Boğaziçi University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report

November • 2026



Boğaziçi University

PUBLICATION

November • 2026

Boğaziçi University

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Sustainable Development Goal 6:

Clean Water and Sanitation



6

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation – Ranking, Greywater and Rainwater Recovery

THE IMPACT RATINGS 2026

85.

World Rankings

Among the top 100 universities evaluated globally

80.0 / 100 Points

SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation Performance Score

SoFi Digital Monitoring: Since 2011
Building-based monthly water, energy, and carbon footprint monitoring system

GREYWATER FOR TAPWATER CONSERVATION IN DORMITORY BUILDINGS

15% Water Savings

64 m^3 / Day
Total Treatment Capacity in 4 Dormitory Buildings (16 m^3/day each)

GREYWATER RECOVERY

1,200 m^3 / Year

100% greywater use in the reservoirs of the 1st Men's Dormitory

RAINWATER HARVESTING

1,747 m^3 / Year

Potential from Hisar rooftops; UDİM (46 m^3) & ETA (20 m^3) storage tanks

WATER-SAVING EQUIPMENT

35% Reduction

Faucet cartridges, aerators, and 4 LEED-certified buildings

On-Campus Water Consumption Distribution and MBR (Membrane Bioreactor) Treatment Quality



SDG 6: Water Efficiency Infrastructure, R&D Projects and International Collaborations

Advanced Water Research and R&D

INTEGRATOR Coordination

Horizon Europe Cluster 6: Water governance with 18 partners from 11 countries.

INTEGRATOR (Horizon Europe): Climate-resilient basin and water governance through digital twins and multi-scale monitoring.

MIT & B.U. Drainage Design: Urban stormwater modeling and flood prevention in Istanbul through "Drainage by Design."

AlgBU / INDEPENDENT: Removal of heavy metals and toxins from wastewater through microalgae in Kilyos; advanced treatment.

Ultrasonic Treatment and Antibiotics: Removal of pharmaceutical residues from drinking water using ultrasonic waves and resistance control.

Clean Water and Hygiene on Campus

Free Purified Water Fountain Network

Integration of a central water treatment system and animal drinking fountains.

Central Purified Water Fountains: 11 purified water dispensers in New Hall, the Library, the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, and campus squares in the North and South campuses.

Stray Animal Integration: Special water reservoirs with automatic drainage for campus cats and dogs beneath the fountains.

4 LEED-Certified Green Buildings: 1st Men's Dormitory (Gold), UDİM (Gold), Mersin Archaeology (Gold), Kandilli Dormitory (Silver).

Pollution Prevention & Grease Traps: Prevention of leakage into water basins through grease/oil traps at network connection points.

Public Awareness and Partnerships

National Water Efficiency Mobilization

Seven-stage management model and TEMA dune conservation protocol.

Xeriscaping: Conservation of low-water-consumption species such as Russian olive, Judas tree, Cyprus acacia, and dune flora at Kilyos Sarıtepe.

Yeşilhat Academy & Climate-Water Summit: Panel discussions analyzing Türkiye's water stress and hydrological drought in collaboration with iklimBU.

Certified Online Training: Sustainable water and environmental education in Turkish for 159 students through a partnership between BU-SDCPC and Unilever.

WWF Plastic & Coastal Cleanup: Kilyos coastal cleanup by the Environmental Club and a report on plastic pollution entering freshwater systems.

Clean Water and Sanitation

Clean Water and Sanitation

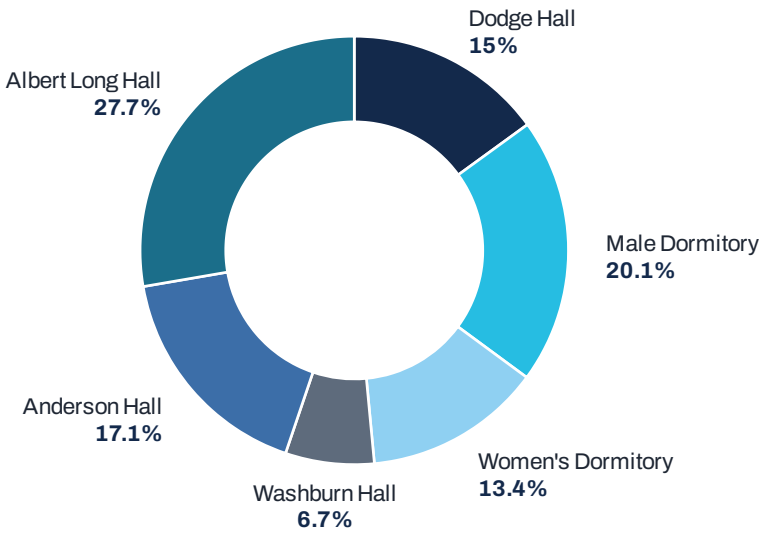
Boğaziçi University effectively measures and manages water consumption across the entire campus. The University uses water from the mains of ISKI (Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality) as a water source and also benefits from the grey water recycling system and rainwater recycling systems.

Water consumption in campus buildings depends largely on the intended use of the buildings. Factors such as areas used 24/7, student mobility and the presence of wet areas directly affect water consumption. Among all buildings on campus, dormitories have the largest share in water consumption. This is followed by buildings with high class capacities and high daily student density.

