Boğaziçi University Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report

November • 2026



Boğaziçi University

PUBLICATION

November • 2026

Boğaziçi University

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Sustainable Development Goal 15:

Life on Land

15

SDG 15: Life on Land – Biodiversity, Endemic Species Conservation and Sustainable Land Management

THE IMPACT RATINGS 2026

81.

World Rankings

Among the world's top 100 leaders in the protection of terrestrial ecosystems, with a performance score of 82.3

1,200+ Species

Recorded Campus Flora

The flora of the South Campus and centuries-old stone pine trees have been inventoried and placed under protection

Sand Lilies

TEMA Protocol

A conservation zone for endangered dune flora and endemic species at Kilyos Sarıtepe

SOIL HEALTH AND BIO-INNOVATION (TÜBİTAK BAP/ MSCA-PF 2025)

Antibiotic Removal | Smart Plants

A pilot facility for removing antibiotic residues from biogas fertilizer and drought-resistant seed genetics

Val-PLAS

AI Platform Preventing Plastic Accumulation in Soil

Wildlife Conservation & BUPAWS
24/7 microchipping, vaccination, neutering and natural shelter areas for campus animals

SUSTAINABLE LAND AND NATURE EDUCATION

TEMA Nature School & Bountarım

Ecological literacy for young people, farmer training and sustainable land management in agriculture

FOREST AND HABITAT RESTORATION

Invasive Species Management

Removal of harmful understory vines/blackberries, xeriscaping and forest fire panels

Terrestrial Life Policies, Endangered Species and Partnership Standards

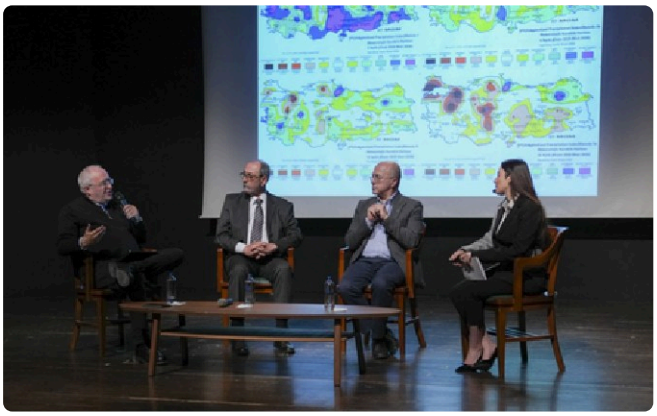
30 Yelkouan Shearwaters	**4 LEED Buildings**	**100% Biological**	**2nd Tourism Summit**	**National Action**
24/7 GPS Tracking	Ecological Sites	Baltalimanı Treatment	Nature Conservation	SDG 12/15 Contribution

Activities Related to Sustainable Use of Land

Boğaziçi University organizes and supports events that aim to promote the conservation and sustainable use of land, including forests and wild lands. These events aim to protect biodiversity and raise awareness in local and national communities. The activities carried out in this context are described below.

Raising Academic and Public Awareness of Desertification, Forest Fires and Terrestrial Ecosystem Conservation: Yeşilhat Academy Meetings

The "Yeşilhat Academy Meetings" panel, organised through collaboration between Boğaziçi University and Anadolu Agency's (AA) Yeşilhat, was held at Boğaziçi University's Demir Demirgil Hall on 27 April 2026. Entitled "Agriculture in the Face of the Climate Crisis: Risks, Adaptation and Solutions", the event featured Professor Levent Kurnaz, Director of Boğaziçi University's Center for Climate Change and Policy Studies, and the Centre's Executive Board members Professor Murat Türkeş and Professor Cem Avcı. Academics and students examined the effects of climate change on agriculture, water resources and terrestrial systems, as well as adaptation approaches to addressing the associated risks.



The panel emphasised that prolonged droughts, heatwaves, irregular precipitation and extreme weather events are increasing in frequency, duration and intensity as a result of climate change. It highlighted how meteorological drought can rapidly develop into agricultural and hydrological drought, while the expansion of arid climatic zones can intensify the risks of desertification and land degradation in parts of Türkiye. Participants also discussed the growing pressures of changing temperature and precipitation patterns on agricultural production, water resources and food security, as well as their implications for forest fires and biodiversity.

Activities Related to Sustainable Use of Land

By strengthening understanding of the relationship between climate change and the health of terrestrial ecosystems, the event highlighted the importance of combating drought and desertification, developing climate-resilient land and agricultural practices, and protecting biodiversity. The panel therefore represents a complementary contribution to knowledge exchange and awareness concerning the protection of terrestrial ecosystems, the prevention of land degradation and the reduction of biodiversity loss.

The full news article is available here.

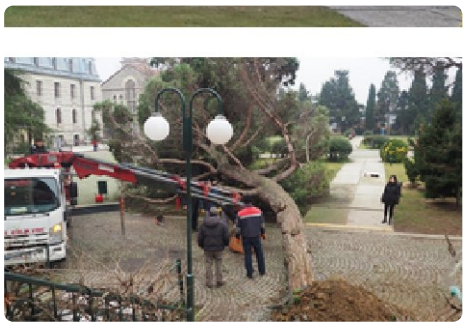
Campus Conservation Activities

Policies have been developed for the protection of vegetation and natural life on the campuses of our university. In all campuses, efforts are made to protect the natural structure of the campus, especially trees and endemic plants. In this context, the centuries-old pine trees of the South Campus were taken under protection and the nature conservation efforts in this area were widely publicized.

Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/guney-kampusun-asirlik-camlari-koruma-altinda/838







Activities Related to Sustainable Use of Land

Conservation of Endemic Species

In addition, the "Endemic Species Protection, Planting and Afforestation Project ” was initiated at Sarıtepe Campus in cooperation with TEMA Foundation. Within the scope of this project, the first saplings were planted on university campuses and important steps were taken to protect natural ecosystems. This project at Sarıtepe Campus is an indication of the active role of the university and TEMA Foundation in nature conservation efforts.

Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/surdurulebilir-kampus-icin-bogazici-universit/396







Activities Related to Sustainable Use of Land

Environmental Awareness Activities

Boğaziçi University Environment Club organizes events on special occasions such as World Water Day and World Environment Day to draw attention to issues such as recycling, water conservation and environmental pollution. These events are organized in different formats such as workshops, clean-up campaigns and public seminars and target both university members and local communities.







Click here to see the activities of the Environment Club:
https://ogrencifaaliyetleri.bogazici.edu.tr/kulup-etkinlikleri/cevre-kulubu

SDG15: Life on Land

Sustainable Food Policy and Initiatives on Campus

Boğaziçi University has developed various policies and practices to ensure that the food consumed on campus is grown sustainably. The University ensures that food purchases are sourced from certified food sources that consider environmental sustainability and supports access to natural and healthy food on campus by collaborating with local producers.

Sustainable Food Purchases

Boğaziçi University implements a Sustainable Purchasing Policy to ensure that the food served on campus is produced in accordance with sustainability principles. All vegetables and fruits used in cafeteria services are selected from local production and used in season, and producers who adopt natural production methods with low chemical use are supported.





Click here to read Boğaziçi University Sustainable Purchasing Policy:
https://kurumsalveri.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/1531-sustainable-use-conservation-and-restora/1963

Click here to see the food certificates:
https://yemekhane.bogazici.edu.tr/gida-sertifikalari

Sustainable Food Policy and Initiatives on Campus

Tarlataban Community

Tarlataban Community, which carries out sustainable agricultural activities on campus, grows vegetables, fruits and aromatic plants using heirloom seeds. The community promotes healthy and sustainable agricultural activities by providing permaculture-based agricultural training to students interested in agricultural production on campus. Tarlataban also aims to raise awareness within the community by organising panels and talks on agricultural production.













These policies and initiatives of Boğaziçi University ensure that the food served on campus is produced in accordance with sustainability principles, while strengthening social solidarity networks by providing support to local producers.

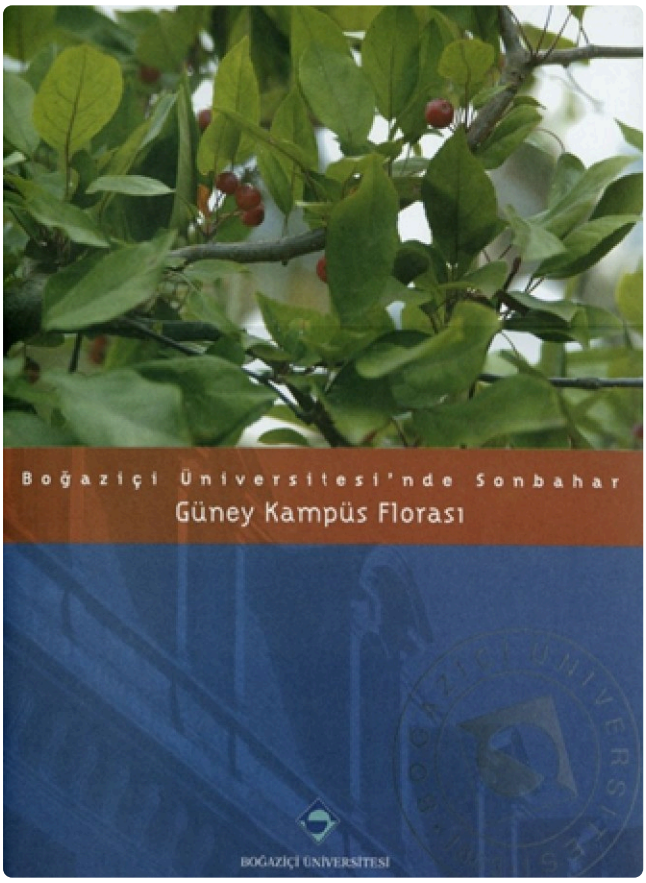
Click here to go to Tarlataban web page:
https://tarlataban.home.blog/

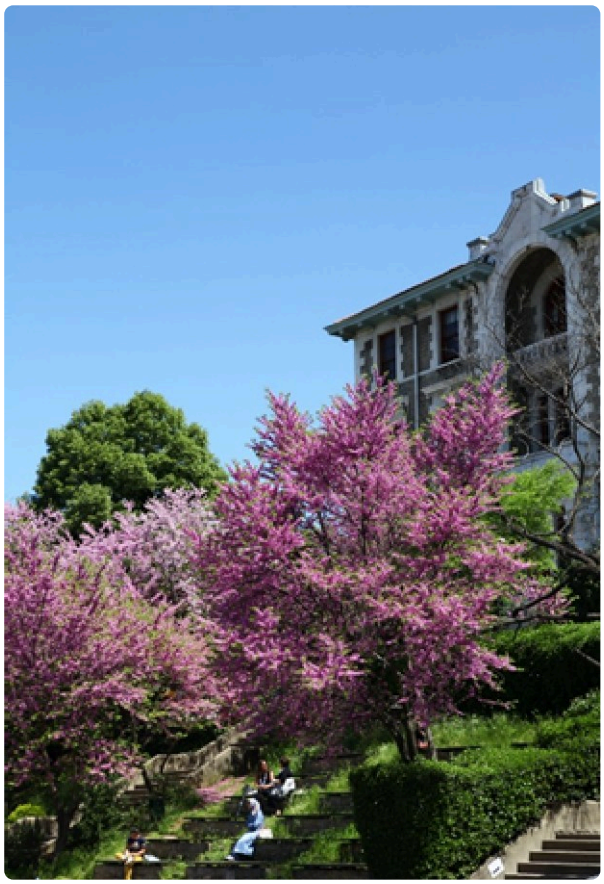
Conserving and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Existing Ecosystems

Boğaziçi University actively works to protect the sensitive ecosystems on and around its campuses and to increase the biodiversity of plant and animal species. The University supports the sustainability of ecosystems and contributes directly to environmental protection through various projects, collaborations and research.

Autumn at Boğaziçi University - South Campus Flora

The main reference of the project is Rana Ata's thesis study titled “Investigation of Existing Tree and Shrub Species in Boğaziçi University Settlement Area According to Habitat Characteristics and Suggestions” completed in 1995. The track in the South Campus of Boğaziçi University was chosen as the first leg of the project. There are more than 1200 plant species on this track starting from Etiler Gate and continuing along the terrace and Aşiyan road.





