

# **SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION**



2023-2024

#### **BAUATAGLANCE**

Since its foundation in 1998, the vision of BAU has been to be a global university known for its contribution to scientific, technological, and cultural knowledge through innovative education models and research approaches that reflect international standards as well as service to society. Currently, BAU Global Network comprises of 6 universities (Istanbul, Washington D.C., Berlin, Cyprus, Batumi, Plymouth), 5 liaison offices (BAU Global Azerbaijan Jordan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Pakistan) and 5 language schools.

As one of the leading universities in Türkiye, BAU aims primarily to improve the living standards of the local and global society by integrating the sustainable development goals into its corporate processes and culture, educational programs, academic research practices and stakeholder collaborations. BAU with its staff members, students and alumni is a big academic community who are raised as good global citizens committed to each x and the world around them and always act with the utmost sense of ethics and social responsibility.

# **BAU WITH NUMBERS**

- 7 campuses in Istanbul
- 10 faculties, 1 conservatory, 2 vocational schools
- 54 BA programs, 187 MA programs, 30 PhD. programs
- 28 research and application centers
- 149 labs, workshops/studios, incubation centers
- 229 Erasmus partner universities, 96 world exchange partners
- 854 full-time faculty members, 449 administrative staff members
- 19.287 undergraduate students, 3.500 graduate students, 478 doctora degree
- students
- 81 student clubs
- 238 externally funded projects between 2023-2024
- 410 industry partnerships & projects between 2023-2024

# **BAU IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION**

BAU participates in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings since 2019. According to the current rankings, BAU belongs to the 801-1000 band in the World University Rankings, 59th in the Impact Rankings and the 173th in the Young University Rankings 2024. Also, BAU is ranked among the top 5 universities in Türkiye.

The university continuously increases its standing in categories related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As of 2025, BAU holds the following standings in the THE Impact Rankings;

- 7 th in Quality Education
- 50 th in Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 2nd in Gender Equality
- Ranks between 101-200 in Reducing Inequalities
- Ranks between 201-300 in Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Ranks between 401-600 in Sustainable Cities and Communities

The University takes the above-mentioned rankings as evaluation criteria for progress regarding its adherence and contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and will continue to report its advancement in the rankings on a yearly basis.

#### SDG13 Climate Action

In alignment with **Sustainable Development Goal 13**, Bahçeşehir University embeds environmental responsibility and sustainability awareness into its academic and social initiatives. Through lectures, workshops, and interdisciplinary programs, the University encourages critical thinking and collective engagement toward a more sustainable and resilient future.

Throughout the academic year, BAU carries out a wide range of activities aimed at **addressing** environmental challenges and promoting awareness of the global crisis affecting our planet.

These include seminars on sustainable development, innovation-focused projects that seek practical solutions to reduce ecological impact, and collaborations with local and international partners to advance green transformation. Student-led organizations and research centers also play an active role by organizing community projects, educational campaigns, and creative workshops that inspire behavioral change and advocate for a more responsible relationship with nature. Through these efforts, Bahçeşehir University continues to contribute to building an informed society capable of acting decisively for environmental preservation and long-term sustainability.

# Bahçeşehir University Environmental Management Commission

In 11.07.2024, Bahçeşehir University Senate approved the establishment of the Environmental Management Commission to reinforce institutional responsibility for environmental protection and sustainable resource management. The initiative aims to enhance ecological awareness across the University community and to integrate sustainability into the culture and daily operations of campus life.

The Commission operates through three specialized working groups — the Energy Efficiency Executive Board, the Zero Waste Executive Board, and the Water Efficiency Executive Board — which coordinate projects focused on improving resource efficiency, reducing waste generation, and minimizing the environmental footprint of university activities. Within this framework, efforts are directed toward preventing energy loss, lowering energy costs, strengthening recycling systems, and promoting circular economy practices that turn waste into value-added materials. By adopting a structured approach to environmental governance, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates its long-term commitment to responsible resource use, waste reduction, and efficient energy and water management.

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# Bahçeşehir University Zero Waste Certifications

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IKLIM DEĞIŞİKLIĞI BAKANLIĞI SIFIR ATIK BELGESİ Belge No: TS/34/B2/6/581 Hacı Mehmet GÜNER

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Müğürülik ve İklim Değişikliği İl Müdürü

E-İMZALIDIR



The Zero Waste Executive Board at Bahçeşehir University successfully coordinated the preparation and submission of reports required by the Environmental Agency, as well as the organization of on-site inspections and technical visits. Through structured collaboration between campus managers, administrative units, and support services, all required processes were completed efficiently and in line with national sustainability standards.

The initiative covered all university buildings and campuses where educational activities take place. Each site was registered in the Environmental Information System (EÇBS), administrative supervisors were authorized within the platform, and zero waste certification applications were submitted for all locations. Ahead of inspections, all necessary preparations were finalized, materials were supplied, and deficiencies were resolved in accordance with the audit feedback. In addition, academic and administrative staff received dedicated Zero Waste Training, and an instructional video was produced and shared on the university's digital learning platform.

As a result of these efforts, a total of **ten Zero Waste Certificates** have been granted to Bahçeşehir University, covering all campuses and buildings where educational activities are carried out. The process not only enhanced the university's waste management capacity but also reinforced its institutional culture of environmental responsibility and cross-departmental collaboration.

This initiative contributes holistically to several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — notably SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through enhanced waste reduction and recycling systems; SDG 13 (Climate Action) by mitigating emissions and promoting environmental stewardship; SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) through improved campus sustainability practices; SDG 4 (Quality Education) by integrating sustainability training and awareness into academic life; SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) via data-driven environmental management systems; and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through the collaborative governance model uniting multiple institutional stakeholders toward shared environmental objectives.

Link: <a href="https://aday.bau.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Sifir\_atik\_belgeleri.pdf">https://aday.bau.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Sifir\_atik\_belgeleri.pdf</a>

# SDGs and Beyond: Is There a Way Out of Fossil Fuels? COP28 and Climate Negotiations



On December 26, 2023, Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Law, the Center for Health, Society and Prevention Studies (TOSAM), and CIFAL Istanbul jointly hosted the third session of the "SDGs and Beyond" panel series titled "Is There a Way Out of Fossil Fuels? COP28 and Climate Negotiations."

Moderated by Prof. Nilüfer Narlı (Founding Director of TOSAM), the panel featured Prof. Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu (Dean of FEASS, Director of CIFAL Istanbul – UNITAR) and Şafak Özsoy (Founder & CEO of TULIP Sustainability Center, Regional Chair of ESRAG for Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia).

The discussion focused on the outcomes of COP28, exploring the global debate on phasing out fossil fuels, accelerating the transition to renewable energy, and strengthening international climate finance. Participants addressed how higher education, civil society, and the private sector can collaborate to design equitable and science-driven climate solutions in line with the Paris Agreement.

This panel directly contributed to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by fostering informed dialogue on climate negotiations and emphasizing the transformative role of academia in evidence-based policymaking. It also intersected with SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) by addressing pathways for a just energy transition, and with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by promoting collaboration among universities, experts, and international networks.





**Empowering Climate Literacy: Sustainability School - Climate Change Training Programme** 



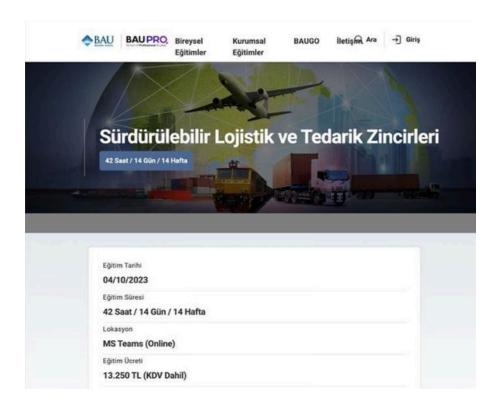
The "Sustainability School: Climate Change Training Programme", jointly organized by Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul – UNITAR, and FLO Academy, was developed to enhance awareness of the scientific foundations, social dimensions, and corporate responsibilities linked to climate change. Conducted by Dr. Nilüfer Geysi and Prof. Ahu Ergen, the programme addressed global warming, environmental justice, communication of climate action, and sustainable development perspectives.

Participants explored how environmental awareness can be embedded in business strategies and decision-making, contributing to responsible transformation across organizations. The initiative advanced SDG 4 (Quality Education) through climate-focused learning, SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by encouraging sustainable corporate operations, and SDG 13 (Climate Action) via proactive engagement in mitigation efforts. Moreover, through the strong collaboration between academia, international institutions, and the private sector, the programme exemplified SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) in practice.





# **BAUPRO Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Training Programme**



Bahçeşehir University implemented the **BAUPRO Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Training Programme** as part of its ongoing commitment to advancing sustainability-focused education and promoting responsible business practices. Conducted between **October 4, 2023, and January 10, 2024**, the 14-week programme offered 42 hours of interactive training, combining theoretical knowledge with practical insights to foster a deeper understanding of sustainable logistics.

Led by **Cemil Çınar**, Senior Supply Chain and Digital Transformation Consultant, the programme explored key topics such as **climate change**, **waste reduction**, **energy efficiency**, **carbon footprint management**, **ethical sourcing**, **and digital transformation**. Participants learned how to design environmentally and socially responsible supply chain systems that reduce environmental impact, create social value, and ensure long-term economic sustainability.

Through its multidisciplinary approach, the programme equipped participants with the analytical tools and professional awareness needed to develop **resilient and resource-efficient logistics systems**. By promoting innovation, collaboration, and sustainability-driven decision-making, the initiative directly contributes to **SDG 9** by fostering innovation in industrial systems, SDG 12 by encouraging responsible production and consumption patterns, and SDG 13 by addressing climate-related challenges through sustainable logistics and supply chain management practices.

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Corporate Sustainability and ESG: The Key to Developing Your Business, the Planet, and Society Certified Training Programme

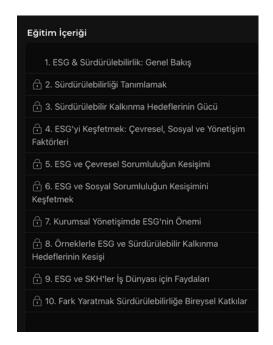
The Corporate Sustainability and ESG Training Programme, organized by BAUGO, focuses on how sustainability principles can be applied in business to support responsible growth and long-term value creation. The programme aims to equip professionals with the knowledge to integrate environmental awareness, social responsibility, and ethical governance into their decision-making processes.

Structured around ten comprehensive sessions, the course covers key topics such as the foundations of sustainability, the power of the Sustainable Development Goals, environmental and social dimensions of ESG, corporate governance, and the intersection between sustainability and responsible business growth. Through these modules, participants examine how sustainable management practices contribute to efficient resource use, waste prevention, and low-carbon business transformation.

By fostering environmental accountability, transparent governance, and ethical leadership, the programme supports the creation of more resilient and responsible corporate ecosystems. It directly contributes to the global goals of promoting decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), encouraging responsible production and consumption (SDG 12), and addressing climate action through sustainable corporate strategies (SDG 13).

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Roundtable with Civil Society: "Towards COP29 – Evaluating Challenges, Solutions, and Policy Pathways for Climate Action in Türkiye"



On October 16, 2024, Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul (UNITAR), in collaboration with the Corporate Social Responsibility Association of Türkiye (CSR Turkey) and several leading environmental NGOs, jointly organized a high-level roundtable titled "Towards COP29: Civil Society Evaluates." The meeting brought together several civil society representatives, academics, and policy experts to assess Türkiye's environmental and climate change agenda in the post-COP28 period and to contribute to the formation of national strategies ahead of COP29.

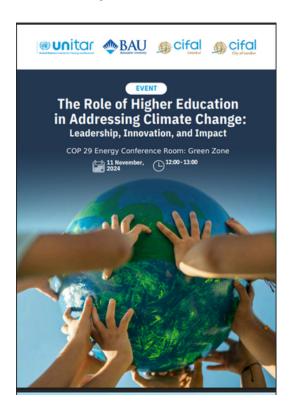
The roundtable provided a crucial **policy dialogue platform** where participants discussed the role of civil society in advancing climate action, the transition to renewable energy, and the integration of sustainability into national development frameworks. Expert contributions by Özlem Katısöz, Climate and Energy Policy Coordinator at CAN Europe, and Barış Doğru, Editorin-Chief of EkolQ, offered analytical insights into Türkiye's evolving climate policy landscape, highlighting both progress and challenges in meeting international commitments.

Through this dialogue, participants collectively emphasized the need for a realistic roadmap toward reducing dependence on fossil fuels and expanding renewable energy investments. The event concluded with a shared commitment to **strengthen cooperation between academia**, civil society, and the private sector—a key step in supporting evidence-based policymaking and inclusive climate governance.

By fostering informed discussion and cross-sector collaboration, the roundtable directly contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by advancing national policy development and raising awareness on climate resilience, while also supporting SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through its multi-stakeholder approach to sustainable environmental governance.



Special Session at COP29: Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul Advancing Climate Policy and Higher Education Leadership



On November 11, 2024, during the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan, a landmark session titled "The Role of Higher Education in Addressing Climate Change: Leadership, Innovation, and Impact" was co-organized by UNITAR, CIFAL Istanbul, Bahçeşehir University, and CIFAL City of London. Marking the first time a Turkish university hosted an independent session at COP, this event positioned Bahçeşehir University as a key contributor to global climate dialogue and higher education's policy impact.

The session convened academic leaders, policymakers, and sustainability experts to explore how universities can shape climate solutions through research, education, and innovation. Discussions focused on embedding climate literacy across curricula, promoting interdisciplinary collaboration, and developing science-based strategies for resilience and adaptation. Participants emphasized that universities play a pivotal role not only in knowledge generation but also in influencing national and international climate policy through research-driven insights and stakeholder engagement.

Representing Türkiye's academic leadership on the global stage, **Prof. Esra Hatipoğlu**, Rector of Bahçeşehir University, and **Prof. Çisil Sohodol**, Director of CIFAL Istanbul, shared the institution's experience in advancing sustainability-centered education and community partnerships. The session was moderated by Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu, Associate Director at the CIFAL Global Network (UNITAR), who underscored the importance of university-organization cooperation in shaping effective **climate governance frameworks**.

By integrating education, research, and policy development, this pioneering COP29 session exemplified Bahçeşehir University's leadership in sustainable transformation. It reinforced the University's commitment to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through policy engagement, SDG 4 (Quality Education) by promoting climate literacy and capacity-building, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through international collaboration for global climate resilience.

Link:

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Transforming Logistics for a Climate-Resilient Future: Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Panel



As part of the LOG4943 "Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain" course at Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul organized a session titled "Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain" on 24 October 2024. The session was moderated by Asst. Prof. Yasemin Ülker, Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul, and featured Tolga Kazancıoğlu, Network Optimization Lead at A.P. Moller-Maersk in Dubai.

The discussion explored strategies to minimize environmental impact in global logistics systems through energy efficiency, data-driven optimization, and circular supply chain practices. Participants examined innovative methods for developing low-carbon logistics and responsible operational models.

This session reflects Bahçeşehir University's strong commitment to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)**, **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)**, and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**. Through academic engagement and industry collaboration, the University continues to advance sustainable industrial transformation and foster climate-conscious leadership in higher education.



CIFAL Istanbul's Field Visit to the Earthquake Zone: Promoting Sustainable Recovery and Climate Awareness



The CIFAL Istanbul team visited Malatya between 13–15 December 2024, one of the provinces affected by the February 6 earthquakes, to carry out educational and awareness activities focused on sustainability and environmental responsibility. As part of the "Heroes of the Nature: Raising Awareness on Sustainability" seminar organized in collaboration with Bright Futures Association, Malatya Battalgazi Municipality, Malatya Municipality, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul representatives Aslıcan Açık and Eren Yalınkaya delivered a presentation on climate change, renewable energy, water conservation, and sustainable urban life, inspiring children and families to adopt environmentally responsible habits.

During the visit, CIFAL Istanbul and Bahçeşehir University representatives also met with local authorities to discuss sustainable reconstruction and long-term recovery strategies that integrate environmental awareness into rebuilding efforts.

This initiative reflects Bahçeşehir University's and CIFAL Istanbul's strong commitment to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)**, **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**, and **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**. By linking sustainability education with community engagement, the University continues to support inclusive recovery and climate-resilient development in disaster-affected regions.

Link: <a href="https://cifalistanbul.org/cifal-istanbul-team-visited-earthquake-zone/">https://cifalistanbul.org/cifal-istanbul-team-visited-earthquake-zone/</a>





# Eren Yalınkaya Volunteering to Participate in Forest Firefighting Efforts



CIFAL Istanbul team member Eren Yalınkaya volunteered to take part in wildfire response operations in Çanakkale on **June 19, 2024**, and **Muğla Yatağan on August 19, 2024**. Collaborating with local emergency and forestry teams, he contributed to the containment of fires and the protection of regional ecosystems, helping to safeguard biodiversity and prevent further environmental degradation.

This voluntary participation demonstrates the shared commitment of **CIFAL Istanbul** and **Bahçeşehir University** to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**, **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**, and **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**. By supporting initiatives that strengthen local resilience and environmental stewardship, the University continues to promote youth engagement and collective responsibility in addressing the growing challenges of climate-induced natural disasters.