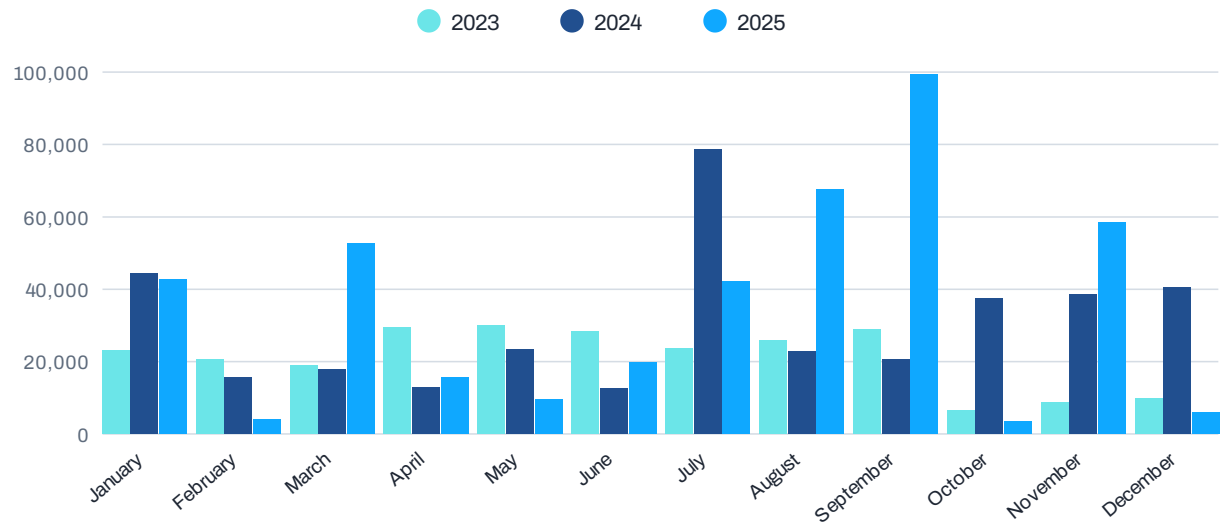
In 2011, water footprint monitoring studies were initiated and water consumption in certain buildings was monitored using SoFi software. Thanks to this software, the environmental and economic performance of each building is measured on a monthly basis and focal points that need to be improved within the campus are identified. Mains water consumption can also be monitored at a general level using ISKI consumption information.

For More Information

https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/upload/sayfalar/16-bogazici-university-sustainability-yayin-20250512-140721.pdf



Clean Water and Sanitation



Boğaziçi University Water Consumption Data (m3) 2023-2025

Waste Water Treatment

Boğaziçi University carries out important studies on wastewater treatment throughout the campus and develops innovative solutions to reduce water consumption. Systems focusing on the recovery of grey water, which constitutes a large portion of domestic wastewater, are among the important steps to reduce water consumption and minimise environmental impact.

Grey Water Recovery Systems

Grey water refers to domestic wastewater other than toilet water, and systems for the recovery of this wastewater at Boğaziçi University are implemented in two dormitory buildings: grey water recovery systems, which were commissioned in 2010 in South Campus 1 Boys‘ Dormitory, in 2014 in North Campus 3 Girls’ Dormitory and 4 Boys' Dormitory, and in 2017 in Kandilli Dormitory, The membrane bioreactor unit in 1 Men's Dormitory meets the entire daily water requirement in the toilets from recycled grey water. This corresponds to 15% of the total amount of water that the dormitory receives from the network. This system recovers approximately 15% of the total water consumption of the dormitory, thus saving water and reducing the amount of wastewater.

Monitoring of Waste Water Treatment Systems

Boğaziçi University continuously monitors and evaluates the efficiency of its grey water recovery systems The efficiency of the systems is kept under control by periodically analysing the inlet and outlet water in the facilities This process is carried out with the aim of optimising the recovery of wastewater and maximising water savings Thus, by reusing water throughout the campus, negative impacts on the environment are reduced and contribution is made to the protection of water resources.

For More Information
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/su-geri-kazanimtekrar-kullanim-uygulamalari/826

Grey Water Recovery System Inlet and Outlet Water Average Values

Analysis	Inlet Water	Outlet Water	Unit
pH	7.2	7.5	
BOD5	237	7	mg/l
Suspended Solid Matter	172	0	mg/l
Oxygen Saturation	8	9.4	%
Coliform Bacteria, COL	1,000	0	count/100 mL
Faecal Coliform	>240	0	count/100 mL

Water System Pollution Prevention

Boğaziçi University attaches great importance to the protection of water resources and prevention of water pollution in order to achieve its environmental sustainability goals. Accordingly, comprehensive processes and measures have been developed to ensure sustainable water management on campuses. Grey water recovery systems, oil traps, occupational health and safety measures, water management monitoring and reporting processes are among the important components of the University's environmentally sensitive policies. While these approaches of Boğaziçi University minimise the risk of water pollution, they also strengthen the University's commitment to fulfilling its environmental responsibilities.

Pollution Prevention Systems and Processes

Most of the water used in Boğaziçi University campuses is supplied by Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (IBB) and distributed through Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (ISKI). While ISKI regularly checks the network connections to prevent water pollution, Boğaziçi University takes precautions in its on-campus water systems in accordance with local regulations and national standards. The duties and responsibilities of ISKI are defined by the 'Law on the Establishment and Duties of the General Directorate of Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration' numbered 2560. According to this law, ISKI is obliged to prevent the pollution of water resources, sea, lake, river coasts and groundwater with used water and industrial wastes in the region it serves and is authorised to take all kinds of technical, administrative and legal measures in this regard. In this context, Boğaziçi University co-operates with ISKI and implements measures to prevent pollution in the water systems of all campuses.

Waste Water Minimisation Solutions

University campuses are taking a careful approach to reduce polluted water entering the water system through grey water reuse. Grey water recovery systems installed at South Campus, North Campus and Kandilli Campus not only reduce water consumption but also prevent grey water from entering the water system. In addition, grease traps located at the campus connections prevent oil and grease waste from vehicles and other sources from leaking into the water systems and contribute to the filtration and cleaning of water. These practices are of great importance in terms of preventing contamination of water systems.

Occupational Health and Safety Measures

Boğaziçi University takes a proactive approach to preventing water pollution not only through infrastructure works but also through occupational health and safety processes. Boğaziçi University proactively focuses not only on infrastructure works but also on occupational health and safety processes to prevent water pollution. The University's Occupational Health and Safety Coordinatorship has developed response processes to prevent potential accidents on campus and minimise environmental risks in case of accidents. Proper management of chemical waste, safe storage and transport of hazardous materials are important components of these processes. In this way, the mixing of polluted water with natural water resources as a result of accidents is prevented. Emergency response plans and measures to prevent environmental damage are regularly reviewed and updated. The University's Occupational Health and Safety Committee carries out risk assessment studies to prevent possible accidents and audits the effectiveness of the processes.

Sustainability Reports and Monitoring Processes

In its annual sustainability reports prepared within the scope of environmental sustainability, Boğaziçi University addresses in detail the processes to prevent water pollution. Through SoFi software, an environmental, social and economic sustainability management and reporting platform, monthly measurements are taken on a building-by-building basis, enabling the environmental performance of the buildings to be monitored, calculating the total impact, as well as identifying focal points requiring improvement within the campus and making the necessary improvements. This comprehensive monitoring process is one of the most important tools of the university in terms of water pollution prevention and sustainable water management.

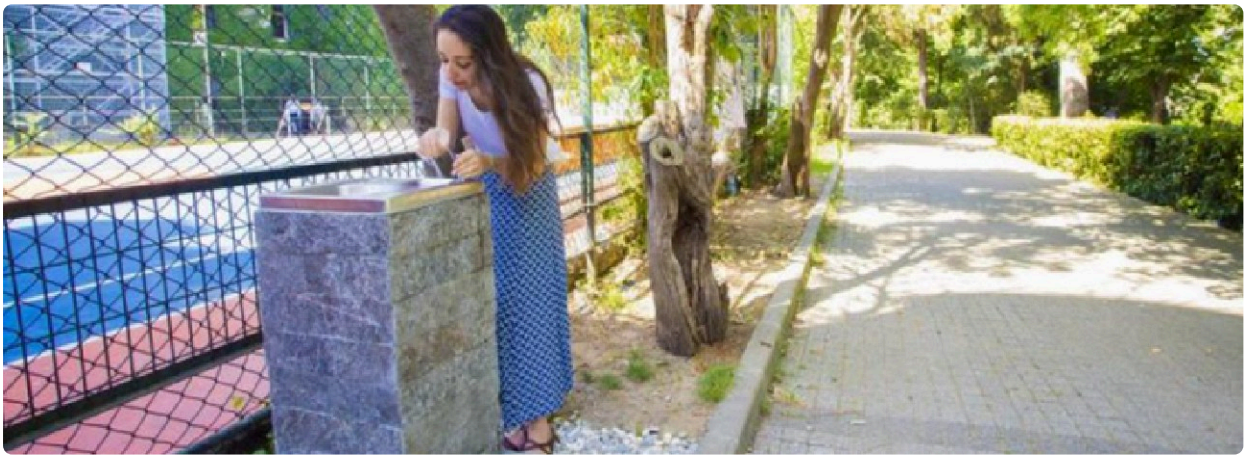
SDG6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Provision of Free Drinking Water

Boğaziçi University has installed drinking water fountains connected to a central treatment system on the campuses to provide free drinking water to students, staff and visitors. Located on the South and North Campuses, these hygienic fountains provide clean and potable water. The fountains are strategically located to ensure easy access to water for campus residents. In particular, the fountains on the South Campus are located in heavily used areas such as the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Albert Long Hall and the Student Activities Building. Fountains are also located in indoor areas such as the Abdullah Kuran Library and New Hall. Some of the fountains are equipped with special drains designed to provide water for cats and dogs living on campus. This initiative is an important step towards the university's goals of reducing the use of plastic bottles and creating an environmentally friendly campus. Boğaziçi University continues to contribute to sustainability efforts with such simple yet effective steps.

For More Information

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/hijyenik-cesmeler-kampuslere-yerlesti/1718





Building Standards with Water Saving Awareness

Boğaziçi University applies water consumption conscious building standards to minimise water consumption. All new construction and renovation projects of the University are based on the 'Principles on saving measures and climate change in buildings' (Annex: RG-25/2/2022-31761) in the 'Planned Areas Zoning Regulation' (RG-03/07/2017-30113) and the 'Water Efficiency Target and Implementation Guide in Buildings' and 'Water Efficiency System Installation Instruction in Buildings' guidance documents prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. These standards aim to increase water efficiency and sustainable water management in buildings.

For More Information

https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/MevzuatMetin/yonetmelik/7.5.23722.pdf

https://www.suverimliligi.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Binalarda-Su-Verimliligi-Hedefi-ve-Uygulama-Kilavuzu.pdf https://www.suverimliligi.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Binalarda-Su-Verimliligi-Sistem-Kurulumu-Talimati.pdf



Building Standards with Water Saving Awareness

The buildings registered with the **LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)** Certificate are constructed in accordance with the principle of sustainability by prioritising energy, water and natural resource savings. To date, four buildings at Boğaziçi University have received LEED Certification. These buildings are equipped with technical equipment such as grey water recovery units and rainwater recovery systems to save water and reduce environmental impact. In addition, water saving cartridges have been installed in the taps and old reservoirs have been replaced with economical reservoirs.

For More Information

https://yapiisleri.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/leed-sertifikalari/4097









Water Efficiency Studies

Grey Water Recovery: With the grey water recovery systems installed in four dormitory buildings on campus, 16 m³ of grey water is recovered daily in each building and the reservoir water requirement is met.

Rain Water Recovery: Rainwater collected from the roof areas of Kandilli Campus National Earthquake Monitoring Centre (UDIM) and North Campus ETA Building is used for garden irrigation, cleaning and reservoirs.

Water Saving Cartridges: It provides 35% water saving in dormitories.

> https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/su-geri-kazanimtekrar-kullanim-uygulamalari/826



Water, energy and carbon footprints of the selected buildings were monitored using SoFi software. This software facilitates the systematic collection, evaluation and reporting of environmental data, enabling the identification of areas in need of improvement on campus. Boğaziçi University continues to develop innovative solutions that reduce water use to achieve its environmental sustainability goals.

