



SDG 11 - SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Times Higher Education Impact Rankings have emerged as part of the movement to achieve the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals. One of these goals is the sustainability of cities and communities. Today, a large proportion of the world's population lives in cities, and cities are often the home of universities. While cities are cradles of innovation and opportunity, they are also centres of intense poverty and inequality. In this context, the relationship between universities and the urban and rural communities in which they are located needs to be positively sustainable. The *Times Higher Education Impact Ranking* under SDG 11 sets out with such sensitivities in mind, while also exploring and ranking universities globally on how they preserve the history and culture of their communities and what they do to help sustain them for a sustainable community.

The SDG 11 label is structured in 4 main categories, the first of which covers academic activities. Universities are expected to respond to a total of 17 questions under 3 categories excluding academic research. These titles are; *Supporting Arts and Heritage, Arts and Heritage Expenditures and Sustainable Practices*. Üsküdar University of Republic of Türkiye applied to the *Times Higher Education Impact Ranking* to evaluate its practices and public services in a total of 17 global sustainable development goals in 2024.

- Support of arts and heritage

Under the first category of the *SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities* label, *Supporting Arts and Heritage*, a total of 6 questions are sought to be answered. Some of these questions include what the university does to ensure public access to buildings of cultural significance, natural heritage, libraries and green spaces. The other part includes public performances of theatres and choirs and efforts to protect intangible cultural heritage.

- Does your university as a body provide public access to buildings, monuments or natural heritage landscapes of cultural significance?

The Department of Health, Culture and Sports (SKS) at Üsküdar University organizes events throughout the year. In these events, buildings, monuments and natural heritage areas of cultural importance are visited. In this way, it contributes to the involvement of university students in socio-cultural activities. Hezarfen Travel Club, Red Crescent Club, Sustainable Development Club and Nature Sports Clubs are some of the student clubs within SKS. The nature and culture trips of these clubs enable students to socialize and gain awareness about the areas in question.

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en>

Some examples from last year's trips are listed below.

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/canakkale-martyrdom-was-visited>



<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/istanbul-kultur-gezisi-1>

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/istanbul-kultur-gezisi-2>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/5483/15-temmuz-unutulmadi-unutturulmadi>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/42926/a-visit-to-anitkabir-from-the-department-of-nursing>

<https://haberuskudar.com/kulturun-izinde-istanbul-universiteli-genclerle-tarihe-yolculuk>

In addition to these travel activities, Üsküdar University proves its sensitivity to the environment with the projects it carries out at the international level. Prof. Dr. İbrahim Özdemir, Dean of Üsküdar University Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, is a member of the committee that prepared Al Mizan: World Environment Charter, which is carried out under the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). As part of these efforts, Al-Mizan Bulletin is published as Üsküdar Environmental Ethics Form.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/6689/global-well-being-manifesto-for-the-post-pandemic>

<https://al-mizan.uskudar.edu.tr/mizan-bulteni>

- Does your university as a body provide public access to libraries including books and publications?

According to Üsküdar University library and documentation directive, the library is open to the public. Subparagraph e of the ninth article of the directive regulates that external users approved by the rectorate and faculty members of other universities can use the library during non-exam times. At the same time, there is constant remote access to all electronic resources of Üsküdar University libraries. These services are provided through "Proxy" software connected to OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) services.

<https://kutuphane.uskudar.edu.tr/en>

Üsküdar University Continuing Education, Application and Research Center fulfills its duty to inform the public by organizing trainings and projects in different fields.

<https://usem.uskudar.edu.tr/>

Prof. Dr. Nevzat Tarhan, Founding Rector of Üsküdar University, carries out many activities to inform the public. Tarhan organizes interviews on topics such as family, children, culture and youth. In addition, projects and studies related to these fields are carried out at the university in order to inform the public.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/43504/prof-dr-nevzat-tarhan-aile-akademisi-aile-asisi-gibi-olacak>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/40962/ambassadors-for-sustainable-volunteering-workshop-was-held>



<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/42626/prof-nevzat-tarhan-there-is-a-need-for-a-manifesto-about-creation>

ÜÜTV, the official television channel of Üsküdar University, broadcasts over the internet. ÜÜTV, which also has a page on Youtube, makes programs to inform the public in many fields such as culture, art, economy and health.

<https://tv.uskudar.edu.tr/videolar>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%C3%9CniversitesiTelevizyonu>

Üsküdar University NP Istanbul Hospital has health guide and podcast publications to create public awareness in the medical field.

<https://npistanbul.com/en/health-guide>

<https://npistanbul.com/en/podcast>

Üsküdar University's spotify page includes conversations of Üsküdar University Founding Rector Prof. Dr. Nevzat Tarhan on different topics related to social life.

<https://open.spotify.com/show/2H0Rq5ZnNrKoEPjCxqV7i0>

The application and research centers at Üsküdar University make the information and publications they produce within the scope of open university available to the public in the public domain.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/uygulama-ve-arastirma-merkezleri>

Within the Üsküdar University Open Access system, many publications from different fields of expertise are open to public access.

<https://earsiv.uskudar.edu.tr/?locale-attribute=en>

- Does your university as a body provide public access to museums, exhibition spaces / galleries and/or works of art and artifacts?

The Department of Health, Culture and Sports (SKS) and different faculties within Üsküdar University organize visits to technical and cultural museums throughout the year. In addition, especially in the Faculty of Communication, exhibitions related to graphic arts and basic design within the traditional art branches are opened throughout the year. There are also many activities on digital art and video art within the Faculty of Communication. All these events are open to the public free of charge.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/sbf/tr/etkinlik/2010/florence-nightingale-muze-gezisi>

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/tusas-istanbul-technical-trip-organized>

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/uskudar-university-engineering-students-at-tai>



<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/43197/web-design-exhibition-was-opened>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/41050/the-works-of-uskudars-communicators-will-be-exhibited-at-tarnow-academy-faculty-of-arts>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/42857/soul-healing-good-calligraphy-exhibition-was-opened-which-was-hosted-by-uskudar-university>

- Does your university as a body provide free public access to open spaces and green spaces?

Üsküdar University is located in Üsküdar, one of the greenest neighborhoods of Istanbul. Üsküdar district, which stands out with its sightseeing routes, natural beauties and ruins, is a touristic residential center with its location adjacent to the Bosphorus. Student clubs within the Üsküdar University Health, Culture and Sports Department provide students with access to green areas through visits to Istanbul and neighboring cities, starting from Üsküdar district. These trips both develop students' environmental awareness and allow them to socialize.

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/bolu-abant-lake-trip-organized>

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/bosphorus-tour-with-our-valide-sultan-ship>

- Does your university as a body contribute to local arts, in terms of number of annual public performances of university choirs / theatre groups / orchestras etc?

Üsküdar University contributes to local art with choirs, theater and concerts in public art events organized throughout the year. Students also take part in the events organized by Üsküdar University Health, Culture and Sports (SKS) department and participate in art activities. The theater club, which is among the student clubs, performs theater plays for both children and adults. In these performing arts examples, both classical works and modern art examples are exhibited.

https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/12473/tasavvuf-arastirmalari-enstitusunden-ilahi-ve-nefes-dinletileri? gl=1*zvlpk7* gcl au*MjQ3MjY3ODcyLjE3Mjg4OTM5OTg.* ga*NDkwNjA1NjMwLjE2NjU5OTk5NTQ.* ga XYL5XFKGBN*MTcyOTE1Mzc1Ny45MjMuMS4xNzI5MTU0MzM2LjYwLjAuMA.* ga 8432P7KQCN*MTcyOTE1Mzc1Ny43MTEuMS4xNzI5MTU0MzM2LjYwLjAuMA

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/42944/the-sufi-and-music-education-program-ended-with-the-closing-concert>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/12842/theater-play-named-endless-night-met-with-uskudar-art-lovers>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/12532/audiology-students-on-the-theater-stage>

<https://haberuskudar.com/kimliksiz-bedenler-base-2023te-sergilendi>

<https://haberuskudar.com/hat-sanati-cismani-aletlerle-yapilan-ruhani-bir-hendesedir>



<https://haberuskudar.com/uskudar-iletisim-anadolu-universiteleri-belgesel-film-projeleri-degerlendirmesine-ev-sahipligi-yapti>

- Does your university as a body deliver projects to record and/or preserve intangible cultural heritage such as local folklore, traditions, language, and knowledge? This can include the heritage of displaced communities.

Üsküdar University supports projects aimed at recording and/or preserving intangible cultural heritage such as local folklore, tradition, language, knowledge. Our university conducts academic studies at the intersection of society, culture, human and medical sciences from an interdisciplinary perspective. Our founding rector Prof. Dr. Nevzat Tarhan underlines the position of the individual and human values in the socio-cultural field in his studies in psychiatry and neuropsychology. Üsküdar University carries out activities for the protection of intangible cultural heritage in academic activities such as the High Human Values Awards given at award ceremonies, the Humanities in Medicine course in the curriculum of the Faculty of Medicine, the Creation Congress, the publications of working groups and research centers, and important days of different religions celebrated within the university.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/43465/bediuzzaman-said-nursinin-kitaplari-tanitildi>

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/egypt-coffee-break-event-was-held>

<https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/palestine-coffee-break-event-was-held>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/43387/students-from-different-cultures-came-together-on-the-international-tea-day>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/43182/happy-old-age-with-the-remember-me-project>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/57034/being-a-model-human-in-four-seasons-social-innovation-model-project-has-been-successfully-completed>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/41584/turk-ve-japon-akademisyenler-tasavvufun-kopru-olmak-anlayisini-ele-aldi>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/9091/uskudar-university-the-8th-high-human-values-awards-were-presented>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/Cmy3edoDW6S/?igsh=dHB3dmVmdHZ0Mmtv>

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cm1kNnRNvij/?igsh=enJnYXJubXh3cTlm>

<https://jhwjournal.com/en>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/sureli-yayinlar/5/psikohayat>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/research-groups>



- Expenditure on arts and heritage

The second category of the *SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities* label is *Arts and Heritage Expenditures*. Üsküdar University contributes to the sustainability of activities in this field by allocating a significant portion of its total university expenditures to expenditures on arts and cultural heritage. Our university increased its budget in this area by 37% in 2024 compared to the previous year.

- Sustainable practices

- Does your university as a body measure and set targets for more sustainable commuting (walking, cycling or other non-motorized transport, vanpools, carpools, shuttlebus or public transportation, motorcycle, scooter or moped, or electric vehicles)?

Üsküdar University's central location in the city supports public transportation. Our campuses, which are close to public transportation such as bus stops, ferry docks and subways, provide sustainable transportation. Faculty members and students use the university's shuttles between different campuses in close proximity. In this way, it is aimed to contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions by using public transportation instead of personal vehicles. Route information and timings of the university shuttles can be found in the links below.

The distances of our university to public transportation can be seen on Google maps in the links below.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/np-saglik-verleskesi>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/uskudar-carsi-verleske>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/altunizade-merkez-verleske>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/altunizade-guney-verleske>

-Does your university as a body undertake actions to promote the % of more sustainable commuting (e.g. provision of free or subsidised buses or shared transport schemes, provision of bicycle parking & storage facilities, provision of cycle tracks, a bicycle and pedestrian plan or policy, bicycle sharing programme, free or reduced price transit passes, car/van pool or ride sharing programme, reduced parking fees or preferential parking for carpool or vanpool users, car sharing programme, provision of electric vehicle recharging stations, preferred parking for fuel-efficient vehicles)?

Üsküdar University has a number of practices for a more sustainable commuting process. First of all, free bicycle and electric vehicle parking lots for faculty members and students are available at different campuses. Free parking lots on campuses are frequently used by students. Students who leave their motorcycles, bicycles and electric transportation vehicles in the parking lots experience an integrated urban transportation as the campuses are close



to the metro. Faculty members benefit from the parking lots free of charge and guests visiting the university benefit from the parking lots for an appropriate fee.

- Does your university as a body promote or allow telecommuting or remote working for employees as a matter of policy or standard practice, and/or offer a condensed working week to reduce employee commuting?

Üsküdar University has realized a digital revolution in the field of education by further developing its technological infrastructure with the Covid-19 period. Our university, which has made a large financial investment in this field, has offered the infrastructure to support distance education to its faculty members and students. With the new education system, which is a combination of physical and digital education and called fijital, students are provided with an integrated education and training environment. With distance education modules such as ALMS and STIX developed within the university, distance working and education conditions have been improved. Üsküdar University has a Distance Education Directive.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/uek>

<https://lms.uskudar.edu.tr/Account/LoginBefore>

<https://stix.uskudar.edu.tr/login>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/assets/uploads/sayfa/18/file/uu-uzaktan-ogretim-yonergesi.pdf>

- Does your university as a body provide affordable housing for employees?

Üsküdar University has a lodging house in Ümraniye for the accommodation of its employees. Faculty members who need accommodation stay in the lodging from time to time. The lodging building, which offers a comfortable living space to its residents, is located close to public transportation and Üsküdar University Health Campus. Our University's Career Center has also made agreements with hotels for its employees in the center of Istanbul and Turkey's tourist destinations. Thus, employees have the opportunity to have a vacation at an economical price. The list of institutions with which the career center has an agreement can be accessed from the link below.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/anlasmali-kurumlar>

<https://www.askadarmayotel.com/>

<https://www.mayhotelistanbul.com/>

<https://www.guleotel.com/en>

- Does your university as a body provide affordable housing for students?

Üsküdar University has Nakkaştepe Girls' Dormitory for female students. The dormitory is within walking distance to the central campus of the university and offers a comfortable living space for students. Apart from the dormitory, which has central heating and internet



infrastructure, our university has signed agreements with many dormitories. With the dormitory protocols, students are provided with affordable accommodation in different districts of a large metropolis like Istanbul. The web addresses of these dormitories can be accessed from the links below.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/nakkastepe-girls-guesthouse>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/contracted-dormitories>

- Does your university as a body prioritise pedestrian access on campus?

Üsküdar University is located in Üsküdar district, which is centrally located in Istanbul. Üsküdar district, which is on the shores of the Bosphorus, is located at the center of the public transportation network. Our campuses are located close to many public transportation vehicles such as buses, subways and ferries. Therefore, our students, faculty members and guests can reach our university on foot after public transportation. Below are the links to Google maps showing the walking distance of our different campuses to public transportation.

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Mimar+Sinan,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+%C3%87ar%C5%9F%C4%B1+Yerle%C5%9Fkesi,+Selmani+Pak+Caddesi,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%2F%C4%B0stanbul/Mimar+Sinan,+Marmaray+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C4%B0stasyonu,+%C5%9Emsi+Sinan+Caddesi,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%2F%C4%B0stanbul/@41.0251012,29.0128053,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m13!4m12!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cab78b80e16b77:0x85eb676530996221!2m2!1d29.0193169!2d41.0245977!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cab795dbcbaf1:0x94540c368c4d630f!2m2!1d29.013155!2d41.0254706?entry=ttu>

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Altunizade,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+Merkez+Yerle%C5%9Fke,+%C3%9Cniversite+Soka%C4%9F%C4%B1,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%2F%C4%B0stanbul/Altunizade,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+G%C3%BCney+Yerle%C5%9Fkesi,+Mahir+%C4%B0z+Caddesi,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%2F%C4%B0stanbul/@41.0231522,29.037019,17z/data=!3m2!4b1!5s0x14cab7fb7e3e9b47:0x4d57519570eea85c!4m13!4m12!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cab7e4b9b96af1:0x78ef20ea9ab0de2a!2m2!1d29.0388276!2d41.0249642!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cab7fc9deb4fd3:0x1363a714e29e4b77!2m2!1d29.040104!2d41.0217286?entry=ttu>

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Saray,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+T%C4%B1p+Fak%C3%BCltesi,+Site+Yolu+Caddesi,+%C3%9Cmraniye%2F%C4%B0stanbul/Saray,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+NP+Sa%C4%9F%C4%B1k+Yerle%C5%9Fkesi,+Ahmet+Tevfik+%C4%B0leri+Caddesi,+%C3%9Cmraniye%2F%C4%B0stanbul/@41.0290539,29.1129113,17z/data=!3m2!4b1!5s0x14cab7fb7e3e9b47:0x4d57519570eea85c!4m13!4m12!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cac98fc0051b43:0x9c99b93f2a217207!2m2!1d29.114425!2d41.030101!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cac90fdde22ce1:0xe85078169cfe4133!2m2!1d29.1158892!2d41.0278016?entry=ttu>



- Does your university as a body work with local authorities to address planning issues/development, including ensuring that local residents are able to access affordable housing?

Üsküdar University supports social policies to reduce inequalities in urban space as a result of neoliberal economic policies, as well as informational activities in the public sphere for local residents to obtain safe and affordable housing in Turkey, an earthquake country. The Department of Occupational Health and Safety and the Department of Civil Works within the university are the centers where information activities are carried out in this field. In addition, some academic meetings within the university draw attention to the issue of housing rights and safety.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/42704/uzmanindan-okul-afet-ve-acil-durum-yonetim-kurulu-olusturulmali-onerisi>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/42740/women-were-discussed-in-the-context-of-social-rights-on-the-100th-anniversary-of-the-republic>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/shmyo/en/occupational-health-and-safety-program>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/construction-and-maintenance>

- Does your university as a body build new buildings to sustainable standards? (If "yes", are you following a national standard or body, e.g. the world green building council, that certifies it? Please indicate.)

Üsküdar University is located in Üsküdar, one of the historical districts of Istanbul. Üsküdar is a traditional settlement center with its historical and cultural texture as well as being a settlement center established on the shores of the Bosphorus. For this reason, Üsküdar University does not build new buildings in the district but brings old business centers to the field of education. Üsküdar University, which is an urban university, makes arrangements by considering these business centers within the framework of the idea of sustainability in its different campuses spread throughout Üsküdar. The idea of sustainability, which is also included in the strategic plan of our university covering the years 2024-2028, comes to life with different practices. Our university's strategic plan, zero waste documents, waste tracking chart and academic activities can be accessed from the links below.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/assets/uploads/sayfa/526/file/uskudar-universitesi-stratejik-plan-2024-2028.pdf>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/sifir-atik-belgelerimiz>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/usgumer/en/waste-tracking-schedule>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/itbf/tr/etkinlik/1905/fakulte-etkinligi-surdurulebilir-kalkinma-icin-2030-gundemi-baglaminda-cevre-din-ve-kultur>



<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/57337/prof-ibrahim-ozdemir-the-most-important-environmental-problem-is-selfishness-and-greed>

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/42901/it-is-possible-to-stop-and-reduce-the-climate-crisis>

- Does your university as a body build on brownfield sites, where possible (brownfield sites are those where there has been previous, recent building)?

Üsküdar University is located in Üsküdar, one of the oldest districts of Istanbul. In our district, which is adjacent to the Bosphorus with its historical and natural beauties, our university reuses the old buildings in the district instead of building new buildings. These buildings are selected in the form of horizontal architecture and offer a structure compatible with the historical texture of the neighborhood. Üsküdar University campuses bring old business centers into socio-cultural circulation in this way. The links below show a bird's eye view of our different campuses. In these photographs, the harmony of our campuses with the historical and natural texture of the neighborhood is striking. Our university has turned a mansion, which is one of the historical architectural forms of Üsküdar, such as the white mansion, an example of which is seen in our south campus, into an administrative building. Academic meetings are also held in this building. The internet address where the image of the mansion is located is given below.

<https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/altunizade-campus> , <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/altunizade-south-campus> , <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/uskudar-carsi-campus>

https://www.google.com/local/place/fid/0x14cab7fc9deb4fd3:0x1363a714e29e4b77/photosphere?iu=https://streetviewpixels-pa.googleapis.com/v1/thumbnail?panoid%3DORCyYu09vXd-4gD14Zp6ag%26cb_client%3Dsearch.gws-prod.gps%26yaw%3D342.71188%26pitch%3D0%26thumbfov%3D100%26w%3D0%26h%3D0&ik=CAISFk9SQ3lZdTA5dlhkLTRnRDE0WnA2YWwc%3D&sa=X&sqi=2&ved=2ahUKEwjYhYW0qLGLAxWIHBAIHfI0GUwQpx96BAgZEA4

Üsküdar University continues its education and training activities in an understanding that respects the natural environment, protects and develops cultural heritage within the SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities label. In this context, our university organizes projects, public knowledge transfer and activities that will contribute to the material and intangible cultural heritage of humanity throughout the year. Üsküdar University takes saving measures in the use of natural resources by creating smart buildings within the green building concept in different campuses. The 2024-2028 strategic plan of our university has been prepared in line with the Sustainability Goals of the United Nations. Üsküdar University has applied to THE (Times Higher Education) rating processes in the last two years in all labels and has set itself the goal of standardizing and documenting its work in these fields.