



SDG11 - SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Within the framework of SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, the United Nations aims to make cities more livable at the global level by improving social, cultural, and environmental conditions. In line with these objectives, initiatives are undertaken at both national and global levels focusing on the promotion of arts and cultural heritage, expenditures related to arts and cultural heritage, and sustainable practices. Given that a significant proportion of the world's population currently resides in urban areas, metropolitan regions in particular face numerous socio-cultural and ecological challenges. Within the scope of the Sustainable Cities and Communities goals, the promotion of arts and cultural heritage encompasses practices related to tangible and intangible cultural assets as well as the natural environment. Sustainable practices, on the other hand, emphasize issues such as the use of natural resources in cities, the reduction of environmental pollution, and the enhancement of energy efficiency. In particular, reducing the use of carbon-based fossil fuels in urban life and promoting the widespread adoption of electric vehicles, along with the implementation of environmental arrangements such as designated parking areas for these vehicles, are of critical importance. Additionally, within the context of energy efficiency in housing and buildings, the adoption of conservation measures and environmentally friendly practices is planned.

Within the framework of SDG 11, efforts are not limited to those undertaken by international organizations and states. At the local level, universities carry out initiatives in collaboration with academia and civil society. At the same time, local governments contribute to this field through their activities centered on cultural practices and sustainable applications.

In this context, the activities of Üsküdar University related to the SDG 11 label are presented below.

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

Under the SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities framework of the THE Impact Rankings, the first assessment category is titled "Support of Arts and Cultural Heritage." The first of the six metrics within this category evaluates the extent to which a university enables public access to cultural monuments and natural heritage sites.

In this context, student clubs operating under the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports at our university regularly organize educational field trips to culturally and naturally significant sites



throughout the academic year (Link-1). These activities provide structured opportunities for students and the wider community to engage with cultural heritage assets. Examples include the Journalism Club's visit to Ankara, the Photography Club's field trip to Kumburgaz, and the Nursing Club's excursion to Edirne (Links-2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

Furthermore, the university demonstrates its institutional commitment to the protection and promotion of cultural and natural heritage through the publication of policy documents aimed at raising public awareness of culturally significant monuments and natural heritage sites (Link-7).

Link 1: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en>

Link 2: <https://haberuskudar.com/gazetecilik-kulubu-ankara-gezisinde>

Link 3: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/an-unforgettable-experience-with-the-magic-of-nature-and-history-in-kemberburgaz-city-forest>

Link 4: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/meaningful-canakkale-visit-by-history-art-and-literature-club>

Link 5: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/uskudar-university-students-visit-anitkabir>

Link 6: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/hemsirelik-ogrencileri-edirne/45178>

Link 7: <https://uuyayinlari.com/mizan-dunya-ile-bir-sozlesme>

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

In accordance with its library regulations, Üsküdar University provides public access to its libraries for external users (Link-1). In addition to physical access, the university facilitates digital access to academic resources through a proxy software system that enables remote use of electronic library holdings (Link-2). In 2025, Üsküdar University further strengthened its institutional commitment to public knowledge sharing by establishing the Community Engagement Coordination Office, representing a significant step toward enhancing the dissemination of knowledge in the public sphere and fostering university–civil society collaboration (Link-8). Through its institutionally affiliated media channels, the university delivers open-access public broadcasts in specialized fields such as medicine, social sciences, and Sufism, thereby contributing to the wider public's access to expert knowledge (Links-4, 5). Moreover, the university's Continuing Education Center and dedicated special interest groups serve as additional platforms for facilitating the transfer of scientific knowledge to the public,



reinforcing the university's role in promoting inclusive access to knowledge beyond the academic community (Links-3, 6, 7).

Link 1: <https://kutuphane.uskudar.edu.tr/en>

Link 2: <https://openaccess.uskudar.edu.tr/home>

Link 3: <https://usem.uskudar.edu.tr/>

Link 4: <https://tv.uskudar.edu.tr/>

Link 5: <https://www.youtube.com/c/%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%C3%9CniversitesiTelevizyonu>

Link 6: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/application-and-research-centers>

Link 7: <https://uuyayinlari.com/>

Link 8: <https://toplumsalkatki.uskudaruniversitesi.edu.tr/>

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

Throughout the academic year, the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports at Üsküdar University organizes visits to museums, exhibition venues, and art galleries (Links-1, 2). In addition, academic units within the Faculty of Communication—particularly the departments of Visual Communication Design and Cartoon and Animation—regularly curate and host exhibitions in the fields of art and design throughout the year (Links-3, 4, 5). These exhibitions, held either in the university's foyer spaces or at off-campus exhibition venues, are open to public access, thereby supporting community engagement with artistic and cultural production beyond the university community.

Link 1: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en>

Link 2: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/medical-technoscience-club-welcomed-the-year-with-the-sculpture-workshop-event>

Link 3: <https://haberuskudar.com/uskudar-iletisim-grafik-tasarim-sergisine-katildi>

Link 4: <https://haberuskudar.com/ars-gor-baran-kahraman-sonar-istanbul-sonarscreende-sahne-aldi>

Link 5: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/turkiyenin-ilk-yakma-resim-sanati-kitabinin-yazari-kirmizigul-uskudarli-ogrencilerle-bulustu/57685>



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

Throughout the year, the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports at Üsküdar University facilitates student access to natural areas, national parks, and green spaces both within Istanbul and in other regions of the country through organized field trips (Link-1). These activities aim to raise awareness of natural heritage sites and to foster a culture of environmental protection among students (Links-2, 3). In addition, these excursions provide international students with opportunities to engage with Turkey's natural landscapes, thereby supporting their cultural integration and enabling them to develop a deeper understanding of the country in which they are pursuing their education. Beyond the student population, the university also organizes inclusive outdoor activities and excursions for individuals requiring special care, including older adults, children, and patients, ensuring their access to green spaces and natural environments. For instance, during an event organized at the Kadıköy Municipality Alzheimer Center, elderly patients living with dementia spent a meaningful day in green spaces designed to support well-being and social engagement (Link-4). Furthermore, the university's campuses are accessible to civil society organizations. Non-governmental organizations such as the Turkish Red Crescent (Kızılay), Yeşilay, and TEMA utilize the green spaces on campus to organize a range of activities for students, thereby strengthening university–civil society collaboration and promoting the shared use of urban green spaces.

Link 1: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/event-calendar>

Link 2: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/an-unforgettable-experience-with-the-magic-of-nature-and-history-in-kemberburgaz-city-forest>

Link 3: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/our-students-relieved-stress-and-met-nature-with-canoeing-in-beykoz>

Link 4: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/alzheimer-hastalari-icin-bir-araya-gelindi/56963>

11.2.5. 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?

Through the organization of publicly accessible theatre performances and music concerts, the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports at Üsküdar University actively contributes to the local arts and cultural landscape (Link-1). Within the university, the Theatre Club stages theatrical productions for children and adult audiences at the end of each academic year, further supporting community



engagement with the performing arts (Link-2). In addition, the Institute of Sufism offers a Sufism and Music Education Program, while the Director of the Institute of Social Sciences, Prof. Dr. Gökben Hızlı Sayar, engages wider audiences through publicly accessible stand-up performances, thereby broadening public participation in the performing arts (Links-3, 5). The university also hosts the Music Therapy and Practice Center (MÜTEM), which provides services in the fields of complementary medicine and healthcare by utilizing diverse musical traditions and practices. Through its interdisciplinary approach, the center supports the application of music in health-related contexts and contributes to public well-being (Link-4).