Water Conscious Landscaping

In order to minimise water use, Boğaziçi University implements landscaping and green area arrangements with water saving awareness. Boğaziçi University Department of Construction and Technical Affairs Environmental Regulation Branch Directorate is responsible for all green areas of the university and works for the protection and development of natural plant texture and the addition of new areas within a sustainable landscape understanding.

Boğaziçi University Department of Construction and Technical Affairs Annual Report for 2025:
https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/upload/sayfalar/1530-yapi-isleri-ve-teknik-daire-baskanligi-20260302-115756.pdf

The preservation of natural ecosystems in university campuses and the preference for self-sufficient plants significantly reduce the need for irrigation. Especially in Kilyos Sarıtepe Campus, it is planned to use plants that need less water and in line with the protocol agreement signed with TEMA Foundation, it is aimed to protect the endemic plants and dune flora of the ecosystem where the campus is located.

Boğaziçi University and TEMA Foundation signed a protocol agreement:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/bogazici-universitesi-ve-tema-vakfi-kilyos-sa/326

Boğaziçi University and TEMA Foundation Nature School for Children Project:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/surdurulebilir-kampus-icin-bogazici-universit/396

Water Conscious Landscaping





Plants that require little water, such as the common needle, false needle, redbud, Cyprus acacia, play an important role in the landscaping of these areas. In line with its sustainable campus goals, Boğaziçi University has also initiated research and projects for “smart plants” that are resistant to climate change. These projects strengthen the university's commitment to protecting water resources and developing sustainable green space management.

Water Conscious Landscaping

Climate Smart Crops:

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/en/news/identifying-genetic-mechanisms-seed-dormancy-plants-help-agriculture-adapt-long-term-effects

Water Reuse Policy

Boğaziçi University is actively engaged in sustainable water management efforts to maximize water reuse. The instructions in the guidance documents “Target and Implementation Guide for Water Efficiency in Buildings” and “Instruction for Water Efficiency System Installation in Buildings” prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for public institutions and society have been successfully implemented by Boğaziçi University for a long time. In this context, gray water recovery system and rainwater recovery systems technologies are used throughout the university and water is reused efficiently.

For More Information

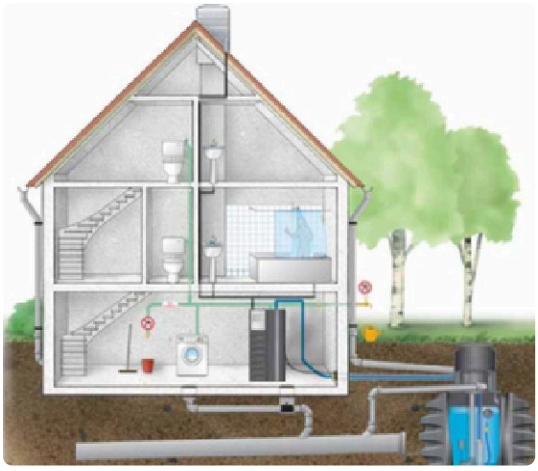
https://www.suverimliligi.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Binalarda-Su-Verimliligi-Hedefi-ve-Uygulama-Kilavuzu.pdf

https://www.suverimliligi.gov.tr/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Binalarda-Su-Verimliligi-Sistem-Kurulumu-Talimati.pdf

Water Reuse Policy

Gray Water Recovery Systems: Gray water recovery systems are implemented in the dormitory buildings of the university. These systems collect, treat and reuse gray water, which constitutes 75% of domestic wastewater excluding toilet water. With these systems, which have been commissioned inSouth Campus 1st Boys' Dormitory, North Campus 3rd Girls' Dormitory, North Campus 4th Boys' Dormitory and Kandilli Dormitory, 16 m³ of water is recovered per day in each building. This recovered water is used in areas where water is needed intensively, such as toilet reservoirs. Thanks to this practice, 15% of the total water consumption in the 1st Men's Dormitory is met with gray water.

For More Information
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/su-geri-kazanimtekrar-kullanim-uygulamalari/826



Rainwater Recovery Systems: Boğaziçi University also reduces water consumption through rainwater collection and utilization systems. Rainwater collected by rainwater recovery systems installed on the roofs of the National Earthquake Monitoring Center (UDIM) in Kandilli Campus and the North Campus ETA Building is used for garden irrigation, cleaning and reservoir water. Hisar Campus is considered as one of the most suitable campuses in terms of rainwater collection due to its geographical structure and it is planned to collect and use 1747 m³ of rainwater per year with the rainwater recovery system designed.

For More Information
https://yesilkampus.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/node/108

Water Reuse Measurement

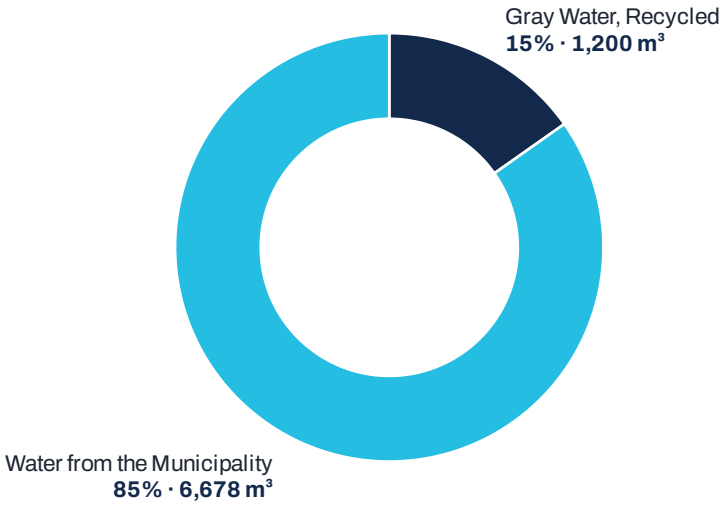
Boğaziçi University measures the amount of water reuse within the scope of sustainable water management. Water, energy and carbon footprints are monitored in designated buildings through SoFi software, and environmental data are systematically collected, analyzed and reported.

https://yesilkampus.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/node/104

Gray Water Recovery Systems: With the gray water recovery systems used in Boğaziçi University's South Campus 1st Boys' Dormitory, North Campus 3rd Girls' Dormitory, North Campus 4th Boys' Dormitory and Kandilli Dormitory, 16 m³ of gray water is recovered daily in each building. This recycled water is used in toilet reservoirs, and in reservoirs with an average daily water demand of 6.5m3, all of this demand is met with recycled gray water. This practice corresponds to 15% of the total water consumption from the network for the 1st Men's Dormitory.

