

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT



YAŞAR UNIVERSITY

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: December, 2021

To: December, 2023

1 November, 2023

STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE RECTOR OF YAŞAR UNIVERSITY

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that Yaşar University reaffirms its support of the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement for the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication on Engagement, we describe the actions that our university has conducted to support the UN Global Compact and its principles as suggested for an organization like our university. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely,

Prof.Dr. Levent KANDİLLER

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS AND MEASUREMENT OF OUTCOMES

INTRODUCTION

Yaşar University has been a devoted follower and disseminator of the UN Global Compact principles as an institution and an academic organization since its participation at the compact. Yaşar University serves the public, not only by abiding by these principles but also by conducting research, developing academic interest, and teaching the young and elder generations about them.

Since its foundation, Yaşar University has been committed to following social responsibility norms which are embedded in the motto of the University: “Science, Unity, Success”. These norms are integrated into the strategic planning priorities of the university in the form of “human-first” and “supremacy of ethical science” approaches.

Yaşar University is an active participant in the UN Global Compact, both at the local and international levels. Yaşar University has been represented at the annual meetings of the UN Global Compact Network Turkey. The University representatives have participated in several activities, including meetings and workshops organised by the UN Global Compact – Network Turkey. Yaşar University contributed to the international activities of the UN Global Compact, such as the Business for Peace (B4P) annual events convened in Istanbul and New York as well as the finalisation process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the UN Headquarters.

Being an academic institution gives Yaşar University a broad spectrum of possibilities to contribute to the UN Global Compact principles and the UN Sustainable Development Goals by disseminating information, teaching, and developing projects about sustainability and social responsibility and by cooperating with various stakeholders at the city, country, regional and international levels. As an academic institution with a high quality faculty, committed administrative staff and dedicated students, Yaşar University disseminates information, develops projects and conducts teaching activities in relation to several SDGs, including eradicating poverty, ensuring gender equality, creating means for affordable and clean energy, reducing inequities, contributing to climate action processes, helping the transformation of urban environments into sustainable cities, working for peace, justice and strong institutions, and providing quality education. Yaşar University, with its quality academic faculty and administrative staff has the potential to contribute in all the above-mentioned areas of the SDGs.

Yaşar University actively contributes to promotion, dissemination and implementation of the UN Global Compact principles and the SDGs through its activities in the domains of education, social responsibility, life-long learning, workplace security and health, gender equality, environmental protection, energy efficiency and anti-corruption. Yaşar University seeks to further integrate the values associated with the UN Global Compact principles and the SDGs into its strategic plans and the future operations of the university.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT PRINCIPLES

AT YAŞAR UNIVERSITY

1. HUMAN RIGHTS

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and

Principle 2: Make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Promotion and implementation of human rights are essential for achieving sustainable development worldwide. Integrating human rights principles in all institutional activities is critical for a transformative world vision and a planet-centred, gender-sensitive just development. In this regard, Yaşar University prioritises the promotion and implementation of human rights above all and conducts the following actions:

1.1. Educational Activities at the Yaşar University

Having good quality education is one of the fundamental features necessary to improve people's lives and to ensure the sustainability of development in general. Despite observing progress towards an increase in access to education and improvement in the enrolment rates at schools, there is still significant room until achieving the SDG 4 education targets globally. There is also a strong need for improvement in the skill sets of the university students within the higher education system.

To contribute to the improvement of the overall intellectual progress of its students and the wider public, Yaşar University conducts the following activities:

- **Department of Science Culture and Foundation Courses Program**

Universities should provide and stimulate an intellectual environment where both science and critical thinking is promoted and encouraged. Universities should teach and cherish this principle, opening the door to a more prosperous way of life, where people are more in tune with their surroundings. At Yaşar University, it is anticipated that through acquiring specific fundamental skills, students will have the chance to recognise and internalise the university's values, expressed in its motto: 'Science, Unity, Success'. It is also expected that through the nurturing environment of the university, students will increase their thirst for learning and success through personally experiencing this respectful approach to life. Yaşar University is a scientific institution, which places great importance on these global values. It constantly strives to develop its 'unique' scientific assertions through question and analysis. Accordingly, it prioritises the prompt integration of new research findings from the university environment into education programs. Over time, this also benefits the proficiency of graduates. In this regard, Yaşar University has established a specific department, called "Department of Science Culture" that has interdisciplinary features and provides teaching and training to improve theoretical understanding of scientific theories and their practical implementations.

Yaşar University's unique scientific assertions and the value of its education programs, as identified in its institutional identity, are reflected in its Foundation Courses Program (FCP). These courses are comprised to combine global scientific values with the most current educational demands in the most appropriate way. The courses aim to provide specific information about various intellectual perspectives and improve the necessary ability, skill, attitude, interests, habits, and students' social responsibility. They differ from the "compulsory lessons", determined by the Council of Higher

Education. They also diverge from the “specialized” and “elective” courses offered in the students’ regular study programs. However, they are in harmony and coordination with various academic programs offered at the university. The courses adopt the methods and principles of science and aim to provide awareness about philosophy and art as well as social responsibility. Yaşar University offers these courses both in Turkish and English, consistent with the universal educational standards.

Starting with the 2012-2013 academic year, the courses have integrated the facilities provided by Open and Distance Learning. ‘Foundation Courses’ are incorporated into the curriculum of Yaşar University to assist students in acquiring essential skills. These essential skills can provide graduates with advantages and differentiating abilities when compared to their contemporaries. Research and reviews are carried out of international higher education programs, to validate the relevance of these additional skills in the marketplace. In addition, a recent ‘needs analysis’ was also undertaken to identify the demands of the sector, institutions, and businesses, which may recruit our graduates. The courses are offered under two main categories: “Philosophy Courses” and “Activity Courses”.

The courses under the “Philosophy Courses” category teach the university’s scientific assertions. They reflect the institutional, academic, and cultural values of Yaşar University, its essential principles and the methodology needed to adopt the philosophical basis of these principles. The courses under the “Activity Courses” category are practice-based courses where students find solutions to actual, real-life problems outside of the university campus by forming multi-disciplinary study groups. The purpose is to improve students’ awareness of real-life issues as well as to improve the students’ skills to offer solutions to these issues

The classes (both in English and Turkish) offered under the Yaşar University Foundation Courses Program are as follows:

SCUL 0700	SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP
SCUL 0701	KÜRESEL VATANDAŞLIK BİLGİLERİ / GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP INFORMATION
SCUL 0702	HİTABET VE GÜZEL KONUŞMA SANATI /THE ART OF ORATORY AND SPEAKING
SCUL 0704	RECENT POLITICAL HISTORY OF TURKEY
SCUL 0705	GENDER STUDIES
SCUL 0706	SOCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REFINEMENT
SCUL 0707	FELSEFİ DÜŞÜNME / PHILOSOPHICAL THINKING
TURK 1101	TURKISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
UFND 1120	SEMIOLOGY AND SEMANTICS
UFND 1520	DIVERSITY STUDIES
UFND 1710	KARİYER PLANLAMA / CAREER PLANNING
UFND 2010	ARAŞTIRMA KÜLTÜRÜ / RESEARCH CULTURE
UFND 2020	RESEARCH CULTURE
UFND 3010	TASARIM KÜLTÜRÜ / DESIGN CULTURE
UFND 3020	DESIGN CULTURE
UFND 4020	AESTHETIC CULTURE
UFND 4220	ETIQUETTE AND PROTOCOL
UFND 5020	ETHIC CULTURE
UFND 6010	PROJE KÜLTÜRÜ / PROJECT CULTURE
UFND 6020	PROJECT CULTURE

UFND 6110	GİRİŞİMCİLİK VE İŞ PLANLAMASI / ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BUSINESS PLANNING
UFND 6120	ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND BUSINESS PLANNING
UFND 6220	SUSTAINABILITY
UFND 7020	SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

- **Courses on Human Rights and Discrimination**

Recognizing the importance of providing specialized courses about human rights and discrimination, Yaşar University Faculty of Human and Social Sciences offers the following classes:

IR 3355 Human Rights: The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the concept of human rights from a theoretical and empirical perspective. As part of this course, fundamental human rights developments are studied, and human rights issues are examined from a legal, political, and ethical perspective.

PRAD 0040 Discrimination Studies: The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of theories concerning prejudice and discrimination, including ageism, racism, sexism, heterosexism, and homophobia. As a part of this course, students understand the nature of prejudice and discrimination and discuss these issues from a theoretical and historical perspective.

1.2. Social Responsibility Programs at Yaşar University

Social Responsibility is an ethical framework that calls upon individuals, entities, groups, and institutions to act responsibly and fulfil their civic duties towards society. To disseminate the teaching and integration of this principle, Yaşar University offers a specific course on Social Responsibility under the Foundation Courses Program, has founded Social Responsibility Community, and conducts various projects, such as “İzmir’de İyilik Var”. Due to its active support of various social responsibility programs, Yaşar University has been accepted to be part of the National Volunteering Committee, established through the initiative of the United Nations Turkey. Yaşar University is the first-ever university in Turkey invited to take part in the National Volunteering Committee.

- **UFND 7010 Social Responsibility Course**

The Social Responsibility Course aims to enable students to learn about society and develop social awareness by taking part in a social responsibility project. The students develop and implement a social responsibility project outside of the campus and enhance their experience in team-building, project coordination and implementation. The course teaches both the basic principles of social responsibility and the methodology required to apply these principles in real life.

Social Responsibility has been devised as Yaşar University’s institutional scientific identity assertions. Hence, the course is a compulsory course for all university students. It is offered both in English and Turkish.

The learning outcomes of the courses are as follows: to understand and discuss the principles of social responsibility; to express a social problem; to develop a social project with a team; to manage the defined phases of projects; and to apply the philosophical basis of social responsibility principles.

The projects conducted by the students as a part of the Social Responsibility Course include helping high-school students with their classes, painting the community walls in different parts of the city,

preparing houses for stray animals, providing clothes, toys and necessary equipment to the children in underprivileged parts of Turkey, and recording short films in various parts of Izmir.

- **Social Responsibility Community of Yaşar University**

Yaşar University aims to disseminate social responsibility principles among its students and encourages them to engage in related projects. Hence, the students of Yaşar University have organised themselves under the roof of the “Social Responsibility Community”, which organizes several events throughout the academic year. The community has been active since 2011. The events organised by the Social Responsibility Community includes the following: “Toy Studio”, “Game is Our Business” project, Orientation Days, “Turkish Sign Language” Studio, and Yoga.

- **Social Responsibility Projects: “İzmir’de İyilik Var”**

Yaşar University actively supports the dissemination of social responsibility spirit outside of the university. Hence, Yaşar University cooperates with several actors, such as the Izmir municipality, civil society actors, and international organisations, to organise social responsibility projects at the city and regional levels. One of the principal examples among these projects is called “İzmir’de İyilik Var (There is Goodwill in Izmir)”, organized by the professors at Yaşar University in cooperation with Izmir municipality and various local civil society organizations. The event was organized for the 4th time in Izmir in 2019, and the topic was “Terrestrial life and Deforestation”.

Yaşar University Industrial Engineering Community (EMT) Social Responsibility Team, together with İzmir Provincial Directorate of National Education, conducted a research in 30 districts of Izmir and selected Karabağlar Kazım Kazım Karabekir Secondary School, where students who need quality education are educated. University students transformed a classroom at school into a library with every detail, from paint to parquet, from cabinets to books. Yaşar University students, who create new items from waste materials by using upcycling, established the environmentally friendly "Library of Dreams in 2022."

- **Yaşar University Radio Station Programs on Social Responsibility**

Yaşar University Radio Station RadYu has been broadcasting special programmes as “Fairness in the Campus”, “Zero Waste”, and “Live Your Career Healthy” (27 episodes) to raise awareness on social projects.

1.3. Yaşar University as an Accessible University

Yaşar University campus has been designed to provide equal access to all individuals to reach every point in the campus without any problems. Yaşar University is an example of a barrier-free university where there are no barriers to equally participating in university life. The significant efforts of Yaşar University for providing equal access and participation opportunities to all individuals have been recognised by the Council of Higher Education. The Council of Higher Education has granted certificates for acknowledging the accessibility of Yaşar University in three spheres: namely the Orange Flag for Accessibility in Space, the Green Flag for Accessibility of Education, and the Blue Flag for Accessibility of Socio-cultural Events.

Yaşar University was deemed worthy of the "Spatial Accessibility Orange Flag" award in 2023 for its eight academic units within the scope of the "Barrier-Free University Flag and Badge Awards" given every year by the Council of Higher Education.

- **Disabled Students Unit**

To minimise the limitations affecting the campus's academic and social life, Yaşar University founded the Disabled Student Unit. Disabled Students Unit coordinates the necessary arrangements to create an accessible university for all students and staff. The unit identifies the obstacles against equal access to university life and implements the measures against them. The identification of the challenges against equal participation in the university life is conducted with the involvement of the differently abled students by considering the specific needs of each student. The unit focuses on the obstacles related to campus infrastructure and access to course materials, and the learning/working environment essential for equal participation in university life.

- **Barrier-Free Living Community**

For creating an accessible university environment without any barriers, Yaşar University students have established the “Barrier-Free Living Community”. The community organises various events, such as conferences, seminars, and documentary screenings, to raise awareness about the significance of creating a university environment accessible for everybody.

1.4. Lifelong Learning at Yaşar University

Life-long learning is the voluntary act of earning thought-out life. It enhances social inclusion, promotes community development, supports active citizenship, and increases the chances of employability. Yaşar University supports life-long learning through its Continuing Education Center.

- **Yaşar University Continuing Education Center (YUCEC)**

Yaşar University Continuing Education Center was established to meet the needs of lifelong learning, in-service training, and personal training. YUCEC organises various educational programs, courses, seminars and conferences for individuals, the public and private sector, and international institutions. Its mission is to provide participants with new information and skills by integrating theory and practice. YUCEC organises various certificate courses on many topics, such as career planning, personal development, foreign languages, theatre, ceramics, music, and cooking. In addition, YUCEC designs education programs to meet the specific needs of corporations and institutions. Examples of corporates and institutions for which YUCEC has organised education programs include Vestel, Grundfos Pompa, Izmir Gaz, Izmir Commodity Exchange, Aras Kargo, Mazhar Zorlu Holding, Izmir St. Joseph French High School, and Selçuk Municipality.

YUCEC offers skills and expertise to working individuals who wish to improve themselves in a certain field; those who wish to get a different and/or appealing job offer; and those who wish to learn a foreign language or improve language skills; those who did not have the opportunity of attending a university. YUCEC is also a member of EUCEN (European University Continuing Education Network).

1.5. Chairs on Migration

Migrants and refugees are most vulnerable to human rights violations, including economic and social exploitation, exclusion, discrimination, and abuse. Yaşar University Faculty of Human and Social Sciences has developed significant knowledge and experience in migration studies. As a recognition of these efforts, Yaşar University has been granted the UNESCO Chair on International Migration (2016-2020) and Jean Monnet Chair on “Migration in Turkey-European Union Relations” (2019-2022). The principal purpose of these chairs is to establish dialogue and collaboration between policymakers and academics working on migration.

2. LABOUR

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

To ensure equality and social progress, all employees worldwide should have safe and decent working conditions. All forms of child labour, as well as forced and compulsory labour, should be abolished. Businesses should respect the freedom of association, and employees should implement the right to collective bargaining. For Yaşar University, top priorities are ensuring smooth implementation of employees' rights and providing safe and healthy working conditions. Yaşar University puts utmost importance to protecting employees' rights according to Turkish Labour Law and international labour standards.

2.1. Workplace Health and Security Unit

As part of the efforts to ensure safety and well-being of the employees at Yaşar University Workplace Security and Health Unit is founded. This unit aims to optimize working conditions and technological tools at the university for the purpose of supporting social, physiological, and physical conditions of the employees. The unit puts the "human factor" at the core of its actions, spreads awareness about the importance of security and health in the workplace to prevent undesirable events which may threaten health and security of the employees and the students.

2.2. ISG 9110 and ISG 9219 Occupational Health and Security Courses

As required by the Council of Higher Education, Yaşar University offers two courses on occupational health and security: ISG 9110 and ISG 9210.

2.3. Preventive Measures of Pandemic COVID-19

Internationally, countries have reacted to the COVID-19 outbreak by introducing key public health non-pharmaceutical interventions to protect vulnerable population groups. In response to COVID-19, Yaşar University has taken a series of policy actions beyond public health initiatives. These preventive measures are as follows:

- When personnel and students apply to the health unit, an examination is carried out. If necessary, a hospital referral is made for further examination and examination.
- Information meetings on health issues are held for staff and students in certain periods. Educational presentations are shared through the SAKAİ (open learning platform) system.
- Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, the regulations and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health / Ministry of Internal Affairs / Presidency have been followed and necessary information has been provided to personnel.
- Since March 2020, when the Covid-19 pandemic started in Turkey, every day, both personnel and students who are Covid-19 patients/contacts/suspects have been contacted and necessary information is provided to them.

- Disinfection and cleaning works are regularly carried out throughout the university, including the cleaning of door handles, chair armrests, etc. Various surfaces and materials used are regularly wiped with disinfectant throughout the day.
- Collaborative work is carried out with occupational safety experts on issues such as risk analysis, emergency team training, drills, regular Occupational Health and Safety Board meetings, etc., as a part of the framework of Occupational Health and Safety Law.
- Sanitary inspections are carried out in the cafeteria.
- Central air conditioning systems are maintained and cleaned.
- In the dining hall, arrangements are made according to the social distancing.
- Mental health support has been provided to employees and students to overcome the negative effects of the pandemic.

General Rules to be followed by all staff and students are as follows:

- The use of masks is mandatory within campus boundaries. Our employees and students are required to pay attention to the social distancing rules within the campus.
- For waste that carries the high risk of contamination (mask, tissue paper, etc.), trash receptacles cans are placed at certain points on the campus.
- Students, staff, and visitors should not create overcrowded environments.
- No more than 2 people are allowed to use the elevators at the same time.
- It is necessary to present a personnel card at the entrance and exit of the cafeteria, and all staff and students must comply with the social distancing rule.
- It is obligatory for all personnel who will travel abroad and who will return from abroad to inform the doctor of our university about their travel status.
- It is mandatory to wear masks in the personnel service vehicles.
- All visitors, personnel and students are required to show the HES Code and Covid Vaccine Card or PCR Test Results at the entrance and exit of the campus. In addition, temperatures are taken by officers at all entrances.

2.4. Measures to Fight Against Addiction

These preventive measures are as follows:

- A Behavioural Addiction Commission has been established at the university.
- Communities that can work to combat addiction:
 - Young Red Crescent Society

- Psychology Society
- Social Responsibility Community

- Scientific publications have been made at the university on the excessive and harmful use of information technologies and the internet (6 publications in 2021)

- Seminars on "Information Technologies and digital addiction" are given to high schools, media outlets and municipalities.

- Data is entered into the system of the Council Higher Education (YÖKSİS) every 3 months regarding the studies carried out on addiction at the university.

- Reports are sent to the Ministry of Health, District Governorship and Governorship.

- The following issues have been conveyed to the Council Higher Education within the scope of the anti-addiction campaign work the university carry out in 2022:

- Addiction Workshop (November 2022) - Open to Yaşar University students.
- Online and Offline Communication Campaign for Yaşar University Students named "Because You Are Valuable" (throughout 2022)
- Elective "Behavioral Addiction" course to be opened throughout the University (Fall 2022)
- Sharing informative video and slide contents for educational purposes on different subjects related to addiction on the university's website (throughout 2022)
- Addiction Fighting Information and Awareness Seminar Series organized for students and academic and administrative staff of the university

2.5. Health Service

- First Aid Trainings

In accordance with the First Aid Regulation of the Ministry of Health, Yaşar University personnel have been regularly receiving 2-day basic first aid training for many years, and 1-day renewal first aid training for continuing staff, in accordance with the rule of 1 for every 20 employees in the low-risk group and 1 for every 10 employees in the very dangerous group. Approved certificate information is recorded by the human resources and health unit.

Most recently, 13 personnel received basic first aid training by the Ministry of Health-approved First Aid training centre between 16-17 February 2023 - 23-24 February 2023 and 27.10.2022.

Currently, 52 existing personnel have First Aid certification. First aid personnel are in the Emergency Team and are assigned to the blocks and floors of the university. Pictures of the first aiders are hung in the corridors of the buildings where they work.

- Water Analysis

Water used by Yaşar University Campus, Gastronomy Kitchen and Student Dormitory has been analysed every 6 months for many years. Analysis Result Documents are kept on record and shared with senior management.

Physical and microbiological analyses of drinking water samples taken from 19 different points of Yaşar University Campus, Gastronomy Kitchen and Student Dormitory are carried out by laboratories approved by the Turkish Accreditation Agency at regular intervals throughout the year.

- Sanitary Inspection

For many years, sanitary inspections have been carried out at Yaşar University Campus Kitchen, Student Dormitory Kitchen, Gastronomy Kitchen, T Block Kitchen and kitchen staff changing rooms by an occupational safety specialist, workplace physician and workplace nurse at regular intervals. 4 Sanitary Inspections are planned in 2023. Audit Reports are recorded and shared with senior management.

Kitchen staff send their Hygiene Training Certificates every year. These documents are checked and recorded.

- Health Education

Yaşar University administrative staff and technical staff have been given training on health and occupational safety issues at regular intervals for many years by an occupational safety specialist and workplace physician, and these are recorded by the occupational health and safety unit.

Training was planned for Construction Maintenance Repair and Technical Affairs personnel on various subjects by the Yaşar University workplace physician.

Related activities and events:

- Basic First Aid Training was held between 27.10.2022 – 16/17.02.2023 – 23/24.02.2023.
- Domestic Water Analysis was performed between 17.08.2022 – 13.01.2023 – 13.06.2023.
- Sanitary inspection was carried out between 29.10.2022 – 31.05.2023.
- Training on "Healthy Independent Life / No Smoking / Health Questions" was given to all employees and students, and "First Aid" training was given to all Gastronomy students between 15/18.2022 – 24.08.2023 – 14.10.2022.

Effectiveness-Monitoring-Evaluation:

- Currently, 52 personnel have a First Aid certificate. First aid personnel are in the Emergency Team and are assigned to the blocks and floors of the university. Pictures of the first aiders are hung in the corridors of the buildings where they work.
- Physical and microbiological analyzes of potable water samples taken from 15 different points of Yaşar University Campus, Gastronomy Kitchen and Student Dormitory were carried out by laboratories approved by the Turkish Accreditation Agency at regular intervals throughout the year. The reports received were examined and it was understood that it was suitable for human use.
- As a result of the inspections carried out in Yaşar University Campus Kitchen, Student

Dormitory Kitchen, Gastronomy Kitchen, T Block Kitchen and kitchen staff locker rooms, the situations that needed to be changed or improved were reported to the catering company in a report.

- The personnel and students who received the training were informed about addiction control and first aid. It is not expected that students in the gastronomy kitchen will intervene early and correctly in case of possible injuries.

2.6. Center for Women and Family Studies

Yaşar University Women and Family Studies Application and Research Center (YÜKAM) was established on December 7, 2020, to draw attention to the problems arising from gender inequality, to raise awareness, to develop collaborations through projects and scientific activities, and strengthened the stance of Yaşar University.

Young, dynamic and highly motivated YÜKAM has prepared and implemented the "Yaşar University Policy Document for the Prevention of Gender-Based Discrimination, Violence and Sexual Harassment" and the "Prevention of Gender-Based Discrimination, Violence and Sexual Harassment Directive". The Center pioneered the establishment of the Harassment Prevention Support Unit (YASTÖB).

Since its establishment, YÜKAM has signed many collaborations with local and global non-governmental-public organizations, private sector and academia. YUKAM participates in the work of Women's Studies in the Academy which was established by YÖK (Higher Education Council of Turkey), the Provincial Coordination Monitoring and Evaluation Board for Combating Violence Against Women within the Governorship established within the scope of Izmir Women-Friendly Cities, and local municipalities' gender studies and Local Equality Action Plans.

While YÜKAM carries out projects in which it participates as a stakeholder with the US Embassy and SPARK non-governmental organization at the international level, YÜKAM organizes projects and training activities with companies and non-governmental organizations at the regional level. Orange Summit Activities carried out jointly with the United Nations, student awareness projects that increase gender awareness, and gender and discrimination courses contribute to Yaşar University student values. YÜKAM serves to provide a gender-sensitive working environment at Yaşar University by organizing and supporting in-house trainings within the scope of the European Union Horizon 2020 CALIPER (Research and Innovation for Gender Equality) Project.

Yaşar University Women and Family Studies Application and Research Center (YÜKAM) is taking firm steps towards its goals in order to increase gender awareness on a regional and global level with its studies and bringing our city İzmir and our country closer to a more equal and inclusive level.

3. CLIMATE ACTION

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;

Principle 9: Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

The planet is facing unprecedented environmental challenges, including climate change, food shortages, biodiversity loss and water and energy insufficiencies. Hence, environmental protection and efficient use of energy are central for promotion of sustainable development. In this regard, universities should take the lead for spreading environmental awareness, teach the public and the private sector about the necessary environmental precautions and implement these measures within the campus.

In order to create a sustainable campus, Yaşar University is committed to continuously improving its energy performance. In this regard, Yaşar University efficiently uses energy and water in all activities at the campus; defines energy consumption targets and continuously updates and monitors them. Yaşar University also performs regular energy efficiency audits for defining the possibilities of energy efficiency improvement; follows new legislation about energy and water use and meets their requirements; conducts trainings and seminars about energy efficiency and environmental protection; includes energy performance assessment and improvement at the design phase of new projects; and purchases and utilizes energy-efficient products and services.

As a recognition of the efforts of Yaşar University in implementing energy efficiency at its campus, Yaşar University has become the first university in Turkey to receive the Energy Management Certificate (TS- EN-ISO 50001).

3.1. Department of Energy Systems Engineering

For disseminating knowledge about efficient energy use and production, Yaşar University has founded the department of Energy Systems Engineering. The department offers an undergraduate degree in Energy Systems Engineering since the 2012-2013 academic year. The education language is English. The curriculum consists of various energy-related courses in the fields of mechanical and electric-electronic engineering.

3.2. MSc in Energy Management

At the graduate level, Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences offers a master program in Energy Management. The program is offered in Turkish. The purpose of the program is to train experts who are equipped with the knowledge of energy technology and management, and who can produce sustainable solutions for reducing energy consumption.

3.3. Energy Productivity and Management Coordination Board

For effectively improving the energy performance at the campus, the Energy Productivity and Management Coordination Board was founded. The board is active since 2014. It is composed of 7 members and one academic advisor. The purpose of the board is to raise awareness about energy efficiency within and outside of the campus and to support educational activities in the field. For instance, the Board facilitated the organization of a summer course at Yaşar University in 2018, which is called “Exergy and Its Applications”. Parallel to this, the university uses a system that converts solar energy into electrical energy, built with photovoltaic panels. The hot water used for showering in the rooms in the Student Dormitory are provided with natural gas boilers, and solar energy panels on the roof of the building are used to support this system. Thus, the university provides efficiency by heating hot water with solar energy.

- Hot water used for showering in the rooms in the Student Dormitory is provided by natural gas boilers, and solar panels on the roof of the building are used to support this system.

3.4. Zero Waste Action

Regarding the Zero Waste initiative launched by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, first of all;

- The types of waste generated in our institution have been determined and the path to be followed has been determined. It is aimed to raise awareness about the types of waste generated in our institution.

- Determination of equipment needs according to the types of waste generated.
- The content prepared through the Sakai education portal for our university students is presented as an educational document about waste management. It is aimed to dispose of the waste generated in recycling bins suitable for its purpose. It is aimed to increase the sensitivity and awareness of our university students about the waste generated in our institution.
- Information about waste generated in the institution and waste management processes for Academic Administrative Staff via e-mail, digital screens, etc. informed by means of tools. At the same time, it is aimed to raise awareness about the waste generated in the institution and waste management processes and to act consciously.
- A study was conducted to determine the types of waste generated in the university.
- The waste bins and containers needed to cover the entire campus were provided.
- A “Temporary Hazardous Waste Collection Area” behind the Selçuk Yaşar Campus Cafeteria is planned.
- A “Temporary Non-Hazardous Waste Collection Area” has been built inside the closed area next to the security booth at the Y building of our university. The wastes accumulated in the boxes are taken and left in this area. When the waste area is full, the company authorized by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization for waste collection is invited and the waste is collected in return for a receipt.
- For the cleaning staff of the university, within the scope of zero waste action, an informative study was conducted on the types of waste generated in the university.
- An information e-mail about zero waste actions was sent to the academic and administrative staff of the university.
- To inform our students about zero waste actions carried out at the university, a presentation was prepared and presented to all students via the SAKAI system.

3.5. Energy Efficiency and Management Student Community

Energy Efficiency and Management Student Community has been established by the Yaşar University students to raise awareness about energy efficiency and sustainability both within the Yaşar University community and the wider public. The community is active since 2015. It organizes various events and technical visits with the purpose of disseminating knowledge about energy efficiency and management.

3.6. Projects on Renewable Energy

A project for sustainable green energy was developed at Yaşar University towards the climate change in 2023. With GreenBIM, the EU “Erasmus Plus” training program carried out in the civil engineering department, students and professionals in the field of construction and architecture will specialize in energy-efficient building design and Building Information Modeling (BIM). The GreenBIM training program will make a significant contribution to the implementation of zero-emission, sustainable, high-efficiency green energy buildings, districts and cities. If GreenBIM is integrated into the transformation of 6 million 800 thousand risky houses in Turkey, a significant energy saving will be achieved.

4. ANTI-CORRUPTION

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all forms, including extortion and bribery.

Yaşar University has always been a committed supporter of universal ethics and principles about anti-corruption. Yaşar University avoids all forms of bribery and extortion, and proactively implements the principle of transparency in all of its internal actions. Yaşar University's operations and governance is audited by the Council of Higher Education.