Conserving and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Existing Ecosystems





Conserving and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Existing Ecosystems

Conservation of Sand Lilies and Endemic Species in Sarıtepe Campus Boğaziçi University has protected rare plant species such as endemic sand lilies, which are of great importance for the protection of natural ecosystems in Sarıtepe Campus. Planting and afforestation works were carried out to ensure the sustainability of ecosystems. Thanks to the work carried out in these areas, the University contributes to the protection of natural vegetation and the increase of biodiversity.



Natural Habitats for Stray Animals on Campus

Boğaziçi University creates natural habitats for animals living on its campuses and ensures that they live in a safe environment. In addition, student societies such as BUPAWS organise the care and nutrition needs of the animals on campus and support them to live a healthy life. Controlled population management activities such as sterilisation of cats are also carried out meticulously by the university.

> **Click here to visit the BUPAWS web page:**
> http://bupaws.com/

Conserving and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Existing Ecosystems





Yelkouan Bird Conservation Project

Within the scope of the project 'Conservation of Yelkouan Birds in the Mediterranean Basin and Black Sea using Next Generation Genomic, Acoustic and GPS-GSM Monitoring Methods', which was carried out by Boğaziçi University Institute of Environmental Sciences with the support of TÜBİTAK and with the contributions of various universities, satellite transmitters were installed on 30 Yelkouan birds in the Bosphorus. These transmitters provide valuable data on the migration routes and breeding colonies of this endangered species by transmitting location information for about 2 months until the feather change occurs. The information obtained is of great importance for the protection of the habitat of shearwaters and sustainable ecosystem management.

Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/tehlike-altindaki-yelkovan-kuslarina-724-taki/2807

Conserving and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Existing Ecosystems



Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/tehlike-altindaki-yelkovan-kuslarina-724-taki/2807

Smart Plants Resilient to Climate Change

Research conducted at the Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics at Boğaziçi University aims to develop smart plants that are resistant to climate change. These studies focus on investigating the genes that regulate dormancy in plant seeds, aiming to enable plants to adapt to changing climatic conditions and increase agricultural productivity. The genetic data obtained within the scope of the project support important steps towards sustainable agriculture and food security. These projects, which are expected to make a great contribution to Turkey's agricultural production processes, also play a strategic role in combating climate change.



Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/bogazici-universitesinde-iklim-degisikligine-/2404

Conserving and Enhancing the Biodiversity of Existing Ecosystems

Innovative Biotechnology to Reduce Plastic Pollution in Terrestrial Ecosystems: AI-Driven Val-PLAS Project

Led by Assistant Professor Koray Malcı (Department of Molecular Biology and Genetics) under the mentorship of Associate Professor Ulaş Tezel (Institute of Environmental Sciences) at Boğaziçi University, the **"Intelligent Microbial Platform for Plastic Valorisation via AI-guided Synthetic Biology"** (Val-PLAS) project has been awarded funding under the Horizon Europe Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships 2025 call. Val-PLAS aims to develop an AI-enabled microbial platform for low-energy biotechnological valorisation of plastic waste.



Unlike energy-intensive conventional recycling methods that emit greenhouse gases, Val-PLAS uses AI-guided enzyme engineering and modular microbial co-cultures to degrade PET and PLA plastics under mild conditions (30–40 °C). The system upcycles the degraded plastics into high-value bioactive molecules, such as naringenin and hydroxytyrosol, for use in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and nutraceuticals.

By mitigating land-based plastic waste at source with a low carbon footprint, effective plastic waste valorisation can help reduce the accumulation of plastics and microplastics in soils, ease pollution pressures on terrestrial ecosystems, and protect biodiversity. Aligned with the European Green Deal, the Circular Economy Action Plan, and the EU Bioeconomy Strategy, the project exemplifies Boğaziçi University's research and innovation in supporting the protection of terrestrial ecosystems through resource-efficient and low-carbon solutions.

The full news article is available here.

Training Programmes on Ecosystems

Boğaziçi University organises various educational programmes and awareness-raising activities to raise awareness of local and national communities on the protection and sustainable management of ecosystems. The university's environmental education activities contribute to the protection of local plant and animal species and aim to raise social awareness on environmental issues.

İklimBU Trainings

Boğaziçi University Climate Change and Policies Application and Research Centre (İklimBU) organises informative trainings on the local and regional impacts of climate change for relevant units in the public and private sectors. In addition, informative articles, publications and a weekly newsletter on the causes, impacts and solutions of climate change are published on the İklimBU web page.



Click here to visit İklimBU web page:
https://climatechange.bogazici.edu.tr/

Training Programmes on Ecosystems

Nature School and Ecological Literacy Project

This project, carried out in partnership withTEMA Foundation, aims to protect the natural ecosystems in Kilyos Sarıtepe Campusand to raise environmental awareness among young people through ecological literacy training. These efforts strongly reflect Boğaziçi University's commitment to sustainability, environmental protection and ecological balance.



Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/surdurulebilir-kampus-icin-bogazici-universit/396

BU+ Series Public Lectures

Within the scope of BU+ events, lectures on topics such as water resource conservation, biodiversity enhancement and environmental management are organised and participants are provided with practical information on ecosystem conservation.







Click here to visit the BU+ web page:
https://buplus.bogazici.edu.tr/etkinlik-turu/acik-ders

Training Programmes on Ecosystems

SDSN Youth-Boğaziçi University Cooperation

SDSN Youth Turkey, under the leadership of Boğaziçi University, works to raise awareness of young people towards sustainable development goals. With the #KnowYourGoals campaign launched for this purpose, various workshops were organised with individuals or organisations. A large number of individuals and organisations, including various high schools, companies, universities, civil society organisations, associations and municipalities participated in the workshops.



Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/surdurulebilir-kalkinmada-genclerin-sesi-sdsn/421

Training Programmes on Ecosystems

BÜÇEK Events

Boğaziçi University Environment Club (BÜÇEK) raises awareness on recycling, water conservation and environmental pollution issues by organising events especially on important days such as World Environment Day. Workshops and clean-up campaigns are organised for university members and local communities.







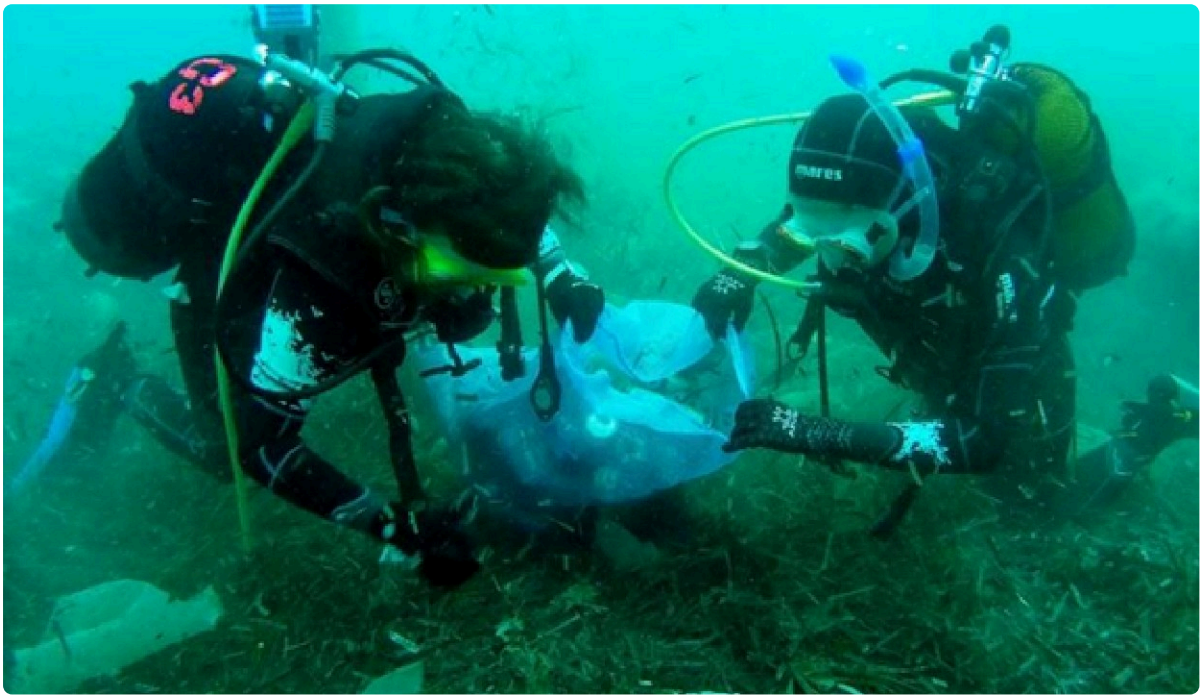


Click here to see BÜÇEK events:
https://ogrencifaaliyetleri.bogazici.edu.tr/kulup-etkinlikleri/cevre-kulubu

Training Programmes on Ecosystems

BÜSAS Underwater Cleaning Project

Boğaziçi University Underwater Sports Club (BÜSAS) provides free diving and scuba training and carries out various projects aiming to raise environmental awareness and protect the marine ecosystem through underwater cleaning projects.





These educational programmes and activities support the protection and sustainability of ecosystems by raising environmental awareness in local and national communities. Boğaziçi University contributes to the formation of a more conscious society by sharing its knowledge in the field of environmental protection.

Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/bogazicili-dalgiclar-bodrum-limanini-temizled/483

Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture Trainings and Social Awareness Activities

Today, increasing environmental problems and climate change make sustainable management of agricultural lands more important than ever. Boğaziçi University carries out various training programmes and social awareness projects in order to raise awareness of local and national stakeholders in the agricultural sector and to promote sustainable agricultural practices.

Bountarım Trainings

Boğaziçi University Innovative Agriculture and Food Business Platform (bountarım) carries out trainings and projects on sustainable agricultural practices for stakeholders in the agricultural sector. The contents of the trainings cover topics such as increasing productivity in the agricultural sector, technology integration and ecological sustainability. These programmes provide support to both small producers and large-scale enterprises.





Click here to go to Bountarım web page:
https://www.bountarim.net/

Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture Trainings and Social Awareness Activities

BÜKOOP Activities

Boğaziçi University's sustainable food initiative, Boğaziçi Mensupları Tüketim Kooperatifi (BÜKOOP), serves as a cooperative model that directly brings producers and consumers together in order to bring fair and healthy food to a wider audience. The cooperative organises field visits and producer interviews to promote sustainable agriculture and animal husbandry practices. These events provide information sharing between consumers and producers and endeavour to provide solutions to the major problems faced by both small producers and consumers.





Click here to visit the BÜKOOP website:
https://bukoop.org/

Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture Trainings and Social Awareness Activities

Sustainable Agriculture Summits

Boğaziçi University organises various symposiums and summits every year to raise awareness on sustainable agriculture and to share current developments in the sector. Some of these events are ‘Sustainable Agriculture and Food Summit’, ‘Climate-Water-Agriculture Summit for a Sustainable Future’, ‘Farm Summit’,‘Innovators in Agriculture Summit’, ‘Agriculture and Food Value Chain Summit’ and ‘Food and Healthy Nutrition Symposium’. Academics, sector leaders and local communities come together in these platforms to discuss sustainability strategies and share information in processes ranging from agriculture to the food supply chain.





Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture Trainings and Social Awareness Activities

Sustainable Agriculture Summits





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https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/gelecegin-surdurulebilir-tarimi-bogazicinde-t/2693 https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/akademik/1/rektor-prof-dr-mehmet-naci-inci-artan-nufusu-/2766

Sustainable Land Management in Agriculture Trainings and Social Awareness Activities

Building a Scientific Foundation for Educational Outreach in Sustainable Agriculture: Research into Reducing Antibiotic Contamination in Fertiliser

A research project led by Prof. Dr. Bahar İnce (Boğaziçi University Institute of Environmental Sciences and Head of the Microbial Ecology Group), in collaboration with Prof. Dr. Orhan İnce (Istanbul Technical University), delivers a critical scientific and operational contribution to the sustainable management of agricultural land and soil ecosystems. Supported by the Boğaziçi University Scientific Research Projects Fund (BAP) and conducted in partnership with an operational biogas facility in Türkiye, the project addresses the accumulation of antibiotics in organic fertilisers derived from livestock waste. Launched in 2024, the two-year project was scheduled for completion in 2026.



The use of antibiotic-containing fertilisers on agricultural land can lead to these micropollutants entering soils, water resources, living organisms and the food chain. As part of the project, a small-scale model of the biogas facility will be established at Boğaziçi University's Institute of Environmental Sciences, where R&D activities will be conducted to reduce antibiotic concentrations in the fertiliser and to retain antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

The findings and strategies from the study are expected to guide similar facilities operating in Türkiye and worldwide, promote the safer use of organic fertilisers, reduce the antibiotic load entering agricultural soils and support the sustainable management of agricultural land. In this respect, the research has the potential to provide a scientific foundation for future educational and outreach activities targeting farmers, biogas facility operators and other agricultural practitioners.

The full news article is available here.

Sustainable Land Management Trainings and Social Awareness Activities in Tourism

The rapid growth of the global tourism sector makes it imperative to protect natural resources and manage tourism lands in a sustainable manner. Boğaziçi University conducts various academic programmes and educational activities to promote sustainable land management in tourism and raise public awareness. The University also hosts national and international summits and provides an awareness platform based on the principles of environmental, economic and cultural sustainability in tourism.

Sustainable Tourism Master Programme

Boğaziçi University promotes sustainable land management in the tourism sector with its Sustainable Tourism Master's Programme. This programme offers an education based on sustainability principles, taking into account environmental, economic and social balances in tourism. In addition, the university raises awareness on how to manage sustainable tourism through various conferences and public lectures.



Click here to go to the web page of the programme:
https://strm.bogazici.edu.tr/

Sustainable Land Management Trainings and Social Awareness Activities in Tourism

Sustainable Tourism Summit

The Sustainable Tourism Summit, organised by Boğaziçi University Lifelong Learning Centre (BÜYEM) and Boğaziçi University Department of Tourism Management in partnership with the Association for Sustainability in Tourism (TUSDER), addresses the social, cultural and economic impacts of sustainable tourism.



Boğaziçi University continues its activities as a leading education and awareness centre on sustainable land management in the tourism sector. Bringing together industry leaders, academics and community representatives through academic programmes, conferences and summits, the university aims to improve sustainability practices in tourism and disseminate good practice examples.

Click here to see the summit programme:
https://tourism.bogazici.edu.tr/sites/tourism.boun.edu.tr/files/uploaded/surdurulebilir_turizm_zirvesi_program_son_0.pdf

Policy on Sustainable Use, Conservation and Restoration of Land

Boğaziçi University develops comprehensive policies for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems on university-affiliated lands and carries out various activities to raise social awareness. In addition, the Company regularly reports and shares its environmental sustainability efforts with the public and transparently demonstrates its responsibility in this area.

Policies for the Protection of Land and Ecosystems

Boğaziçi University has comprehensive policies for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, especially forests, mountainous areas and arid regions in the lands connected to the university. In line with the strategic goals of the university,the Department of Construction and Technical Affairs has identified the creation of a livable campus within the scope of a green campus as one of its main policies and priorities. This policy forms a fundamental part of the university's sustainability mission and regulates the use of university-affiliated land.

> **Click here to read Boğaziçi University Sustainable and Green Campus Policy:**
> https://kurumsalveri.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/1534-reduce-the-impact-of-alien-species-polic/1968

In addition, the Building and Land Development Commission develops solutions for landscaping / landscaping, building construction, architectural design and determining the purposes of use, inter-campus and intra-campus transport and similar issues on our university campuses. This holistic approach clearly demonstrates Boğaziçi University's commitment to environmental sustainability and ecological balance.

> **Click here to go to the Building and Land Development Commission page:**
> https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/kurul-ve-komisyonlar/178

Policy on Sustainable Use, Conservation and Restoration of Land

Informative Publications for Land Protection

Boğaziçi University Climate Change and Policies Application and Research Centre (İklimBU) conducts comprehensive research on issues such as the effects of climate change on lands and ecosystems, the causes, consequences and prevention strategies of forest fires, and shares informative content and publications with the public. These contents aim to contribute to the protection of natural habitats by raising social awareness.







Click here for İklimBU content:
https://climatechange.bogazici.edu.tr/iklim-degisikligi/

Land Conservation Activities and Sustainability Report

Boğaziçi University shares its land conservation and restoration activities in detail with the public through the Environmental Sustainability Reports published every year. Boğaziçi University 2023 Environmental Sustainability Report comprehensively presents the university's policies, strategies and practices in this field. The report includes measures taken and practices implemented for the sustainable use of land and the protection of ecosystems.

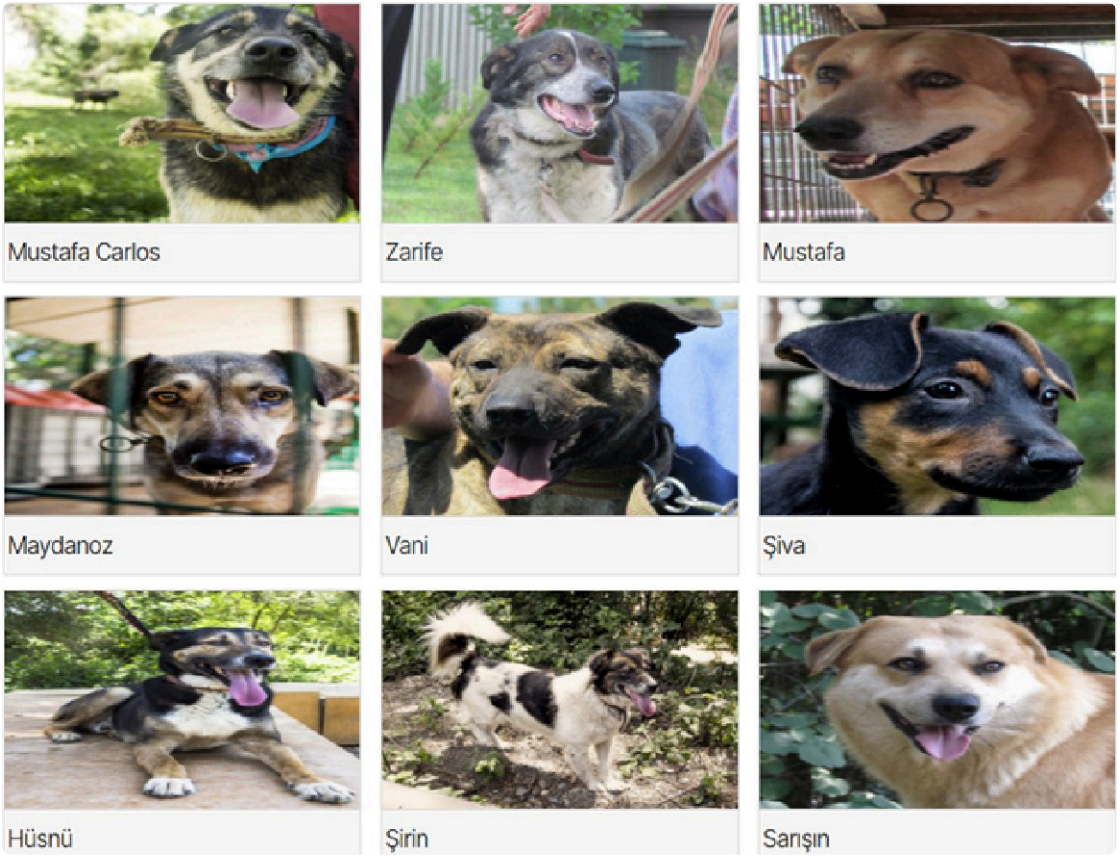
2026 Environmental Sustainability Report:
https://kurumsalveri.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/surdurulebilirlik-raporlari/1063

Monitoring of Species on IUCN and National Conservation Lists

Boğaziçi University implements various conservation policies and pioneers scientific research with the aim of protecting the species living within the campus boundaries and creating a sustainable ecosystem. Species on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red Listand national protection lists are monitored and protected through special projects and collaborations.

Protection of Animals on Campuses

Natural habitats have been created for stray animals living on the campuses and it has been ensured that the animals can continue their lives safely in these areas. In this context, microchip applications, parasitic treatments and sterilisation procedures are carried out for cats and dogs living on campuses. Various awareness campaigns are organised to keep the animal population of the university under control and to maintain healthy human-animal interaction.



Monitoring of Species on IUCN and National Conservation Lists

Click here to go to the campus life flora/fauna page:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/flora-fauna/134

Conservation of Endemic Species

In Sarıtepe Campus, efforts are being made to protect rare plant species such as endemic sand lilies. In order to ensure the continuity of these species in natural ecosystems, vegetation protection and expansion works were carried out on the campus.



Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/surdurulebilir-kampus-icin-bogazici-universit/396

Yelkouan Bird Conservation Project

Boğaziçi University Institute of Environmental Sciences is carrying out a TUBITAK-funded project to conserve endangered shearwaters. The project is carried out in collaboration with Ege University Department of Biology, Istanbul Technical University Eurasia Institute of Earth Sciences, Istanbul University Faculty of Aquatic Sciences, Mediterranean Science Foundation (CIESM) and Turkish Marine Research Foundation (TÜDAV).

Monitoring of Species on IUCN and National Conservation Lists





- Within the scope of the project, 30 shearwaters were fitted with satellite data.
- Migration routes and breeding colonies of the birds are monitored by new generation genomic, acoustic and GPS-GSM monitoring methods.
- These studies make important contributions to the development of strategies for the conservation of Yelkouan birds.

Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/bilim/4/tehlike-altindaki-yelkovan-kuslarina-724-taki/2807

Boğaziçi University's conservation policies and projects clearly demonstrate its long-term commitment to protecting the natural habitats of threatened species and supporting sustainability goals. This holistic approach reflects the University's environmental responsibility to ensure the continuity of ecosystems.

Incorporating Local Biodiversity into Planning and Development Processes

Boğaziçi University adopts an approach to protect and enhance local biodiversity in all new building and infrastructure projects on campuses. The University strives to minimise negative impacts on biodiversity by incorporating sustainability standards and the goal of maintaining ecological balance into planning processes.

ISO Standards

Boğaziçi University Department of Construction and Technical Affairs operates in accordance with ISO 9001 Quality Management System and ISO 50001 Energy Management System standards in building and infrastructure projects within the university. In this context, planning and managing energy use, taking steps to increase energy efficiency and continuous improvement of processes are among the main objectives. This approach minimises environmental impacts and contributes to the protection of nature and biodiversity.


Certificate

A'ND

BOGAZICI UNIVERSITESI

A'ND certify that the system and processes of the above Organization have been assessed and found in accordance With the requirements of the Quality Management Systems detailed below.

ISO 9001:2015

Scope

EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL, ARTISTIC AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR THESE ACTIVITIES

Director


Certificate

A'ND

BOGAZICI UNIVERSITESI

A'ND certify that the system and processes of the above Organization have been assessed and found in accordance With the requirements of the Energy Management Systems detailed below.

ISO 50001:2018

Scope

EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL, ARTISTIC AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES FOR THESE ACTIVITIES

Director

Incorporating Local Biodiversity into Planning and Development Processes

Sustainable Energy Use

Environmental impacts are minimised by using renewable energy sources in new building and infrastructure projects at the university. In particular, sustainable energy sources such as solar and wind energy are used effectively to meet on-campus energy needs. These practices support environmental sustainability by reducing the carbon footprint and make significant contributions to the protection of ecosystems and thus the continuity of biodiversity.





Click here to go to the web page of the Department of Construction and Technical Affairs:
https://yapiisleri.bogazici.edu.tr/

Green Building Certifications

Boğaziçi University's new building and renovation projects are designed and implemented in accordance with international sustainability certifications such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). These certifications assess the impact of projects on natural ecosystems and biodiversity in addition to environmental criteria such as material selection, energy efficiency and water use. Thus, environmental sustainability is ensured during the construction process, while contributing to the protection of flora and fauna species in the areas where the buildings are located.

Incorporating Local Biodiversity into Planning and Development Processes









KABEV and KADEV Projects

The KABEV (Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings) and KADEV (Earthquake Resistance and Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings) projects implemented on Boğaziçi University campuses offer an innovative model that combines energy efficiency and sustainability goals. These projects make significant contributions to protecting local ecosystems and supporting biodiversity by minimising environmental impacts. In addition, comprehensive Environmental and Social Management Plans are prepared and rigorously implemented for each campus to ensure the protection of environmental habitats and the sustainability of natural ecosystems during project works.

Incorporating Local Biodiversity into Planning and Development Processes

Environmental and Social Management Plan Example:
https://kurumsalveri.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/1533-local-biodiversity-included-in-planning-/1967

In addition to contributing to the sustainability goals of Boğaziçi University, these projects provide significant support for the conservation of biodiversity in the region and the sustainable management of natural ecosystems.

Policy to Minimise the Impact of Alien Species

Boğaziçi University Wildlife Conservation Commission
Boğaziçi University has a comprehensive policy to protect the biodiversity on its campuses and to manage ecosystem balances sustainably. This policy is carried out by the Boğaziçi University Wildlife Conservation Commission, which is responsible for the protection of vegetation and animal populations on the campuses.

Main Tasks of the Commission:

- To ensure the protection of flora and fauna on campuses in their natural habitats
- To create a plant inventory, especially monumental trees and endemic plants
- Raising awareness and promoting sustainable environmental awareness throughout the campus
- Making arrangements for students, academic and administrative staff to interact safely with animals and plants

In particular, this policy includes measures to prevent alien plant and animal species from negatively impacting the campus ecosystem. When alien species pose a threat to local biodiversity, the university actively works to monitor and control the situation and implement the necessary conservation measures.

Policy to Minimise the Impact of Alien Species



Click here to go to the web page of the Wildlife Conservation Commission:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/universite-yonetim-kurulu-kurul-ve-komisyonla/246

Activities of Environmental Organisation Branch Directorate

Boğaziçi University Department of Construction and Technical Affairs, Landscaping Branch Directorate is responsible for all green areas of our university and is primarily responsible for protecting and developing the natural plant texture, adding new areas and maintaining them within the understanding of urban landscaping.

Clearing Forest Areas and Controlling Plant Pests:

Boğaziçi University carries out regular maintenance work to remove blackberries, forest ivy and other harmful winding plants that are frequently seen in forested areas on campuses. With the use of manpower and motorised scythes, unwanted plants are removed from the forested areas and transported out of the forested areas so that they do not harm the ecosystem. This practice contributes to the sustainability of natural ecosystems by protecting the health of trees.

Cooperation for Common Land Ecosystems

Boğaziçi University actively collaborates with local communities in the conservation and sustainable management of common land ecosystems. This work encompasses a variety of projects and partnerships aimed at raising awareness of environmental protection, supporting biodiversity and promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

Wildlife Conservation Commission

Boğaziçi University Wildlife Conservation Commission operates to protect plant and animal species on campuses, manage ecosystems sustainably and promote biodiversity. The Commission strengthens cooperation for the protection of natural habitats by sharing information and organising joint conservation projects with local communities.

Click here to go to the web page of the Wildlife Conservation Commission:
https://bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/universite-yonetim-kurulu-kurul-ve-komisyonla/246

Tarlataban Community

Tarlataban Community is an initiative established at Boğaziçi University that supports nature-friendly agricultural activities carried out by collective labour. The collective, which promotes ecological agriculture on and around the campus, aims to provide social and environmental benefits by advocating sustainable agriculture and fair food access.

Key Activities:

- Urban agriculture and local food production
- Implementation of permaculture and environmentally friendly agricultural methods
- Establishing local food production and fair distribution systems

Click here to go to Tarlataban web page:
https://tarlataban.home.blog/

Cooperation for Common Land Ecosystems

National Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production

Boğaziçi University, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, is working on the National Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production. This plan sets out the steps to be taken at the national level for the conservation and sustainable management of common land ecosystems. It aims to achieve sustainable production and consumption targets with the participation of local communities.



Through education, environmental conservation projects and community engagement activities, Boğaziçi University offers a comprehensive and sustainable model that strengthens cooperation for the conservation of common land ecosystems.

Click here to read the related news:
https://haberler.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/news/kampus/2/surdurulebilir-tuketim-ve-uretim-ulusal-eylem/2744

Water Discharge and Water Quality Standards

Boğaziçi University's water network is connected to the Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (ISKI), ensuring full compliance with the legal legislation that sets water quality protection standards in Turkey. This connection ensures that the university complies with national environmental and health standards in its drinking water and wastewater management processes. The wastewater of Beşiktaş district, where the university campuses are located, is treated at the Baltalimanı Biological Waste Water Treatment Plant.




Verification
Certification
VeriCert
SERTİFİKA
İSTANBUL SU VE KANALİZASYON İDARESİ (İSKİ)
ISO 9001:2015 KALİTE YÖNETİM SİSTEMİ
IAF

Water Discharge Management

Boğaziçi University discharges water in accordance with the water quality standards set by ISKI. The quality of the water before discharge is continuously monitored and managed in accordance with the set environmental standards. This process is meticulously implemented to minimise the environmental impact of water, protect the sustainability of water resources and ensure that water is suitable for reuse.

Water Discharge and Water Quality Standards

Legal Legislation

National regulations and standards such as Water Pollution Control Regulation, ISKI Regulation on Discharge of Wastewater to Sewerage and ISKI Clean Water Laboratory Accreditation Certificate ensure the protection of ecosystems, natural habitats and human health by requiring water to be of appropriate quality before being discharged into the environment.

These policies clearly reflect Boğaziçi University's commitment to environmental sustainability and responsibility for water management. Compliance with water discharge guidelines and quality standards demonstrates the University's commitment to protecting ecosystems, supporting wildlife and minimising negative impacts on human health.

Click for the relevant legislation:
https://kurumsalveri.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/632-preventing-water-system-pollution/1350

Plastic Waste Minimisation Policy

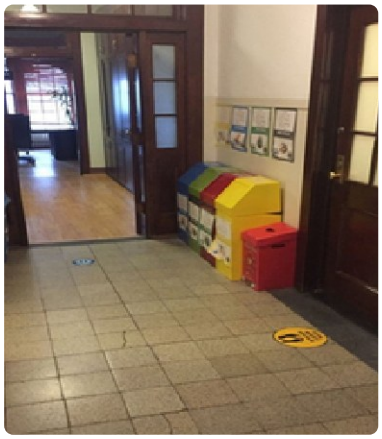
Boğaziçi University has adopted a comprehensive ‘Zero Waste Policy’ in line with its sustainability goals and has developed various strategies to reduce plastic waste. This policy aims to ensure that all waste is carefully sorted, collected and recycled throughout the campus.



Plastic Waste Management Strategies

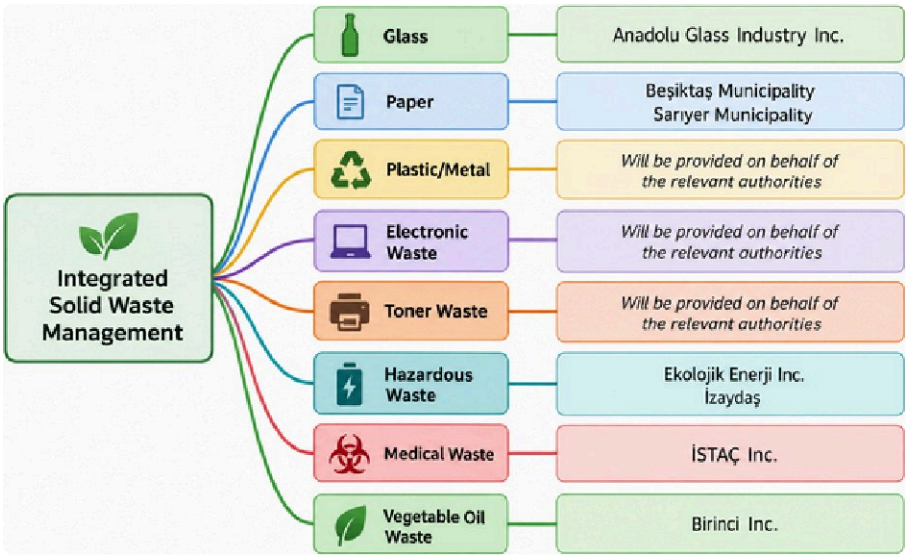
1. **Zero Waste Policy:**
   - The University has established sorting points for recyclable waste such as plastic, glass, metal and paper on campus and optimised recycling processes.
   - Various campaigns are organised to reduce plastic waste.







2. **Recycling Infrastructure:**
    1. The wastes in the recycling bins of the university are regularly collected by Sarıyer and Beşiktaş Municipalities and evaluated for recycling.
    2. Waste quantities are monitored by building supervisors and monthly reports are prepared.



3. **Reduction of Single Use Plastics:**
    - Environmentally friendly alternatives are offered instead of single-use plastic containers, cups and cutlery in university cafeterias and social areas.
    - Incentive mechanisms are implemented across the campus to reduce the use of single-use plastics.
4. **Green Public Procurement:**
    - The University prioritises environmental sustainability in its procurement processes and prefers products with low plastic content.
5. **Awareness and Education:**
    - Training programmes and events are organised for students, academic and administrative staff to reduce plastic waste.
    - Boğaziçi University Environment Club and Green Campus team monitor the organisation of recycling bins and carry out awareness raising activities.

6. Policy Recommendations and Solution Reports:

In the report titled Plastic Waste Problem and Policy Recommendations in Turkey, prepared by Boğaziçi University in collaboration with WWF-Turkey (World Wildlife Fund), solutions such as reducing single-use plastics, promoting environmentally friendly alternatives and implementing deposit practices were proposed.



Click here to read the report:
https://wwftr.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/plastikwebkucuk_1.pdf

Impact and Results:

- With the campus-wide zero waste policy, the amount of plastic waste has been significantly reduced.
- Thanks to the effective use of recycling systems, environmental awareness has increased throughout the university and sustainability has been achieved in waste management processes.
- The university has created a model practice area by contributing to national sustainability standards.

Policies and Processes for Disposal of Hazardous Wastes

Boğaziçi University carries out a comprehensive policy with the aim of protecting the environment and human health in the management of hazardous wastes generated on its campuses. This policy aims to ensure the safe disposal of hazardous wastes and manage them without harming the environment by ensuring full compliance with national and international regulations.

Hazardous Waste Management Strategies

1. **Legal Compliance and Regulations:** Boğaziçi University fully complies with national and international regulations, especially the 'Waste Management Regulation' (OG: 02.04.2015-29314) in hazardous waste management. Hazardous wastes are collected and disposed of in cooperation with licensed waste disposal companies in accordance with the relevant regulations.

> **Click here for Waste Management Regulation:**
> https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?MevzuatNo=20644&MevzuatTur=7&MevzuatTertip=5

2. **Hazardous Waste Management in Laboratories:** Hazardous wastes generated in the laboratories of the University's Departments of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering, Physics, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Institute of Biomedical Engineering and Institute of Environmental Sciences are subject to special collection procedures. These wastes are stored in hazardous waste temporary storage areas and kept under safe conditions until the disposal process.



Policies and Processes for Disposal of Hazardous Wastes

3. **Disposal Process:** Hazardous wastes collected at Boğaziçi University are safely transported by licensed vehicles and disposed of by environmentally licensed companies such as Ekolojik Enerji A.Ş. This process ensures that all hazardous wastes are environmentally safe. This process aims to ensure that all hazardous wastes are disposed of without harming the environment and in accordance with the regulations.





4. **Monitoring and Reporting of Waste Amount:** The University regularly monitors and reports the collection dates and quantities of hazardous wastes. Hazardous waste quantities are tried to be minimised in line with the university's environmental sustainability goals.

5. **Awareness and Training Programmes:** Boğaziçi University organises training programmes for staff and students to raise awareness on hazardous waste management. These training programmes address the issues of proper segregation, transport and disposal of hazardous wastes. In this way, a safe waste management process is ensured on campus.

Main Objectives of the Policy:

- Safe Disposal: Disposal of wastes containing hazardous substances without harming the environment.
- Legal Compliance: Carrying out waste management processes in accordance with national and international regulations.

Policies and Processes for Disposal of Hazardous Wastes

- Sustainable Waste Management: Contributing to environmental sustainability by minimising the amount of hazardous waste.

Boğaziçi University aims to provide a safe environment on campus and contribute to environmental sustainability goals by rigorously implementing its hazardous waste management policy. The University continuously improves its responsibility in this area through regular monitoring, reporting and improvement processes.

Click here to go to Green Campus hazardous waste management page:
https://yesilkampus.bogazici.edu.tr/tr/pages/tehlikeli-atik-yonetimi/6922


15 LIFE ON LAND
To sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS