University is working on effective waste management through recycling, zero waste practices, and composting systems.



#### **Situation Analysis**

Identifying waste types (organic, plastic, paper, metal, glass, etc.) and waste sources.

Analyzing the current waste collection, storage, and disposal systems on campus.

Reviewing waste generation points and recycling rates to identify areas that need improvement.



#### Establishing Waste Segregation and Recycling Systems

**Creating Waste Segregation Points:** Installing separate recycling bins for different types of waste throughout the campus.

**Organic Waste Recycling:** Setting up composting areas for organic waste to be processed.

**Recycling Units:** Providing dedicated bins and containers for recyclable waste collection.

**Electronic Waste Collection:** Designating suitable collection points for electronic waste to ensure its safe disposal.



#### **Reducing Single-Use Products**

Reducing the use of single-use plastic and paper products in campus cafeterias, canteens, and dining halls.

**Encouraging Reusable Products:** Promoting the use of reusable water bottles, cutlery sets, and coffee cups among students and staff.

Supporting alternatives such as fabric bags instead of single-use plastic bags.



### WASTE MANAGEMENT <sup>®</sup>



#### Waste Management Training and Awareness Initiatives

Organizing educational programs on zero waste and recycling for students and staff.

Installing informative posters, banners, and signs throughout the campus to promote zero waste.

**Awareness Campaigns:** Organizing events on special days such as World Environment Day and Recycling Week to raise awareness.

**Reward Programs:** Encouraging individuals and groups who successfully contribute to zero waste and recycling efforts through rewards.



#### Waste Monitoring and Reporting

Regularly tracking and recording the amount of waste collected across campus.

Preparing reports on waste generation and recycling rates monthly or per term.

Evaluating progress toward zero waste goals and making the reports publicly available to ensure transparency in waste management.



#### **Utilizing Zero Waste Technologies**

**Paper Waste Reduction through Digitalization:** Reducing paper consumption by promoting digital documentation and email usage.

**Waste Tracking System:** Using waste management software to track waste from its source and monitor recycling processes.

**Smart Recycling Systems:** Installing smart recycling machines and containers to improve the efficiency of waste segregation.



#### **Continuous Improvement**

Measuring the effectiveness of the waste management system through regular audits.

Continuously improving waste management policies and procedures to make necessary adjustments for achieving zero waste goals.

Gathering feedback from staff and students to enhance zero waste practices.

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Scope	Data	Description
Waste Quantity and Types	Total Waste Quantity	The total amount of waste generated across the university (in kg or tons).
Waste Quantity and Types	Waste Quantity by Type	Organic waste (food and garden waste) Paper and cardboard waste Plastic waste Metal and glass waste Electronic waste Hazardous waste (chemical, medical waste, etc.)
Waste Quantity and Types	Waste Quantity by Source	The amount of waste generated from various areas on campus, such as student dormitories, cafeterias, classrooms, laboratories, and offices.
Recycling Rates	Total Recycling Rate	The total amount of waste recycled across the university and the overall recycling rate (in percentage).
Recycling Rates	Recycling by Waste Type	The recycling rate for each waste type, including paper, plastic, metal, glass, and organic waste.

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Scope	Data	Description
Recycling Rates	Reuse Rate	The amount of items redirected for reuse at the university (e.g., books, stationery, furniture, etc.).
Composting and Organic Waste Data	Composted Organic Waste Quantity	The amount of organic waste composted (in kg/ton).
Composting and Organic Waste Data	Composting Production Data	The total amount and quality of compost produced from the composting facility.
Composting and Organic Waste Data	Compost Usage Areas	The areas on campus where the produced compost is used (e.g., gardens, agricultural areas, green spaces).
Plastic and Single-Use Product Data	Single-Use Plastic Consumption Rate	The consumption amount of single-use plastics (measured in units or kg).



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Scope	Data	Description
Plastic and Single-Use Product Data	Reduced Single-Use Product Quantity	The reduction rates in the usage of plastics and other single-use products.
Waste Management Costs	Waste Collection and Transportation Costs	The expenses incurred for the collection, sorting, and transportation of waste.
Waste Management Costs	Recycling Costs	The costs associated with recycling processes.
Waste Management Costs	Composting Costs	The costs for infrastructure, labor, and other expenses related to composting.
Awareness and Education Data	Education and Awareness Programs	The number of educational and awareness events held and the number of participants.