# CIFAL Istanbul Team Participation to Reforestation Efforts in Istanbul

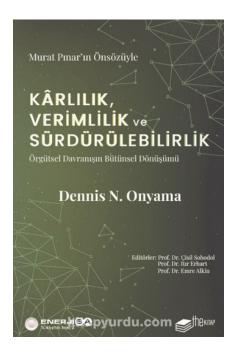




On **November 9, 2024, CIFAL Istanbul** team members **Eren Yalınkaya** and **Aslıcan Açık** participated in a reforestation initiative in a forest area of **Istanbul** that had been severely damaged by wildfires in 2023. Their participation contributed to ongoing recovery efforts aimed at restoring forest ecosystems, promoting biodiversity, and reinforcing public awareness on the long-term environmental impact of forest degradation.

This initiative reflects the strong commitment of **Bahçeşehir University** and **CIFAL Istanbul** to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**, **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**, **and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**. By actively engaging in reforestation and environmental rehabilitation projects, the University continues to support collective action toward ecosystem resilience, climate adaptation, and sustainable land management.

Book Publication: Profitability, Efficiency and Sustainability: The Holistic Transformation of Organizational Behavior



The Profitability, Efficiency and Sustainability: The Holistic Transformation of Organizational Behavior was published on 18 December 2023. Authored by Dennis N. Onyama, with a foreword by Murat Pınar, CEO of Enerjisa Energy, and edited by Prof. Çisil Sohodol from Bahçeşehir University, together with Prof. Itir Erhart and Prof. Emre Alkin, the book examines the causal relationships between profitability, productivity, and sustainability within contemporary organizations.

Through a multidisciplinary framework focusing on **organizational DNA**, strategic value alignment, and climate-conscious management, the book examines how businesses can create long-term value while minimizing their environmental footprint. It underscores the importance of responsible innovation, sustainable business models, and the integration of environmental and social accountability into corporate decision-making processes.

Edited under the academic leadership of **Bahçeşehir University**, this publication demonstrates the University's continued contribution to advancing research and dialogue on sustainability and responsible growth. By addressing key themes aligned with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**—particularly **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)**, **SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)**, **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)**, and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**—the book reflects BAU's commitment to fostering interdisciplinary academic inquiry that bridges organizational development with global sustainability challenges

Empowering Sustainability Through Science: TÜBİTAK 4007 Giresun Science Festival Showcases Green Innovation



Coordinated by the **Giresun Provincial Directorate of National Education** and organized in partnership with **Giresun Municipality**, **Giresun University**, and **Bahçeşehir University**, the **TÜBİTAK 4007 Giresun Science Festival** titled "Green Technology: Scientific Solutions for a Sustainable Future" was held between **28–30 November 2024** in Giresun.

The event brought together students, educators, and community members through 23 workshops, two conferences, one panel, and one public science lecture, all focusing on the intersection of technological innovation and environmental responsibility. With the active academic participation of Bahçeşehir University, the festival fostered scientific inquiry and encouraged environmentally conscious thinking in areas such as clean energy systems, resource efficiency, and green innovation.

By bridging science and sustainability, the initiative reflected key principles of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**, particularly **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)**, **SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure)**, **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)**, and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)**. Through its involvement, **Bahçeşehir University** reaffirmed its role as a catalyst for science-driven solutions to environmental challenges—empowering both youth and local communities to take part in the global transition toward a sustainable future.

Link: https://4000.tubitak.gov.tr/4007/124b703



Educating Climate-Conscious Generations: BAU Academicians Publish "Climate Change Activities for Middle School Students"



The book Climate Change Activities for Middle School Students, authored by **Assoc. Prof. Seda Saraç** and **Assoc. Prof. Nihal Yurtseven** from the **Bahçeşehir University Faculty of Educational** Sciences, was published in **November 2024**. Designed as a comprehensive teaching resource, the book provides **inquiry-based activities**, case studies, and classroom exercises to support educators in integrating climate change topics into their lessons.

By helping students explore the causes and consequences of climate change, the publication promotes the development of **climate literacy**, enabling young learners to make informed and responsible decisions for the environment. It emphasizes **sustainability**, **adaptation**, and **environmental responsibility**, fostering critical thinking and problem-solving skills that empower students to contribute to long-term ecological resilience.

This initiative exemplifies **Bahçeşehir University's** academic leadership in sustainability-oriented education and its contribution to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**—particularly **SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action)**. Through educational innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration, BAU continues to nurture a generation capable of addressing climate challenges with scientific understanding and social awareness.