For More Information

https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/su-geri-kazanimtekrar-kullanim-uygulamalari/826



Men's Dormitory Gray Water Statistics

Water Reuse Measurement

Rainwater Recovery Systems: The rainwater recovery systems located at the Kandilli Campus National Earthquake Monitoring Center (UDIM) and the North Campus ETA Building collect rainwater collected from the roofs and store it in tanks with a capacity of 46 m³ and 20 m³, respectively, to be used as garden irrigation, cleaning and reservoir water. In addition, it has been calculated that an average of 1747 m³ of rainwater can be collected annually on the roofs of Hisar Campus, and thanks to the recycling system designed, it will be collected at least four times a year in 40 m³ capacity tanks and can be used as reservoir and cleaning water in buildings.

For More Information
https://yesilkampus.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/node/108

These water recovery systems of Boğaziçi University strengthen environmental sustainability by ensuring the efficient use of water and play an important role in achieving the sustainability goals of the university.

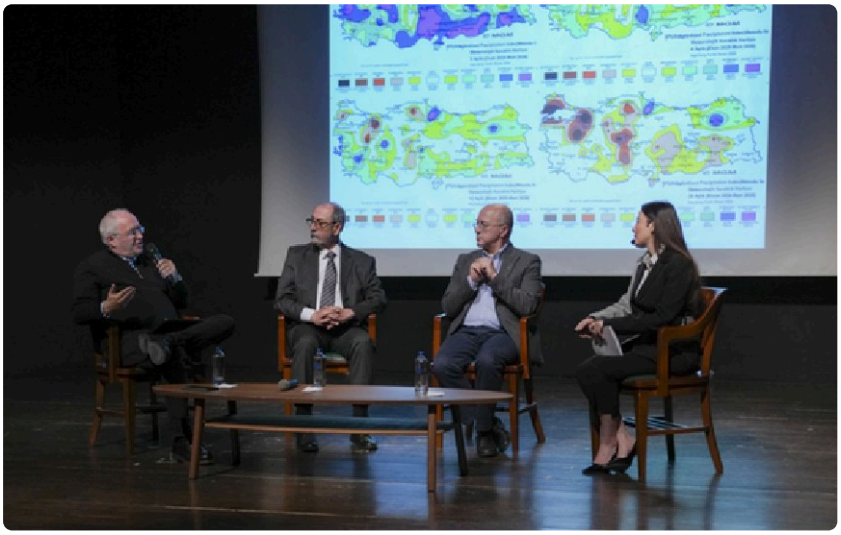
Water Management Training Opportunities

Boğaziçi University supports sustainable development by providing training opportunities on water management to local people and communities. Various training programs are organized through the University's Sustainable Development and Cleaner Production Center (BU-SDCPC), Climate Change and Policy Implementation and Research Center (iklimBU) and United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN Turkey).

Water Management Training Opportunities

Water Stress and Climate Resilience Discussed at the Yeşilhat Academy Meeting

The “Yeşilhat Academy Meetings” panel, organised jointly by Boğaziçi University and Anadolu Agency’s (AA) Yeşilhat platform, took place at Demir Demirgil Hall on 27 April 2026. Under the theme “Agriculture in the Face of the Climate Crisis: Risks, Adaptation and Solutions”, the event brought together experts from Boğaziçi University’s Center for Climate Change and Policy Studies —Prof. Dr. Levent Kurnaz, Prof. Dr. Murat Türkeş and Prof. Dr. Cem Avcı—to assess the effects of climate change on agriculture, water resources and energy systems.



The panel emphasised that Türkiye is moving from water stress towards water scarcity, with the threshold already exceeded in certain regions. Speakers highlighted that prolonged droughts, heatwaves, irregular precipitation and short periods of intense rainfall can rapidly turn meteorological drought into agricultural and hydrological drought. By examining how changing climatic conditions are rendering conventional water and infrastructure planning methods based on historical precipitation and streamflow data increasingly inadequate, the event underscored the importance of adaptation, climate-resilient planning and sustainable water management in addressing water scarcity risks.

T*he full news article is available here.*

Water Management Training Opportunities

Sustainable Development Certified Online Training Program

In 2018, BU-SDCPC and Unilever collaborated on the Sustainable Development Certified Online Training Program, the first Sustainable Development Certified Online Training Program for young people in Turkish. The program enabled 159 students from all over Turkey to come together with experts in the field and receive certified sustainable development training.



Paydaşlarımızdan Notlar

Prof. Dr. Nilgün Cılız
Boğaziçi Üniversitesi
Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma ve Temiz Üretim Merkezi Müdürü

Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma ve Temiz Üretim Merkezi olarak; Unilever'in hem ev hem de kişisel bakım ve kozmetik kategorisindeki son ürünlerinin çevresel sürdürülebilirlik kapsamında ekolojik ayak izi değerlendirmesini yaptık. Eskisine nazaran kaynak kullanımında tasarruflu, doğa ve insan sağlığı açısından çok daha uyumlu ürünler geliştirildiğini

Ayrıca Unilever ile sürdürülebilir kalkınma konusunda ilk defa Türkçe olarak uzaktan eğitim programı oluşturduk. Bu program sayesinde, Türkiye genelinde Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma ve Temiz Üretim Merkezi olarak farklı şehirlerden 159 öğrenciyi konunun uzmanlarıyla bir araya gelmesini ve sertifikalı sürdürülebilir kalkınma eğitimi



Paydaşlarımızdan Notlar

Emeritus Prof. Dr. Eser Borak
Boğaziçi Üniversitesi
İşletme Fakültesi

'Unilever Sürdürülebilir Yaşam Planı' deyince aklıma sürdürülebilir iyileştirme/geliştirme, sürdürülebilir markalar, iş birliği oluşturma ve anlamlı ilişkiler ile etkin iletişim geliyor. Üniversitedeki derslerimde, Sosyal Sorumluluk Okulu ve Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Yaşam Boyu Öğretim Merkezi (BÜYEM) çerçevesinde 'İş Ahlâkı ve Sürdürülebilirlik' eğitim programları kapsamında Unilever'in çalışmalarını da inceliyoruz.

Unilever Türkiye 8 yıldır 'birlikte daha iyi bir dünya yaratmak için' paydaş çalıştayları ile kolektif etki yaratıyor. İş dünyası, kamu kuruluşları, sivil toplum örgütleri, akademisyenler gibi her sektörden katılımcılar, sürdürülebilirlikle ilgili farklı konularda mevcut ve arzu edilen durumlarla ilgili analiz ve önerilerini paylaşıyorlar. "Bir kanatla uçamazsın" yaklaşımıyla, her görüşe açık olarak iş birliği teşvik ediliyor. Bu çalışmalarıyla Unilever, bir rol-model olarak bireysel, kurumsal ve toplumsal olarak sürdürülebilirliğin anlamı ve önemi hakkında farkındalığını artırıyor. Ses getiren etkinlikleriyle daha iyi bir yaşam için insanlara ilham ve cesaret veriyor. Kuruluşlara etkin bir iş yapma modelini gösteriyor ve benimsetiyor; dile getirdiklerini kendisi de uyguladığı için de güvenildiğini düşünüyorum.

Unilever Sustainable Living Plan:
https://www.unilever.com.tr/files/92ui5egz/production/6e52f1dc6c44ebba2a02e833e79b64ae0ec84d2c.pdf

Center for Sustainable Development and Cleaner Production:
https://sdcpc.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/default.asp

Water Management Training Opportunities

“Drainage by Design: Optimizing Stormwater Infrastructure in Istanbul” Project

“Drainage by Design: Optimizing Stormwater Infrastructure in Istanbul”, a joint project between Boğaziçi University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), aims to provide scientific modeling solutions to Istanbul's flooding and infrastructure problems and to make significant contributions to both disaster prevention and stormwater recycling. Within the scope of the project, seminars were organized for municipal officials and students in Istanbul.



For More Information

http://www.eng.boun.edu.tr/tr/bogazici-universitesi-ve-mitden-istanbulu-sel-ve-su-baskinlarindan-korumak-icin-ortak-proje

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazici-universitesi-ve-mitden-istanbulu-sel/1625

Water Management Training Opportunities

Climate-Water-Agriculture Summit for a Sustainable Future

İklimBU carries out interdisciplinary studies on the impacts and risks of climate change in our geography, researches its effects on socio-economic factors such as agriculture, tourism, water resources and migration, and aims to create a sustainable information platform by organising informative trainings for the public and private sector. In 2023, the 'Climate-Water-Agriculture Summit for a Sustainable Future' organised at Boğaziçi University was attended by representatives and experts from various sectors operating in the fields of sustainable agriculture, water and climate crisis.



For More Information

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/gelecegin-surdurulebilir-tarimi-bogazicinde-t/2693

Water Management Training Opportunities

Online Educational Resources

The İklimBU website publishes educational materials open to everyone, including informative articles, blogs, newsletters and video series that can also be used by people outside the academy. SDG Academy, on the other hand, constitutes the education pillar of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDNS), of which Boğaziçi University is a member, and reaches a wide audience on sustainable development and water management issues by providing online educational resources.

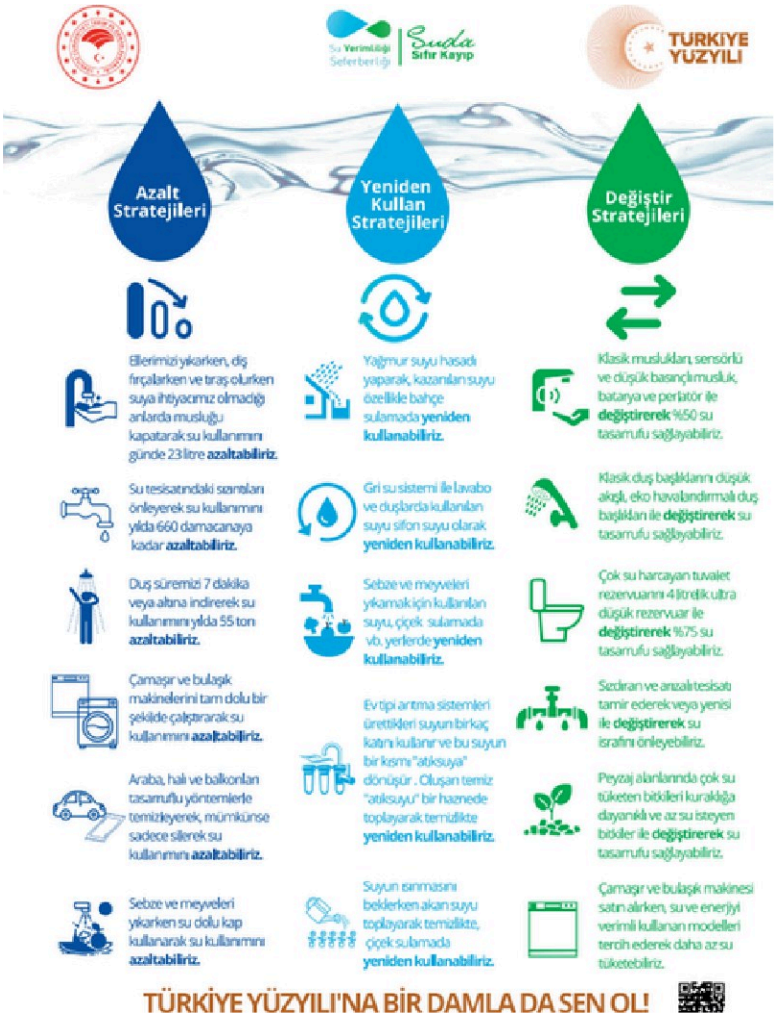
İklimBU:
https://climatechange.bogazici.edu.tr/

SDSN Türkiye:
https://sdsnturkiye.bogazici.edu.tr/tr

SDG Academy:
https://sdgacademy.org/

Encouraging Conscious Water Use

Boğaziçi University encourages the conscious use of water on campus and in the wider community through various campus practices and educational activities. These initiatives are implemented in line with the **National Water Efficiency Mobilisation** strategies initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. In this context, water-saving technologies such as rainwater harvesting, grey water recovery and sensor taps are used on campus.



For More Information

https://mediastore.cc.bogazici.edu.tr/web/userfiles/files/bogazici.edu.tr/menuler/kampusler/T52151_bireysel_su_verimlilgi_adimlari.pdf

https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr_TR/Content/Kampus_Yasami/KampusYesilKampus/TeknikUygulamalar/SuGeriKazanim

Encouraging Conscious Water Use

In addition, the Environment Club, formed by Boğaziçi University students, raises awareness by organising various interviews and events on and off campus to promote conscious water use.

For More Information
https://ogrencifaaliyetleri.bogazici.edu.tr/kulup-etkinlikleri/cevre-kulubu





SDG6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Off-Campus Water Conservation Support

Boğaziçi University raises awareness on conscious water consumption and sustainable water management in off-campus communities through meetings, civil society projects and scientific research.

Sustainable Off-Campus Water Management through the Horizon Europe-Funded INTEGRATOR Project

Boğaziçi University coordinates the international project **"INTEGRATOR: Integrated Innovation Ecosystems for Transformative Nexus Governance towards Enhanced Water Resilience,"** funded under the **2025 Horizon Europe Cluster 6** call on Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment. Bringing together 18 partners from 11 countries, the project demonstrates the University's strong commitment to advancing practical water conservation and sustainable water management beyond the campus. Led by researchers from Boğaziçi University's Institute of Environmental Sciences, INTEGRATOR aims to develop a data-driven water management framework that integrates digital twins, multi-scale monitoring systems and advanced modelling approaches to address the increasing pressures of climate change on the water cycle and water resources.



Off-Campus Water Conservation Support

Through this extensive international collaboration, the project seeks to strengthen water resilience at local and regional levels by supporting more effective, evidence-based and adaptive governance of water resources. By coordinating INTEGRATOR, Boğaziçi University contributes to the development of off-campus solutions for the monitoring, protection and sustainable management of water resources, thereby supporting wider communities in responding to climate-related water challenges.

The full news article is available here.

Climate-Water-Agriculture Summit for a Sustainable Future

In 2023, at the 'Climate-Water-Agriculture Summit for a Sustainable Future' organised by Boğaziçi University Climate Change and Policy Research and Application Centre (İklimBU) and Argo TV, representatives and experts from various sectors came together to discuss water policies, problems and solutions, and examples of good practices in the world on water policies were given.

For More Information

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/gelecegin-surdurulebilir-tarimi-bogazicinde-t/2693



Off-Campus Water Conservation Support

Integrated Biorefinery Concept for Bioeconomy Driven Development (INDEPENDENT)

Within the scope of the Integrated Biorefinery Concept for Bioeconomy Driven Development (INDEPENDENT) project carried out at Boğaziçi University AlgBU Microalgae Technologies Centre, research has been carried out on the use of microalgae in wastewater treatment systems and reduction of water pollution. Microalgae have the capacity to absorb heavy metals, toxins and nutrients in wastewater, thus purifying water from organic and inorganic pollutants. The use of microalgae in domestic, industrial and agricultural wastewater treatment has a strong potential for water conservation and protection of water resources.



For More Information

https://imbiyotab.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/ar-ge/5487

Off-Campus Water Conservation Support

Drainage by Design: Optimizing Stormwater Infrastructure in İstanbul

The 'Drainage by Design: Optimising Stormwater Infrastructure in Istanbul' project, implemented in collaboration with Boğaziçi University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), has provided guidance for both disaster prevention and stormwater recycling by offering infrastructure optimisation solutions suitable for climate change in Istanbul.

For More Information
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazici-universitesi-ve-mitden-istanbulu-sel/1625

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/en/news/project-bogazici-university-and-mit-save-istanbul-flooding

Water Treatment with Ultrasonic Waves

The ultrasonic water treatment method developed by Boğaziçi University Institute of Environmental Sciences enables the cleaning of pharmaceutical residues and personal care product wastes (toothpaste, cosmetic creams, shampoo, body gel, etc.) that can be mixed into municipal and drinking water. With this method, which is a first in Turkey, an important step has been taken to improve the chemical quality of water and to save money by recycling water.

For More Information
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/icme-suyundaki-ilac-kalintilari-sagligimizi-t/438

Green Generation Restaurant Movement

Boğaziçi University also raises awareness on conscious water consumption through civil society projects and scientific research. The Green Generation Restaurant Movement, organised in cooperation with Boğaziçi University and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-Turkey), encouraged the conscious use of water by adopting sustainable consumption habits in the food and beverage sector.

For More Information
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/yesil-nesil-restoran-hareketine-bogazici-univ/94

Sustainable Water Extraction on Campus

Boğaziçi University effectively utilises sustainable water extraction technologies on its campuses. Especially with rainwater recovery systems, various water needs of the campuses can be met.

Kandilli Campus

The rainwater recovery system, which was commissioned in 2013 at the Kandilli Campus National Earthquake Monitoring Centre (UDİM) Building, collects rainwater collected from roof areas in a 46 m³ capacity tank. This water is used for garden irrigation, cleaning and reservoir needs.



North Campus

The ETA Building on the North Campus is equipped with a rainwater recycling system commissioned in 2014. Rainwater collected from the roof areas is collected in a 20 m³ tank and used for garden irrigation.

Hisar Campus

Hisar Campus stands out as one of the most suitable campuses in terms of rainwater collection due to its geographical structure. The estimated amount of rainwater that can be collected from the roof areas of the campus buildings is calculated as 1747 m³/year. With the rainwater recycling system designed, rainwater collected at least 4 times a year in a 40m3 tank will be treated and can be used as reservoir and cleaning water in campus buildings.

Cooperation on Water Security

Boğaziçi University fulfils its global responsibility for water security through various collaborations at local, regional, national and international levels. The University develops and implements solutions for sustainable water management by hosting the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN) Turkey. In addition, in order to strengthen water security, it also contributes to efforts in this field by establishing effective co-operation with local governments and other international stakeholders.

For More Information
https://sdsnturkiye.bogazici.edu.tr/tr

National Practices

Within the scope of compliance with the 'European Green Deal', the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Turkey prepared the 'Green Deal Action Plan' in 2021 in cooperation with all relevant public and private sector organisations, and actions emphasising water and resource efficiency in production and consumption in various fields, especially industry, were determined. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, General Directorate of Water Management prepared water efficiency action plans addressing all sectors and stakeholders within the scope of 'Water Efficiency Strategy Document and Action Plan (2023-2033)within the Framework of Adaptation to a Changing Climate' with the aim of disseminating efficient practices in urban, agricultural, industrial and individual water use and raising social awareness. Within the scope ofthe'National Water Efficiency Campaign', water efficiency application techniques such as rainwater and grey water recovery and the use of sensor faucets, which are described in the guidance document prepared for Higher Education Campuses, are implemented on Boğaziçi University campuses.

Green Deal Action Plan:
https://ticaret.gov.tr/data/60f1200013b876eb28421b23/MUTABAKAT%20YE%C5%9E%C4%B0L.pdf

Higher Education Campuses Water Efficiency Guidance Document:
https://suverimliligi.gov.tr/pdf/85/01.pdf

Centres

Boğaziçi University Sustainable Development and Cleaner Production Centre (BU-SDCPC): It conducts interdisciplinary applied research on eco-efficiency and cleaner production in national and international co-operation environment and proposes policy and action plans on these issues.

For More Information
https://sdcpc.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/aims.asp

Boğaziçi University Climate Change and Policy Research and Application Centre (iklimBU)

CORDEX is also responsible for research on Central Asia, MENA and Australasia regions and investigates the impacts of climate outcomes on socio-economic factors such as agriculture, water resources, drought, and provides support to policy makers by proposing solutions to the impacts and risks in Turkey and neighbouring countries in the Eastern Mediterranean, Middle East and Central Asia.

For More Information
https://climatechange.bogazici.edu.tr/

Projects and Activities

Within the scope of the TUBITAK project carried out at Boğaziçi University Institute of Environmental Sciences, it is aimed to create an integrated and functional decision support system to identify the pollutants released into the Ergene River with 'Pollutant Fingerprints', to associate them with the sources and to determine the effects of the improvements made in line with the Ergene Basin Protection Action Plan carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry on water quality.

For More Information
https://bogazicindebilim.bogazici.edu.tr/node/44

Cooperation on Water Security

‘Plastic Waste Problem in Turkey and Policy Recommendations’ report has been prepared in cooperation with Boğaziçi University Institute of Environmental Sciences and World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF-Turkey). This report proposes solutions to reduce plastic wastes that cause pollution by mixing into fresh water and seas.

For More Information

https://wwftr.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/plastikwebkucuk_1.pdf



Cooperation on Water Security

In order to achieve water quality targets for the limited water resources in Istanbul, research on the use of microalgae in domestic, industrial and agricultural wastewater treatment is being carried out under the‘Integrated Biorefinery Concept for Bioeconomy Driven Development’ (INDEPENDENT) project. INDEPENDENT Project is implemented within the scope of the Competitive Sectors Programme financed by the financial cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Turkey and implemented by the Ministry of Industry and Technology.

For More Information
https://independent.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/cevre/5531



“Drainage by Design: Optimising Stormwater Infrastructure in Istanbul”, a collaborative project between Boğaziçi University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), provides guidance for improving Istanbul's infrastructure capacity for stormwater recycling. The project helps shape the future investment plans of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and IstanbulWater and Sewerage Administration (ISKI) by comparing whether the drainage planning implemented by Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (ISKI) for Istanbul is optimal with the assessment of forward-looking climate data.

For More Information
http://www.eng.boun.edu.tr/tr/bogazici-universitesi-ve-mitden-istanbulu-sel-ve-su-baskinlarindan-korumak-icin-ortak-proje

News

Combating Antibiotic Pollution in Water from Animal Waste

A new research project led by Prof. Dr. Bahar İnce from Boğaziçi University's Institute of Environmental Sciences, in partnership with Prof. Dr. Orhan İnce from Istanbul Technical University, aims to reduce antibiotic residues in manure discharged from biogas plants. The project highlights how antibiotic-containing fertilizers contribute to antibiotic resistance through soil, water, and the food chain—posing a critical risk to the effectiveness of existing treatments.

Conducted in collaboration with a biogas facility operating in Turkey, this two-year study focuses on preventing the spread of antibiotic loads from animal waste by-products, which are often used as agricultural fertilizers. Within the scope of the project, a small-scale pilot plant will be established at Boğaziçi University to carry out R&D activities aimed at reducing antibiotic concentrations and capturing resistant bacteria. The innovative solutions developed are expected to help prevent micro-pollutants from entering water systems, offering an environmentally based contribution to addressing the global challenge of antibiotic resistance.



For More Information

https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/bogazici-universitesinden-antibiyotik-direnci/2794


6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
To ensure access to safe water sources and sanitation for all
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS