SDG 1: No Poverty

1.2.2. Number of low income students receiving financial aid?
 5.568

1.3.1. Does your university as a body have targets to admit students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country?
Yes. At the request of The Council of Higher Education (YÖK), 15% of the quotas of each department of our university are allocated for low-income students who are likely to be in the lowest 20% of the society. In 2022, 15% of the department quotas, 881 undergraduate students, 104 graduate studensts, 12 PhD students were admitted with full scholarships.

Evidence1:https://www.yok.gov.tr/Documents/Kurumsal/mevzuat/vakif-yuksekogretim-kurumlari-ucretsiz-ogrenci-okutulmasi-usul-esas.pdf

1.3.2. Does your university as a body have graduation/completion targets for students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country? (domestic)
Yes. The expected graduation/completion goal for these students is the same as the general school-wide expected graduation/completion goal, and it is ninety-seven percent.

1.3.3. Does your university as a body provide support (e.g. food, housing, transportation, legal services) for students from low income families to enable them to complete university?)
Yes. Our university provides meal, part-time work, and transportation support for students from low-income families to help them complete their education. In this context, during the academic year of 2022, partial work scholarships were granted to 247 students, and meal scholarships were provided to 100 students. Our university campuses have free shuttle services between the campuses and metro stations. These services are available to all university students and staff, including those from low-income families. At our university, 'psychological counseling services' are provided to all students. Students from low-income families also benefit from this service when needed.

Evidence 1: https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/student-service
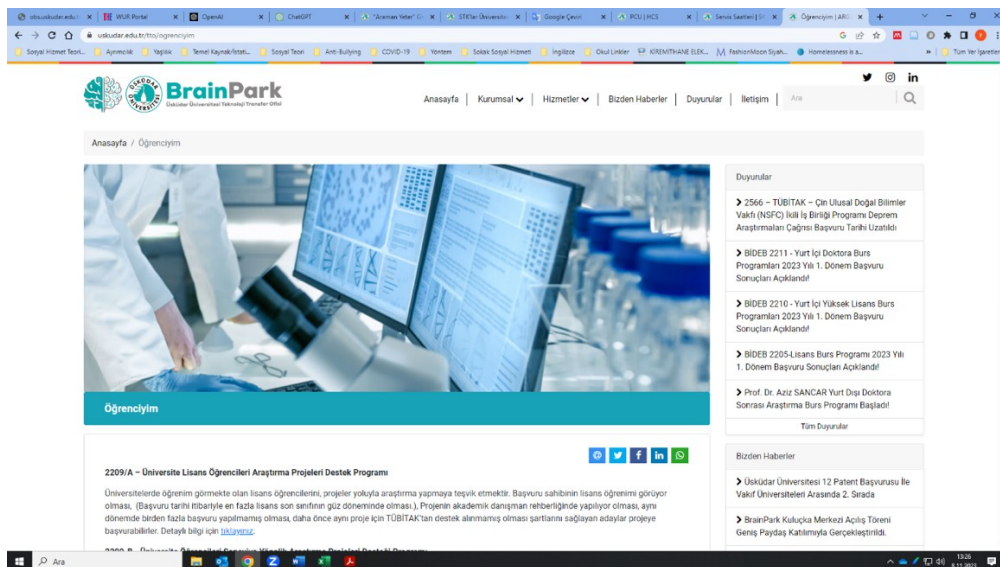Evidence 2: Announcement of Work and Meal Scholarship Application Results

1.3.4. Does your university as a body have programmes or initiatives to assist students who fall into the bottom 20% of household income group (or a more tightly defined target) in the country to successfully complete their studies?

Yes. Admitted students from the lowest 20% income bracket receive financial support, including need-based, hardship, and board of trustees scholarships, as well as student support like job opportunities and meals. In 2022, 5,568 students benefited from various poverty-related scholarship programs, while 347 received social assistance. Uskudar University's BrainPark serves as a start-up incubation center, providing mentorship, investment advice, entrepreneurship training, legal and IP support, office space, and 24/7 access. Low-income students can also participate upon request.

Evidence 1: https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/scholarships,
https://uskudar.edu.tr/images/tools/yonetmelik/17.pdf
https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/burslar

Evidence 2: BrainPark Incubation Center Student Information Portal

1.3.5. Does your university as a body have schemes to support poor students from low or lower-middle income countries (e.g. offering free education, grants)?
Yes. In our university, a total of 502 international students were granted scholarships due to poverty during the academic year. Among these students, 388 of them come from countries categorized as low and lower-middle-income economies according to the World Bank's economic list. The International Students Office and the Financial Affairs Directorate collaborate on the program. Additionally, mentorship and free transportation support are provided.

Evidence 1: https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/icerik/8035/hedef-arkadasligi-projenin-acilis-dersi-prof-dr-nevzat-tarhandan

1.4.1. Does your university as a body provide assistance in the local community supporting the start-up of financially and socially sustainable businesses through relevant education or resources? (e.g. mentorship programmes, training workshops, access to university facilities)?
Yes. Uskudar University established the entity named BrainPark as an incubation center to support new start-ups in the community. In general, we provide support such as mentoring, information about investment processes, entrepreneurship trainings, legal support, support on intellectual and industrial rights, open-closed office, 24/7 working opportunity.

Evidence 1: https://brainpark.net/

1.4.2. Does your university as a body provide financial assistance to the local community assisting the start-up of financially and socially sustainable businesses?
Yes. While our university does not provide direct financial support to local community start-up initiatives, we offer free office space within our Brainpark Incubation Center for local community start-ups to utilize. Simultaneously, we also provide training for start-ups. In this way, significant financial support is provided for the establishment of economically and socially sustainable start-ups. Since its inception, a total of 15 local start-ups have benefited from this service at the Brainpark Incubation Center, with 4 start-ups currently still utilizing it.

Evidence 1: https://uskudar.edu.tr/tto/girisimciyim

1.4.3. Does your university as a body organise training or programmes to improve access to basic services for all?

Yes. Üsküdar University has 83 student clubs, and eight of them are actively engaged in activities aimed at improving access to basic services in the community. These student clubs include the Disaster and Emergency Management Club (AFAD), the Turkish Red Crescent Club (KIZILAY), the Social Assistance Club, the Social Service Club, the Üsküdar Nar Operation Club, the Social Assistance and Solidarity Club, and the Young Earth Doctors. These clubs have organized a total of 53 events in the year 2022. A particularly significant example is the coordination efforts following the earthquake on February 6, 2023. Furthermore, seven of our University's Research and Application Centers and seven Working Groups, as evidenced, are actively conducting direct work to improve community access to basic services within the context of vulnerabilities intersecting with poverty.

Evidence 1: https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/icerik/12591/earthquake-volunteers-told-about-their-experiences

Evidence 2: STUDENTS CLUBS / https://sks.uskudar.edu.tr/en/student-clubs
             RESEARCH GROUPS / https://uskudar.edu.tr/en/research-groups

- Red Crescent Projects Working Group
- Early Childhood Development Working Group
- Positive Aging Working Group, Families at University Working Group
- Current Approaches in Nutrition and Dietetics Working Group
- Newborn and Adolescent Care Working Group
- Public Health and Health Policies Working Group.

RESEARCH AND APPLICATION CENTERS / https://uskudar.edu.tr/tr/uygulama-ve-arastirma-merkezleri-faaliyetleri
- Maternal and Child Mental Health Research Center
- Family Practice and Research Center
- Barrier-Free Living Implementation and Support Center
- Human Rights Studies Implementation and Research Center
- Globalization and Youth Issues Implementation and Research Center
- Gifted Children Implementation and Research Center
- Solution-Focused Women's Issues Implementation and Research Center

1.4.4. Does your university as a body participate in policy making at local, regional, national and/or global level to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions?)
Yes. A total of 22 activities were attended related to participation in national and global policy development on poverty. As a thematic university, our knowledge and experience are utilized at all levels, especially in the field of health, and meetings are held with relevant actors at regional, national, and global levels. Particularly in the fields of poverty and social services/assistance, collaboration with policy makers and non-governmental organizations is also conducted within the framework of projects and protocols, contributing to the process. Additionally, the study documented in the evidence is being conducted collaboratively with policymakers and non-governmental organizations within the framework of vulnerabilities intersecting with poverty, both within our University's Working Groups and Research and Application Centers.

Evidence 1: Civil Society Strengthening Policy: Training Protocol to Strengthen Civil Society Organizations Working in the Field of Poverty with the Support of the Ministry of Youth and Sports