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Scope	Data	Description
Awareness and Education Data	Participant Survey Data	Feedback and survey results collected after events related to waste reduction and recycling.
Carbon Footprint Data	Carbon Emissions from Waste	The amount of carbon emissions generated from the university's waste production.
Carbon Footprint Data	Carbon Emission Reduction from Waste Reduction	The carbon emission savings achieved through waste reduction and recycling practices.
Electronic Waste and Hazardous Waste Data	Collected Electronic Waste Quantity	The amount of waste generated from electronic devices.
Electronic Waste and Hazardous Waste Data	Collected Hazardous Waste Quantity	The amount of hazardous waste, including chemical, laboratory, and medical waste, and the rate at which it is properly disposed of.



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Scope	Data	Description
Revenue from Recycling Data	Revenue from Sold Recycled Materials	The amount of income generated from materials recycled by the university.
Savings from Recycling Data	Cost Savings	Cost savings achieved through recycling and zero-waste practices by avoiding waste disposal.
Annual Target and Performance Reports	Set Annual Zero-Waste Targets	Carbon emission savings achieved through waste reduction and recycling practices.
Annual Target and Performance Reports	Progress Toward Targets	The extent to which the set targets were achieved during the year, and any shortcomings.

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**Climate Action** 

### ZERO WASTE

As part of the Zero Waste project initiated by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of the Republic of Turkey in June 2017, within the framework of sustainable development principles, we at Istanbul Okan University support efforts to control waste and leave a clean, developed, and livable world for future generations.



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## EDUCATION

### Increasing environmental awareness and educating the future leaders with sustainability principles require effective training.

Our university aims to create comprehensive awareness on climate action by organizing training, seminars, and awareness programs for students and staff on climate change and environmental sustainability. The components of the action plan are as follows:



#### Strengthening the Curriculum with Sustainability

- **Climate and Environment Courses:** Adding foundational courses on climate change, sustainable development, environmental policies, and ecology to the curriculum across all faculties.
- **Elective Courses:** Offering elective courses on topics such as sustainable energy, climate economics, environmental ethics, and environmental engineering.
- **Comprehensive Project and Internship Programs:** Providing opportunities for students to engage in projects related to climate action, environmental protection, and sustainability, or to intern with relevant organizations.



#### Awareness and Training Programs

- **Climate Action Workshops:** Organizing workshops for students and staff on topics such as climate change, sustainability, and renewable energy.
- **Campus-wide Awareness Campaigns:** Hosting thematic events like "Green Campus" activities, energy conservation weeks, and water-saving days.
- Sustainability Conferences and Seminars: Facilitating panels, discussions, and training sessions with experts to share information on current environmental issues.



#### **Climate Leadership and Engagement Incentive Programs**

- Green Ambassadors Program: Selecting climate ambassadors from among the students to lead sustainability and climate action efforts on campus.
- Collaboration with Student Clubs: Supporting student clubs active in environmental, climate, and nature-related topics to help raise awareness across the university.
- Voluntary Environmental Ambassadors: Establishing voluntary environmental ambassadors among students and staff to manage campus climate action activities.

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## EDUCATION



#### Green Technology and Sustainable Campus Infrastructure

- Energy Efficiency Projects: Implementing energy-efficient lighting, heating, and cooling systems in campus buildings, along with the use of eco-friendly materials.
- Recycling Initiatives: Installing recycling bins, composting areas, and waste reduction programs across campus to improve waste management.
- **Preservation and Expansion of Green Spaces:** Creating an environmentally friendly campus atmosphere by preserving natural habitats and increasing green spaces within the campus.



#### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- **Performance Indicators:** Establishing specific performance indicators to track the success of the education action plan (e.g., students' climate knowledge level, participation rate in awareness activities, recycling rates, etc.).
- Annual Evaluation Reports: Reporting annually on the impact of the implemented programs and the progress toward achieving set goals.
- Surveys and Feedback: Collecting feedback from students and staff to assess the effectiveness of the education programs and ensure continuous improvement.

#### **Conclusion and Expectations**



This action plan aims to contribute to the university's sustainability goals and its active role in combating climate change. It seeks to enhance students' environmental awareness and climate knowledge, ensuring they graduate as competent individuals in this field. By offering an environmentally conscious education model, the plan will create a positive impact both within the campus and in the broader community.



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Data	Description
Participant Data	Number of students, academic and administrative staff participating in the trainings Demographic information of the participants Participation rates in the trainings (in percentages) Continuity and re-participation rates of the trainings
Training Content and Modules	Topics covered in the trainings Content of the training modules and targeted gains Training materials (presentations, videos, documents, etc.) Conducting the trainings in online or face-to-face formats
Training Results and Impact Data	Increase in the participants' knowledge levels on climate change and sustainability after the training (pre- and post- tests, survey results) Participants' behavioral changes after the training Measurement of changes in the actions and attitudes of students and staff regarding climate caused by the trainings
Training Program Evaluation	How the trainings were evaluated by the participants (satisfaction surveys, feedback) Feedback on the comprehensibility and effectiveness of the training content Areas where the trainings did not meet the targets and suggestions for improvement
Post-Training Behavior Tracking	Training of changes made by individuals in their daily lives regarding climate action Environmental projects and participation rates after training Students' participation rates in clubs or organizations that carry environmental responsibility

Data	Description
Data on Education Activities and Events	Number of climate action and environment-focused events organized (workshops, seminars, competitions, etc.) Participation rates in events and environmental impact of events Interactive tools and methods used in education (simulations, games, group work, etc.)
Awareness and Consciousness Data	Impact of education on environmental awareness (surveys, participant opinions) Improvements in participants' awareness of climate change and sustainability Impact of education on creating environmental responsibility awareness in participants
Educational Financing and Resource Data	Budget allocated for conducting education Cost-effectiveness of education in terms of impact on sustainability and climate change Sponsorships or external sources of financing provided for education

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### CONSUMPTION AND (SES) TABLES

### Natural Gas Consumption Table

Unit: Sm<sup>3</sup>



### Water Consumption Table

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2023

### Annual Comparison of Solar Power Plant Production

Unit: kWh



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### RESULT



In this report, we, as Istanbul Okan University, outlined various initiatives, strategic plans and practices that we have implemented to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We proudly share the progress made in key areas such as combating climate change, increasing sustainability in education, ensuring energy efficiency, zero waste management and raising environmental awareness. These efforts have strengthened our mission to create a positive impact not only within our campus but also in society and to raise our students with an understanding of the importance of global goals.

#### Our Key Achievements

- Zero Waste and Recycling Efforts
- Energy Efficiency and Carbon Footprint Reduction Projects

#### **Ongoing Challenges**

- Awareness and Behavioral Change
- Integration of Infrastructure and Technological Innovations

#### Let's Take Steps Together for Sustainability

- Create Awareness, Initiate Change
- Calls to Action

As Istanbul Okan University, we reaffirm our determination to ensure that the SDGs are achieved by 2050. In the coming years, we will continue to lead in sustainability and social responsibility issues and inspire our students, employees and society. To fulfill this commitment, we will not give up on taking innovative steps, strengthening collaborations and working for a sustainable future.



### THANK YOU

As Istanbul Okan University, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all our stakeholders who have supported us in achieving our environmental sustainability and climate action goals. We are deeply thankful to our academic staff, students, and employees for their dedication and contributions, which have greatly contributed to our university's sustainability vision.

We would also like to thank our external stakeholders, local and international partner organizations, who have inspired us in the fight against climate change and the implementation of eco-friendly practices. Your contributions are of great importance in every step we take together to build a greener, more sustainable future.

### contact

#### Istanbul Okan University

Learning Application and Research Center Prepared by: Res. Asst. Begüm GÜNDÜZ Co-worker: Asst. Prof. Emel KOÇ

Istanbul Okan University <u>Tepeören Mahallesi Tuzla</u> <u>Kampüsü, İstanbul Okan</u> <u>Üniversitesi, 34959 Tuzla/</u> <u>İstanbul</u>