Link 1: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/karadenizin-genc-ruzgari-giresundan-esti-genclik-ve-kultur-uskudarda-bulustu/57860>

Link 2: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/alzheimer-farkindaligi-icin-annemin-son-cigliklari-sahnelendi/57593>

Link 3: <https://tasavvuf.uskudar.edu.tr/2024-2025-akademik-yili-guz-donemi-tasavvuf-ve-musiki-egitim-programi>

Link 4: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/mutem>

Link 5: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DBno7Nfs5K4/>

11.2.6. 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 is the first higher education institution in Türkiye to offer an integrated educational model in the fields of behavioral sciences and health. Within this framework, the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Communication, and the Institute of Sufism function as the primary academic units responsible for delivering this interdisciplinary educational approach. In this context, the university makes systematic contributions to areas such as intangible cultural heritage, local folklore, and language through sustained knowledge production and the organization of year-round academic and community-oriented activities (Link-1,2,3). Several institutional units actively engaged in this field include the Community Engagement Coordination Office, which organizes ongoing projects and events; thematic working groups in Communication Studies, Sociology, and Sufism Studies; and research centers such as İLİMER,



MÜTEM, TÜFAM, and PAMER, all of which conduct academic research relevant to cultural heritage and societal well-being.

All activities of the Institute of Sufism can be evaluated within the scope of intangible cultural heritage. The Institute undertakes a wide range of initiatives with tangible societal impact, including academic events, community-oriented programs addressing both tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and externally funded scientific research projects (Link-5,6).

Furthermore, the academic work of the founding rector of Üsküdar University, Prof. Dr. Nevzat Tarhan, focuses on themes such as social cohesion, family life, the intergenerational transmission of tradition, and linguistic practices, all of which fall within the domain of intangible cultural heritage. Through his public lectures, published books, and the mission and vision he has articulated in the public sphere, Prof. Dr. Tarhan has contributed to the development of a distinctive institutional perspective aligned with the Support of Arts and Cultural Heritage category under SDG 11 (Link-4).

Link 1: <https://haberuskudar.com/semada-olmak>

Link 2: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/coffee-break-on-campus>

Link 3: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/psychology-club-organized-iftar-charity-event>

Link 4: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/prof-dr-nevzat-tarhan-mevlanayi-bugunun-elbisesini-giydirerek-anlayabiliriz/57991>

Link 5: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/hz-mevlananın-751-vuslat-yildonumunde-seb-i-arus-tevhid-konulu-soylesi-gerceklestirildi/57888>

Link 6: <https://tasavvuf.uskudar.edu.tr/tr/etkinlik-arsivi/604/insan-tasavvuf-dusunce-ve-sif-konferans-serisi-paneli>

11.3.1. University expenditure

Under the SDG 11 framework, the second assessment category is titled “Arts and Cultural Heritage Expenditure.” This category requires universities to report their overall institutional expenditure alongside specific spending allocated to arts and cultural heritage. At Üsküdar University, overall institutional expenditure has shown a steady increase since 2022 as an integral component of the university’s mission- and vision-driven strategic planning process and its ongoing efforts toward internationalization and global engagement.



11.3.2. University expenditure on arts and heritage

Over the past two years, the university's expenditure on arts and cultural heritage has increased by 37% and 39.2%, respectively, when assessed in relation to annual inflation rates. In line with Üsküdar University's global strategic objectives, allocations dedicated to arts and cultural heritage are systematically increased each year, enabling a growing share of institutional resources to be directed toward academic research, cultural activities, and heritage-related projects in this field.

11.4.1. 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)?

Under the SDG 11 framework, the third assessment category is titled "Sustainable Practices," within which universities are required to report activities across nine thematic areas. Üsküdar University is located in the centrally situated Üsküdar district of Istanbul. Owing to its physical location, the university benefits from an integrated transportation network that combines road, maritime, and rail systems (Link-1). Regular shuttle services operating between campuses support the use of public transportation, while the close proximity of campus locations to public transit hubs further enables more sustainable commuting practices for students and staff (Links-2, 3).

The university's 2024–2028 Strategic Plan includes explicit commitments to reducing emission levels and achieving a zero-carbon target, demonstrating institutional alignment with sustainability objectives (Link-4).

In addition, the Master's Program in Chemical Engineering offers courses such as CHE 533 Catalysis for Green Technologies and CHE 585 Sustainable Energy, which focus on greenhouse gas reduction and sustainability-oriented technological solutions. Academic and scientific outputs generated within this framework are disseminated through peer-reviewed journal articles, books, and book chapters, thereby contributing to knowledge production in the field of sustainable development (Link-5).

Link 1: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/np-saglik-yerleskesi>

Link 2: <https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/student-service>

Link 3: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/transportation>



Link 4: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/assets/uploads/sayfa/526/file/uskudar-universitesi-stratejik-plan-2024-2028.pdf>

Link 5: <https://www.igi-global.com/chapter/balancing-air-quality-and-energy-efficiency-sustainability-in-university-campuses/334204>

11.4.2. 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 implemented a range of measures to support sustainable commuting practices. First, in collaboration with the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, the university facilitates the issuance of discounted public transportation cards for academic staff and students, thereby encouraging the use of public transit systems (Link-1). In addition, designated parking facilities for electric vehicles, bicycles, and motorcycles are available across university campuses, supporting low-emission and alternative modes of transportation. Parking areas for academic staff and visitors' private vehicles are also provided on campus to ensure accessible and managed mobility infrastructure.

Link 1: <https://www.istanbulkart.istanbul/price-limit>

11.4.3. 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?

In Türkiye, the Council of Higher Education permits universities to deliver up to 30% of their educational activities through distance learning modalities. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Higher Education Law, Üsküdar University delivers up to 30% of its academic programs via remote education. The university also operates under a dedicated Distance Education Regulation, which provides the institutional framework for these practices (Link-1). In addition, the university's libraries are equipped with digital infrastructure that enables remote access to scientific and academic resources. Üsküdar University's Distance Education Coordination Office utilizes learning management and remote working platforms such as ALMS and STIX, which facilitate online teaching, learning, and



administrative processes (Links-2, 3, 4). Furthermore, institutionally assigned Zoom accounts for academic staff support the remote delivery of both academic and administrative activities, thereby contributing to reduced physical mobility and more sustainable operational practices.

Link 1: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/distance-education-coordinatorship>

Link 2: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/assets/uploads/sayfa/18/file/uu-uzaktan-ogretim-yonergesi.pdf>

Link 3: <https://lms.uskudar.edu.tr/Account/LoginBefore>

Link 4: <https://stix.uskudar.edu.tr/login>

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

Üsküdar University provides a dedicated staff residence affiliated with the Faculty of Health Sciences. Located in the Ümraniye district, this residence offers comfortable living conditions for its occupants. In addition, the university has established agreements with various hotels both within Istanbul and in other regions, offering discounted accommodation options for university staff. Through these arrangements, employees are able to access affordable lodging solutions that support mobility related to academic, administrative, and professional activities. The list of partner institutions and accommodation providers is publicly available through the university's Career Center webpage, ensuring transparency and accessibility of staff support services (Link-1,2,3).

Link 1: <https://kariyer.uskudar.edu.tr/en>

Link 2: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/anlasmali-kurumlar>

Link 3: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/45169/uskudar-universitesinin-ogrencilerine-mezunlarina-ve-calisanlarina-yonelik-kampanyalar>

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

Üsküdar University operates the Nakkasöpe Female Student Dormitory, which is located in close proximity to the university's main campus, thereby facilitating safe and accessible accommodation for students (Link-1). In addition to this on-campus housing option, the university has established formal protocols with several private dormitories across Istanbul to address students' need for affordable accommodation (Link-2). Through these agreements, cost-effective housing opportunities are provided for both female and male students, supporting equitable access to higher education and contributing to more sustainable urban living arrangements.



Link 1: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/nakkastepe-girls-guesthouse>

Link 2: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/recommended-contracted-dormitories>

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

Üsküdar University is located in a central area with close proximity to public transportation networks. Owing to the integration of road, maritime, and rail transport systems, the university's campuses provide convenient access to public transit options as well as walkable connections between campuses situated within the same district. The relevant distances and accessibility details are provided via Google Maps through the links listed below, ensuring transparent and verifiable evidence of the university's integrated and sustainable transportation infrastructure (Link-1,2,3).

Link 1:

<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%9Eemsi+Sinan+Caddesi,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar%2F%C4%B0stanbul/@41.0251012,29.0128053,17z/data=!3m1!4m1!4m13!4m12!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cab78b80e16b77:0x85eb676530996221!2m2!1d29.0193169!2d41.0245977!1m5!1m1!1s0x14cab795dbcbaaf1:0x94540c368c4d630f!2m2!1d29.013155!2d41.0254706?entry=ttu>

Link 2:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Altunizade,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+Merk ez+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>

Link 3:

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Saray,+%C3%9Csk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+T%C4%B1 p+Fak%C3%BCltesi,+Site+Yolu+Caddesi,+%C3%9Cmraniye%2F%C4%B0stanbul/Saray,+%C3%9C sk%C3%BCdar+%C3%9Cniversitesi+NP+Sa%C4%9F1%C4%B1k+Yerle%C5%9Fkesi,+Ahmet+Tevf ik+%C4%B0leri+Caddesi,+%C3%9Cmraniye%2F%C4%B0stanbul/@41.0290539,29.1129113,17z/da>



[ta=!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=tu](https://www.uskudarkentkonseyi.org.tr/?page_id=385)

11.4.7. 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 actively engages in university–civil society collaboration through its representation within the Üsküdar City Council (Link-1). An academic member of the Faculty of Communication, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cem Tutar, who is recognized for his scholarly work in urban studies, was elected to the Executive Board of the Üsküdar City Council and contributed to the preparation processes of the 2025–2029 Üsküdar Municipality Strategic Plan. These strategic planning documents include provisions related to housing policies and residential well-being for local residents. In addition, the university’s Department of Occupational Health and Safety, in collaboration with the Directorate of Construction Affairs and Technical Services, conducts studies and institutional practices related to housing safety and risk prevention (Link-2). Furthermore, in coordination with local authorities, the university organizes year-round academic and educational activities focused on emergency preparedness, disaster awareness, and risk resilience—particularly in relation to earthquakes—thereby contributing to community safety and sustainable urban living (Links-3, 4).

Link 1: https://www.uskudarkentkonseyi.org.tr/?page_id=385

Link 2: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/departman-of-construction-and-technical-affairs-about>

Link 3: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/akademisyenler-deprem-erken-uyari-sistemi-icin-uskudarda-bir-araya-geldi/49125>

Link 4: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/27-subat-dunya-stklar-gunu-ve-sivil-kuruluslari-bulusmasi/44382>

11.4.8. 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 the Üsküdar district of Istanbul, a historically, culturally, and economically significant area that has long served as a commercial hub. In line with the district’s commercial heritage, the University repurposes former business and commercial buildings for educational and cultural use. Throughout this adaptive reuse process, buildings are renovated in a manner that preserves the historical and urban fabric of the district, while integrating sustainable



practices such as energy-efficient heating systems, thermal insulation, and sustainable lighting solutions. Furthermore, the University's Strategic Plan has been developed in alignment with national and international sustainability frameworks, including the Climate Change Mitigation Strategy and Action Plan (2024–2030) and the Second National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2024–2030) (Links 1, 5, and 6).

In line with its Strategic Plan, Üsküdar University has established a Sustainability Office to coordinate and advance institutional sustainability initiatives. In compliance with the national Zero Waste Regulation, the University implements comprehensive sustainability practices across all campuses (Links 2, 3, and 4). Waste management processes are supported by systematic waste classification and waste tracking schedules, ensuring the separation of waste streams and their effective recovery through recycling.

Within the framework of the smoke-free environment policy, Üsküdar University has joined the Smoke-Free Campus Initiative and organized the 5th Vision Meeting with a focus on Sustainability and Digitalization (Link 7). Furthermore, as part of the activities of the Corporate Quality Directorate, the University's environmental sustainability initiatives are centrally coordinated, systematically documented, and reported, and are subject to evaluation by various national and international accreditation bodies.

Üsküdar University has signed the El-Mizan World Environmental Covenant with the contributions of Prof. Dr. İbrahim Özdemir, a scholar internationally recognized for his work in the fields of environment and climate studies (Link 8). In addition, Üsküdar University was ranked among the top 400 universities worldwide in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings 2024, a prestigious global platform aimed at raising awareness of green campuses and environmental sustainability (Link 9). At Üsküdar University, courses focusing on environmental sustainability are offered at both undergraduate and graduate levels across various faculties (Link 10). Furthermore, the University's research groups and research centers conduct scientific studies that contribute to environmental sustainability and the development of a greener ecosystem (Link 11).

Link 1: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/assets/uploads/sayfa/526/file/uskudar-universitesi-stratejik-plan-2024-2028.pdf>

Link 2: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/usgumer/waste-tracking-schedule>

Link 3: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/usgumer/waste-management-regulation>



Link 4: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/usgumer/zero-waste-documents>

Link 5:

[https://iklim.gov.tr/db/turkce/icerikler/files/%C4%B0klim%20De%C4%9Fi%C5%9Fi%20Azalt%C4%B1m%20Stratejisi%20ve%20Eylem%20Plan%C4%B1%20\(2024-2030\).pdf](https://iklim.gov.tr/db/turkce/icerikler/files/%C4%B0klim%20De%C4%9Fi%C5%9Fi%20Azalt%C4%B1m%20Stratejisi%20ve%20Eylem%20Plan%C4%B1%20(2024-2030).pdf)

Link 6:

https://enerji.gov.tr/Media/Dizin/BHIM/tr/Duyurular/T%C3%BCrkiyeninEnerjiVerimlili%C4%9Fi2030StratejisiVeIIUlusalEnerjiVerimlili%C4%9FiEylemPlan%C4%B1_202401161407.pdf

Link 7: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/surdurulebilirlik-ve-dijitallesme-odakli-5inci-vizyon-toplantisi-gerceklesti/44351>

Link 8: <https://perspektif.eu/2024/03/08/gezegeni-korumaya-yonelik-islami-bir-yaklasim-mizan-cevre-sozlesmesi/>

Link 9: <https://greenmetric.ui.ac.id/rankings/overall-rankings-2024/uskudar.edu.tr>

Link 10: <https://cdn.uskudar.dev/site/27/content/files/molekuler-biyoloji-ve-genetik-ingilizce-bolumders-programi-mufredat-2025-2026-250922015630.pdf>

Link 11: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/electromagnetic-research-group>, <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/biological-activities-group>, <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/mutem/center-activities>

11.4.9. 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 the Üsküdar district of Istanbul, an area widely recognized for its historical heritage and natural beauty. Throughout history, Üsküdar has been distinguished by its cultural, historical, and touristic significance, while also functioning as an important commercial center. For this reason, the area in which the University operates is not characterized as an industrial urban zone. In this context, Üsküdar University contributes to urban regeneration by adaptively reusing former business and commercial buildings in this historically and culturally significant district and integrating them into the higher education landscape. Through this urban redevelopment approach, the University supports sustainable land use and the preservation of the district's cultural and urban identity while expanding access to education (Link 1).

Across its campuses, Üsküdar University contributes to urban sustainability by reintegrating historic buildings into socio-cultural circulation through adaptive reuse practices, representing an inclusive



approach to urban regeneration. Former structures are repurposed for educational use, thereby strengthening cultural continuity while supporting sustainable urban development. The physical layout of the University's campuses is characterized by horizontal architectural forms that are compatible with the socio-cultural fabric of the surrounding district. In addition, the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Institute of Sufism have established bilateral cooperation agreements that enable students to receive education in some of Istanbul's most significant historical sites (Links 2 and 3). Through the adaptive reuse of cultural heritage assets for educational purposes, the University aims to foster awareness of cultural preservation and environmental sustainability among its students.

Link 1: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/altunizade-campus>, <https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/altunizade-south-campus>

Link 2: <https://zeynepkamildch.saglik.gov.tr/TR-87631/tarihcemiz.html#>,
<https://sultanabdulhamidhaneah.saglik.gov.tr/TR-88082/tarihce.html>,
<https://nefkrcenter.org/hakkimizda/>

Link 3: <https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/kerim-vakfi-ve-nef-vakfi-ile-is-birligi-protokolu-imzalandi/58093>, <https://www.ircica.org/tr/ircica/islam-tarih-sanat-ve-kultur-arastirma-merkezi-ircica>,
<https://uskudar.edu.tr/haber/uskudar-universitesi-ile-ircica-arasinda-is-birligi/58417>