



Sustainable KTU

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024

2 ZERO
HUNGER



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Sustainable development is not only a global vision, but also a shared responsibility that our country bears towards future generations. In this sense, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations, Turkey's 11th and 12th Development Plans, the Green Deal Action Plan, and the Higher Education Council's sustainability vision form a roadmap for higher education institutions.

As Karadeniz Technical University, we consider it our primary duty to contribute to these goals in line with our mission of education, research, and community service. Our university produces science-based knowledge, develops policies, and implements projects in interaction with the community across a wide range of areas, from quality education to climate action, from poverty reduction to the construction of innovative and sustainable cities.

In line with our country's national policies, our university leads regional development and assumes global responsibility through international collaborations, while also aiming to educate our students to become conscious individuals for a sustainable future. The report prepared in this context reflects not only the activities carried out but also our university's determination on its sustainability journey.

Our belief in the future is strengthened by the guidance of science and the dynamism of our youth. Karadeniz Technical University will continue to contribute to sustainable development goals and support our country's vision in this area.

Prof. Dr. Hamdullah ÇUVALCI
Rector, Karadeniz Technical University





Hunger and malnutrition are serious humanitarian issues facing not only developing countries but the entire world. SDG-2: Zero Hunger, one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, aims to end hunger everywhere, achieve food security, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030.

Hunger is not only a physical deficiency but also a multidimensional problem directly related to poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, and social injustice. Therefore, combating hunger requires multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder cooperation. Higher education institutions play critical roles in this context, both in terms of knowledge production and scientific solution development, as well as in raising social awareness and establishing direct support mechanisms.

Karadeniz Technical University (KTU), as a public university with a regional development mission, carries out various activities in line with SDG-2 in both its education and training processes and in the areas of research, application, and social contribution. Support for students' basic food needs, research projects on sustainable agriculture and food security, social responsibility activities that contribute to rural development, and collaborations developed with local stakeholders are among the elements that directly contribute to this goal.

This report aims to highlight KTU's contribution to a sustainable food system and social welfare by examining the policies, practices, and impacts implemented in line with its 2024 End Hunger goal. KTU has a comprehensive food service infrastructure to ensure adequate and balanced nutrition for students and academic and administrative staff. These services, carried out across the university, are coordinated by the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports, and a sustainable food security approach is adopted across the campus.



Institutional Structure



Karadeniz Technical University (KTU) has a comprehensive food service infrastructure to ensure adequate and balanced nutrition for students and academic and administrative staff. These services, carried out across the university, are coordinated by the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports, and a sustainable food safety approach is adopted throughout the campus.

Meals are prepared in modern kitchens located at the Kanuni Campus under the supervision of food engineers, dietitians, and chefs. They are balanced in terms of energy and nutrients and prepared in accordance with hygiene standards. These meals are served in dining halls located in numerous settlements affiliated with KTU.

- Kanuni Campus: Nejmi Kırkbir Student Cafeteria, Faculty of Medicine Student Cafeteria, Academic and Administrative Staff Cafeteria
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- Local Campuses: Sürmene Faculty of Marine Sciences, Of Faculty of Technology, Sürmene Abdullah Kanca Vocational School, Arsin Vocational School, Araklı Vocational School, Trabzon Vocational School, Maçka Vocational School, and Coastal Facilities Cafeterias

These dining halls offer a total capacity of approximately 300 tables and nearly 1,800 chairs.



[KTU Nutrition Services](#)
[KTU Nutrition Guidelines](#)





Students can benefit from meal services by loading meals onto their campus cards on a weekly basis; this process is carried out online via the kampuskart website. Detailed meal information is also provided on the Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate website to facilitate usage.

Additionally, free lunch scholarships are provided for students in need of financial support under the KTU Scholarship and Aid Guidelines and the Karadeniz Technical University Empowerment Foundation Scholarship Guidelines. Applications for the Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate Scholarship are made via the website, and applications for the Empowerment Foundation Scholarship are made via the Information Management System (BYS), ensuring students' access to their basic nutritional rights.

The right to nutrition and the right to health are considered fundamental human rights. In this context, KTU is taking significant steps to facilitate access for students with special dietary needs. Specifically, the university has initiated an assessment process regarding the access of students with celiac disease to gluten-free foods.

To this end, a form has been prepared to identify students with celiac disease, and feedback has been collected from students. During the 2023-2024 academic year, gluten-free menu options are planned to be offered in university cafeterias. In addition, efforts are underway to ensure that gluten-free products are available in canteens, cafeterias, and vending machines.

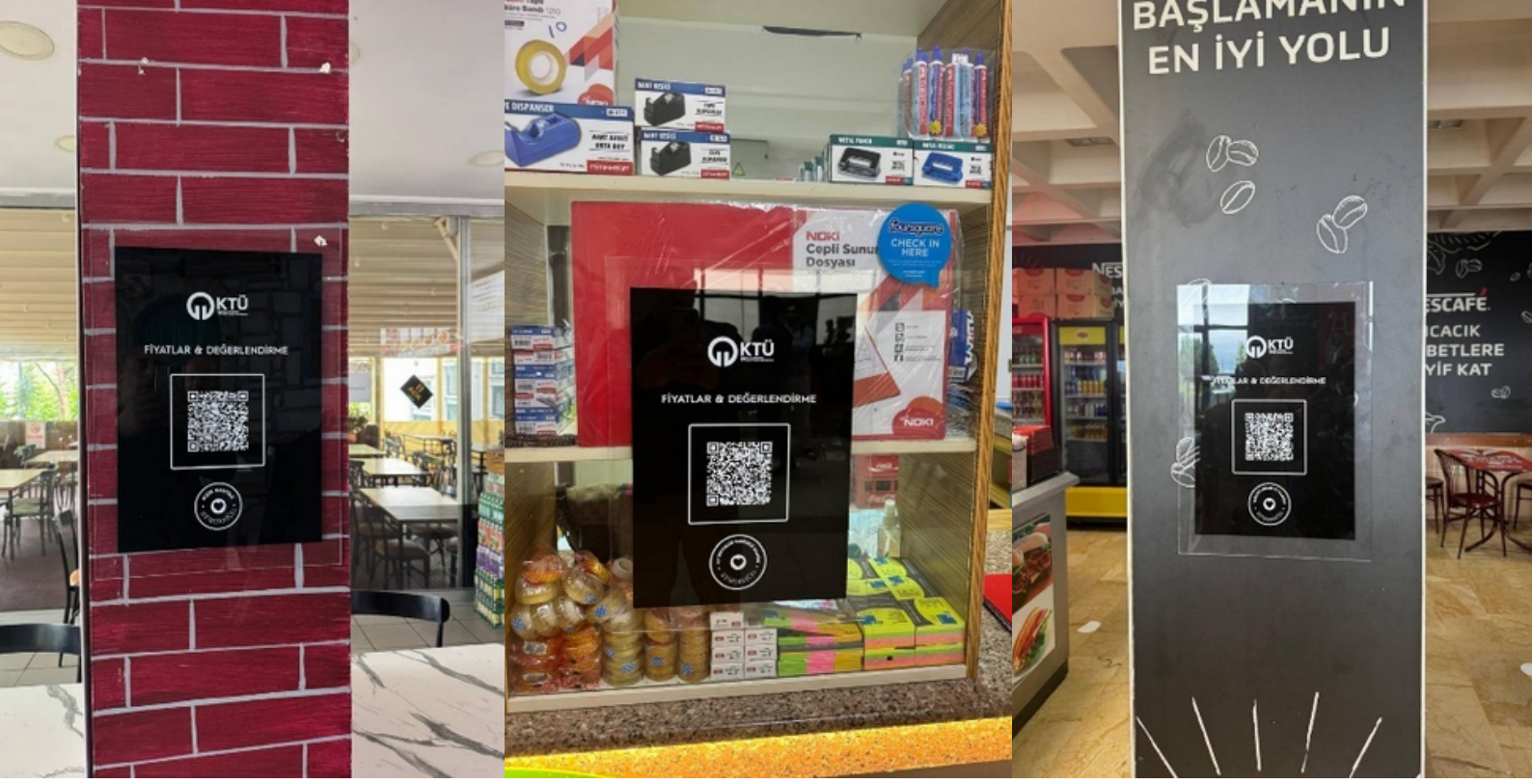
According to feedback from a total of 57 students, 20 students would like to benefit from gluten-free meal services in the cafeterias, while 25 students have not requested this service. Additionally, 3 students prefer gluten-free snacks in the cafeterias.



