



Sustainable KTU

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024

1 NO
POVERTY



www.ktu.edu.tr/sustainability



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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



1 NO
POVERTY



Poverty is a social problem that means individuals cannot meet their basic needs and face the risk of social exclusion. The first of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined by the United Nations, SDG-1: No Poverty, aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030. This goal requires a comprehensive effort that encompasses not only economic but also social, cultural, and environmental dimensions.

Higher education institutions play critical roles in combating poverty through knowledge production, training qualified human resources, and interacting with society. Karadeniz Technical University (KTU), as a public university contributing to regional and national development, is aware of this responsibility and carries out various strategic activities in line with SDG-1. Among these efforts, scholarship and support programs aimed at reducing economic inequalities, social responsibility initiatives, and research activities based on collaborations stand out.

This report comprehensively addresses the policies, practices, and impacts implemented by KTU in line with its SDG-1 target, aiming to document and strengthen the university's contributions in this area. It also aims to contribute to the sharing of best practices by highlighting how the university utilizes its social responsibility capacity for a sustainable future. KTU positions the fight against poverty among its institutional priorities in line with ensuring social justice and supporting equal opportunities. The university acts in accordance with strategic plans and ethical principles that include social support mechanisms and systematically implements support for economically disadvantaged students.



Institutional Structure

Karadeniz Technical University (KTU) has established a comprehensive support mechanism to support the “SDG-1: No Poverty” goal under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to ensure the social and academic needs of target groups by meeting their basic needs.

Within our university,

- the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports,
- the Karadeniz University Empowerment Foundation (KÜVAK)
- the Career Development Application and Research Center

and external funds provide scholarships and assistance to students who need support and maintain their academic performance. At the same time, training, internship programs, and job placement services are offered to facilitate our students' access to decent job opportunities and support their career development. This multifaceted approach reflects KTU's commitment to empowering its students both financially and professionally by embracing the goal of “ending poverty” at the local level.



[KTU Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate
Meal Grant List](#)





SAĞLIK, KÜLTÜR VE SPOR DAİRESİ BAŞKANLIĞI



Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate

Under the programs run by the Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate, our students are provided with the opportunity to earn income by working on campus through “Part-Time Work,” a “Meal Grant” to meet their nutritional needs, and a “Financial Support Grant” to assist with their educational expenses. Additionally, our university offers accommodation options for students, meeting their housing needs with safe and affordable dormitory choices.

Meal Grant

KTU provides free lunch grants for students. In 2024, 400 students benefited from the meal grant. This support contributes to students' academic success by meeting their basic nutritional needs. Scholarships are funded by the Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate budget; applications are accepted by the Scholarship and Aid Office at the beginning of each academic year. Students who are deemed eligible based on a social and economic status assessment are provided with one free lunch per day. This program directly contributes to the university's goals of increasing equal opportunity and alleviating the effects of poverty.



[KTU Scholarship and Financial Aid Services](#)
[Meal Scholarship List](#)





Part-Time Work

KTU supports students enrolled at KTU by employing them in temporary jobs during their free time outside of class hours, in line with their interests and abilities. This helps them develop their personalities and skills, fostering work discipline and contributing to their growth as productive individuals, in accordance with the KTU Part-Time Student Employment Guidelines.

Financial Support Scholarship

Another important type of support for students at KTU is financial support scholarships provided by individuals or legal entities. These scholarships facilitate students' academic lives and contribute to reducing social inequalities. Students who will benefit from the scholarships are determined through an evaluation process conducted by the Health, Culture, and Sports Directorate, and the final decision is made with the approval of the person or institution providing the scholarship. This practice stands out as an effective mechanism that encourages different segments of society to contribute to social solidarity in higher education.



[KTU Scholarship and Financial Aid Guidelines](#)
[KTU Part-Time Student Employment Guidelines](#)





Student Dormitories

KTU students are provided with comprehensive accommodation facilities by the Student Credit and Dormitories Institution (KYK). Located on the Central Kanuni Campus, the Eastern Black Sea Student Dormitory consists of eight blocks and offers rooms for 1–3 people. There is another KYK dormitory complex consisting of four blocks on the same campus. In addition, there are KYK-affiliated student dormitories in Trabzon city center and the districts of Akçaabat, Yomra, Sürmene, Of, and Maçka. This extensive accommodation network supports equal access to education by meeting students' needs for safe and affordable lodging.

Located within the Kanuni Campus, the KTU Student Dormitory serves students attending our university.



[KTU Accommodation Services](#)
[KTU Social Life](#)





Karadeniz University Enhancement Foundation

The Karadeniz University Enhancement Foundation (KÜVAK), which has been operating for approximately 40 years with the aim of contributing to the educational, research, and infrastructure development of Karadeniz Technical University (KTU), is a well-established solidarity network created through public-private sector cooperation. The Foundation supports equal opportunities in education by providing the “Karadeniz University Enhancement Foundation Scholarship” to our university's successful students who need financial support. Scholarship applications are conducted through the KTU Information Management System (BYS) in a transparent and accessible process, and candidates can easily apply via the KUVAK Scholarship Application Portal. Through these programs, KUVAK not only meets the financial needs of our students but also strengthens our university's social mission.



[KU Foundation](#)
[KU Foundation Scholarship Application](#)





Career Development Application and Research Center

The Career Development Application and Research Center, operating within KTÜ, offers multifaceted services to support students and graduates in entering the workforce as well-equipped individuals. Through career planning, the development of employment skills, and the establishment of effective links with the labor market, it makes an indirect but powerful contribution to reducing socioeconomic inequalities and structurally preventing poverty. The activities carried out by the Career Development Application and Research Center aim to ensure that students graduate not only as diploma holders but as individuals with sustainable careers who can generate income, thereby making a concrete contribution to the long-term fight against poverty.

T.C. CUMHURBAŞKANLIĞI
İNSAN KAYNAKLARI OFISI

**YETENEK
HER YERDE**

DOKKAF 2024 8-9 Ocak 2024
Trabzon Teknoloji Geliştirme Bölgesi
Biyoteknoloji ve İnovasyon Merkezi (BİOİNOVAS)

KTÜ

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[KTU Career Center and the Services It Offers](#)





External Support Received

Scholarships provided from external funds widely used within KTU are considered one of the university's structural contributions towards the SDG-1 goal within the framework of its social justice principle. Our university provides detailed information and access to comprehensive scholarship and support programs offered by institutions such as the Higher Education Council (YÖK), TÜBİTAK, and TÜSEB, with the aim of providing socio-economic equality to our students. These supports not only encourage academic achievement but also serve as an important social tool in the fight against poverty.

For example, TÜBİTAK 2209-A and 2209-B undergraduate research scholarships support students' active participation in scientific projects, while the 100/2000 YÖK Doctoral Scholarship and TÜBİTAK 2210/2211 master's-doctoral programs facilitate the participation of disadvantaged students in research processes.

Thanks to these programs:

- Students in need of financial support can participate in high-quality research and continue their academic progress.
- Students are involved in socially impactful projects conducted within the university, enabling them to contribute to society.
- The retention of students from low-income backgrounds in higher education increases, expanding opportunities for social mobility.



[KTU TÜBİTAK 2209 Results-2024](#)





Under the TÜBİTAK 2209/A Program for the 2024/1st period, 410 KTU undergraduate/associate degree students applied, and 253 of these students' projects were awarded funding. Within the scope of this program, our university received funding at a rate of 62%.

Under the TÜBİTAK 2209/B Program, 52 KTU undergraduate/associate degree students applied in the 2024/1st period, and 27 of these applications were eligible for support. Our university received support at a rate of 52% under this program.

The BiGG – Individual Young Entrepreneurship Program, supported by TÜBİTAK, provides both financial and mentorship support to young entrepreneurs who want to turn innovative business ideas into sustainable ventures. This program makes significant contributions to the SDG-1: No Poverty goal through its potential for achieving economic independence and creating employment. KTU plays an active role in promoting BiGG programs, project development processes, and spreading the culture of entrepreneurship. The KTU Technology Transfer Application and Research Center (TTM) encourages students and graduates to apply for BiGG programs and provides support during the project development phase.





**KTÜ VE AİLE
BAKANLIĞI'NDAN
YAŞLILARA
YÖNELİK "60+
TAZELENME
ÜNİVERSİTESİ
PROJESİ" İŞ
BİRLİĞİ**



Contributions Offered to Different Target Groups

KTU has launched the University of Rejuvenation Program to encourage individuals aged 60 and over to participate in lifelong learning. The University of Rejuvenation contributes to combating social exclusion and loneliness by increasing older individuals' access to knowledge, while also serving as a social support mechanism aimed at preventing age-related economic and social vulnerabilities.

The scope of the protocol signed with the General Directorate of Disability and Elderly Services of the Ministry of Family and Social Services includes the provision of scientific, academic, research, and consulting services by Karadeniz Technical University free of charge regarding the demands for elderly health, elderly welfare, and care, and to ensure cooperation between the parties regarding the work carried out within the scope of the 60+ Rejuvenation University Project.



[Protocol signed with the Ministry](#)





Other Contributions

Iftar gatherings, cultural awareness events, and support-based social gatherings have been organized with the participation of international students studying at our university. For international students, particularly those from conflict zones or economically vulnerable groups, such events contribute to the development of their social capital, support their psychosocial well-being, and prevent social exclusion.



The eighth annual Hamsi Festival, organized by our university's Faculty of Technology and supported by the Municipality of Of, was held this year.



[Event Notice](#)





Academic Contributions

Our university continues its high-quality work under the heading “End Hunger.” According to the Scopus database, four 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. Two papers and one book chapter in the AVESİS database are among the publications contributing to this field.

According to THE Impact Ranking 2025 data, KKTU scored 64.5 indicator points in the SDG-1 End Poverty target as a result of the scoring of scientific studies and their impact (publications and Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI)) in 2025 (based on 2024 data).

In conclusion, the work we carry out at KKTU to reduce poverty and eliminate social inequalities forms the basis of our understanding of social responsibility. The projects and strategies we present in this report aim to create sustainable impact at both the local and national levels, ensuring concrete steps are taken in the areas of education, health, employment, and social support. Looking ahead, we aim to continue developing innovative and inclusive approaches that will contribute to the achievement of SDG-1 targets, leading the way in raising the welfare level of all segments of society.





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This publication has been prepared by KTU Office of
Research Coordination



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