



# Sustainable KTU

## SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024

**12** RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



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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**



**12** RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



Karadeniz Technical University (KTU) acts in line with sustainable development goals, producing academic knowledge while also acting with environmental and social responsibility awareness. Under SDG-12: Responsible Consumption and Production, the university develops practices that optimize resource use and reduce and recycle waste; it also carries out awareness-raising activities both on campus and at the societal level.

KTU plays a pioneering role in areas such as establishing sustainable production and consumption cycles, efficient use of energy and water resources, waste management, and the application of environmentally friendly technologies. In this context, research, laboratory work, and projects conducted with faculty members and students create academic value and strengthen sustainability awareness at the city and regional levels.

KTU also systematically implements waste management and recycling projects through the Environmental Issues Application and Research Center, the Zero Waste Coordination Office, and relevant faculties; it promotes energy efficiency and environmentally conscious production practices across the campus. Within this framework, significant contributions are made in terms of both education and social awareness through the active participation of students, academics, and staff.



# Institutional Structure

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## The Role of the Zero Waste Coordination Unit in the Context of SDG-12

Karadeniz Technical University Zero Waste Coordination Office contributes directly to SDG-12 targets by implementing sustainable production and consumption principles across the campus. The Coordination Office carries out activities such as separating waste at source, promoting recycling practices, and minimizing waste quantities.

In this context, the following practices are organized on university campuses:

- Separation of organic and inorganic waste
- Collection and recycling of electronic waste
- Management of packaging and paper waste
- Awareness seminars and workshops for the community and students.

In addition, the Zero Waste Coordination Office collaborates with student clubs, academic units, and local administrations to carry out awareness projects and creative activities. For example, workshops where artworks are produced from electronic waste both raise awareness of recycling and enable students to generate sustainable solutions.

All these activities contribute significantly to resource efficiency, environmental sustainability, and social awareness in line with KTU's SDG-12 vision. The Zero Waste Coordination Office stands out as a strategic unit that promotes the university's sustainability goals both on campus and at the city level.





## The Role of the Environmental Issues Application and Research Center within the Scope of SKA-12

Karadeniz Technical University Center for Environmental Issues Application and Research develops projects and carries out planning and design activities aimed at regional and urban environmental issues to contribute to responsible consumption and production goals. The Center coordinates collaborations with public institutions, municipalities, and private organizations to generate and share scientific knowledge. It carries out its work through the following units: Watershed/Water Resources, Natural Structures/Ecology/Landscape, Waste Management/Mining Waste, Climate Change, Cultural Heritage Areas/Sustainability, and Urban Space Organization.

The Center's activities include conducting research and application projects, managing planning processes, organizing scientific events, contributing to education and training, and raising social environmental awareness. In addition, the Center contributes to the effective use of resources and the creation of sustainable production-consumption cycles by supporting R&D projects.

### KTU's Work Under SKA-12 (2024)

KTU Zero Waste Coordination Office conducted various training sessions, applications, and awareness projects in 2024 in line with responsible production and consumption goals. Meetings attended by our university's Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Ali Temiz provided an opportunity to meet the Zero Waste Coordination Office team and share information about ongoing work; projects planned for the university were evaluated.



[Information Meeting](#)





Paper waste collected from KTU units was delivered to a recycling company determined by tender and licensed by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change. The Coordination Office also took an important step toward protecting the environment and human health by disposing of laboratory chemicals and hazardous waste that had accumulated over many years.

As part of Environmental Week Activities, the Compost Waste Production Unit opened at the Kanuni Campus has contributed to organic fertilizer production by recycling organic waste. At the opening ceremony, university administrators and students emphasized the importance of environmental awareness and sustainability principles.

On June 5, World Environment Day, 24 students from different disciplines participated in the E-Waste Art Workshop and created creative, environmentally friendly artworks from broken or unused electronic devices. The students' work was evaluated by a jury, and awards and participation certificates were presented to the winning students.

Additionally, within the scope of the project to establish Zero Waste and Deposit Management Systems at our university, representatives from the KTU Zero Waste Coordination Office participated in a workshop organized by the Turkish Environment Agency. They provided training on the zero waste management process implemented at universities and shared application guidelines.



**Composting Unit Opening**  
**Deposit Management Systems**  
**Environment Week Activities**





## Academic Contributions

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KTU continues its high-quality work under the heading of Responsible Production and Consumption. According to the Scopus database, the number of scientific publications related to this development goal increased from 27 in 2023 to 45 in 2024. Four papers and six book chapters in the AVESiS database are among the publications contributing to this field.

In THE Impact Ranking 2025 results (based on 2024 data), KTU ranked between 401-600 among 973 universities, with an indicator score of 48.8. The report determined the score for research in this field to be 63. Throughout 2024, KTU made concrete contributions to the Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG-12) goal through its activities, research projects, and collaborations. The university's academic units, research centers, and coordination units carried out important work in the areas of disaster-resilient structures, sustainable urban planning, environmental management, and social awareness. In addition, seminars, panels, workshops, and publications conducted with student communities and the public have contributed to increasing the livability of cities by sharing knowledge with society.

KTU has strengthened environmental awareness in campus life and implemented exemplary practices at the national level through its zero waste and sustainability-focused initiatives throughout 2024. Through waste management, compost production, chemical waste disposal, deposit systems, educational activities, and awareness-raising events, our university is acting in line with the goals of SDG-12. All these activities demonstrate our determination to leave a cleaner and more livable environment for future generations, while further strengthening our university's sustainability vision and environmentally conscious institutional identity.





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This publication has been prepared by KTU Office of  
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