[KTU Campus Card](#)
[KTU Meal Plan](#)

[KTU Meal Grant Application](#)
[KTU Foundation Scholarship Application](#)





In accordance with the decision taken by our Rectorate, QR code signs displaying the current prices of products have been placed in the cafeterias, cafes, and restaurants operating within our University. These signs have been positioned in areas where everyone using the services of the relevant businesses can easily see them. Through these QR codes, our students and staff can instantly access the current price list of products offered by the relevant business.

This provides customers purchasing products or services from the business with price information while also establishing a more transparent and auditable structure regarding service quality. QR code signs also direct users to a short survey application where they can evaluate the business they received services from. Through this survey, users contributed to directly communicating their satisfaction and suggestions regarding the service they received to management.

Our university aims to promote similar practices by adopting a more transparent, accessible, and auditable service approach for our students and employees.

At KTU, a Student Cafeteria Menu Selection Survey (2024 Menu Selection Survey) was conducted to provide more effective services tailored to students' nutritional needs and preferences. This survey encouraged student participation, enabling menu planning to be based on student feedback. The survey is being conducted with the goals of reducing food waste and increasing student satisfaction. This makes the university's sustainable nutrition services more effective and inclusive.



[KTU QR Code Application](#)





KTU Koru Hotel

KTU offers important services such as the KTU Koru Hotel to support the social and physical well-being of its students and staff. These facilities provide opportunities for relaxation, social interaction, and healthy living amidst the intense pace of education and work life.

Our students and staff enhance their quality of life by taking advantage of accommodation, rest, and recreation facilities under suitable conditions, thereby positively contributing to their academic and professional success. KTU Koru Hotel and Beach Facilities also contribute to the improvement of social welfare in line with our university's sustainability and social responsibility goals.

KTU's comprehensive food services support food security in line with SDG-2: Zero Hunger, contributing to students' ability to continue their education in a healthy manner.





Production of Organic Fertilizer from Organic Waste and Sustainable Green Space Management

KTU contributes significantly to environmental sustainability and the efficient use of the food cycle by recycling organic waste from its three campus cafeterias. Thanks to the Composting Unit, which was taken over from Hayrat Municipality and established at the Kanuni Campus, organic waste collected daily is processed and converted into organic fertilizer.

This project aims to produce approximately 6.5 tons of organic fertilizer annually, which is more than double the university's annual fertilizer requirement. This reduces the need to purchase fertilizer from outside sources, and any surplus fertilizer is used for the sustainable maintenance of other green areas in Trabzon or offered for sale.

The composting process involves daily collection of waste, the addition of 10% wood chips, and a process lasting approximately 14 days. These activities are carried out by an environmental engineer, a health technician, and support staff within the Zero Waste Coordination Unit. KTU's implementation supports the goals of reducing food waste, efficient use of natural resources, and sustainable environmental management, directly contributing to the SDG-2 targets of ending hunger and environmental sustainability.





Academic Contributions

KTU continues its high-quality work under the heading of Ending Hunger. According to the Scopus database, 15 scientific publications related to this development goal were produced in 2024. Scientific projects aimed at this goal are also actively continuing at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

According to THE Impact Ranking data, our university ranked 401-600 among 905 universities with 37.9 points in the 2025 results (based on 2024 data) under the heading of ending poverty. According to THE Impact Ranking 2025 data, KTU scored 62.3 indicator points in the SDG-2 End Hunger target based on the scoring of scientific studies and their impact (publications, citations, and Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI)) in 2025 (based on 2024 data).

KTU's efforts to end hunger and ensure food security are carried out in line with sustainable development goals. The projects and practices presented in the report aim to improve the nutritional security of local communities, support agricultural production efficiency, and promote the effective use of resources. In the coming period, we will continue to take the lead in increasing safe and adequate nutrition opportunities for all segments of society by developing innovative and inclusive strategies that will contribute to the achievement of SDG-2 targets.





Sustainable KTU

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