Understanding the Human Age: BAU "Chasing the Bad Days" Programme Explores the Future of the Climate Crisis



The asynchronous training programme "Chasing the Bad Days: The Future Impacts of the Climate Crisis", delivered by **Okan Pala** through **BAUGO**, consists of **11 interactive sessions** that examine the concept of the Anthropocene and humanity's impact on the planet. Through data-based analysis, scientific evidence, and reflective inquiry, participants explore the interconnected dynamics of ecological transformation.

Focusing on **climate, carbon, justice**, and **sustainability**, the programme invites learners to critically engage with the realities of the climate crisis and to consider collective solutions for adaptation and resilience. By questioning the limits of the Earth's systems and humanity's role in shaping the future, it cultivates awareness of environmental responsibility and systems thinking.

This initiative illustrates **Bahçeşehir University's** ongoing dedication to integrating sustainability and climate literacy into lifelong learning, aligning with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,** particularly **SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land).** Through BAUGO's flexible and interdisciplinary education model, the programme empowers participants to reflect, act, and lead in building a more sustainable future.

Link: <a href="https://baugo.online/course/kotu-gunlerin-pesinde-iklim-krizinin-gelecege-etkileri">https://baugo.online/course/kotu-gunlerin-pesinde-iklim-krizinin-gelecege-etkileri</a>

Exploring Nature, Protecting Life: BAU Young TEMA Student Club's Wetlands Awareness Walk



On **24 February 2024**, members of the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club** organized a Nature Walk and Wetlands Exploration at **Atatürk Urban Forest**. Throughout the activity, students observed local ecosystems, explored wetland biodiversity, and discussed how these areas play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and mitigating the effects of climate change.

The participants also created handmade bird feeders and learned about simple, actionable ways to support wildlife in urban areas. This activity highlighted the interconnectedness of biodiversity conservation and climate resilience, contributing to the goals of **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** and **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**.





Reimagining Waste: BAU Young TEMA Student Club Recycling Workshop



On **9 March 2024**, members of the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club** organized a Recycling Workshop at **BAU South Campus**. During the session, students repurposed everyday materials such as plastic bottles, cans, and paper into useful new items, discovering the creative potential of recycling in everyday life.

The workshop encouraged participants to rethink consumption habits and recognize how small, individual actions can collectively support environmental sustainability. By promoting resource efficiency and waste reduction, the activity directly contributes to **SDG 12** (Responsible Consumption and Production) and **SDG 13** (Climate Action).

Through these student-led initiatives, **Bahçeşehir University** reinforces its commitment to fostering environmental awareness and cultivating a responsible campus culture aligned with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**.



Growing Roots for the Future: BAU Young TEMA Club Tree Planting Event



On **5 April 2024**, the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club**, in collaboration with **Pendik Municipality**, organized a Tree Planting Sampling Event to promote environmental responsibility and hands-on learning in ecological restoration. Students actively participated in planting saplings, gaining practical knowledge about tree planting techniques, soil care, and the long-term benefits of reforestation.

The event aimed to enhance awareness of nature-based solutions that help reduce carbon emissions, restore local ecosystems, and strengthen climate resilience. By contributing to environmental regeneration, the initiative supports **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** and **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**.



Before It Burns: BAU Young TEMA Student Club Forest Fire Awareness Meeting





On **27 April 2024**, the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club** organized its traditional *Active Volunteer Meeting* centered around the **TEMA Foundation's "Before It Burns"** initiative. The session focused on understanding the causes and impacts of forest fires, as well as strategies to prevent large-scale environmental damage. Participants discussed community-based fire prevention methods and the importance of early intervention to protect natural ecosystems.

Students also received certificates of appreciation from the **TEMA Foundation** for their volunteer efforts and commitment to environmental protection. The event strengthened awareness of disaster preparedness, environmental responsibility, and collective climate action, aligning with **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** and **SDG 15 (Life on Land)**.

Clean Steps for a Greener Future: BAU Young TEMA Student Club Burgazada Nature Walk and Environmental Cleanup



On **18 May 2024**, members of the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club** organized a Nature Walk and Environmental Cleanup in **Burgazada**, combining outdoor exploration with environmental responsibility. Volunteers enjoyed the island's natural landscape while collecting waste to help preserve its ecosystems and prevent pollution.

The event encouraged students to take personal action toward protecting nature and adopting sustainable habits that reduce environmental impact. At the end of the activity, participants sorted the collected waste by type to support recycling and circular economy practices. Through this effort, the initiative contributed to SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 15 (Life on Land).



Creative Climate Action: BAU Young TEMA Student Club Autumn Workshop



On 8 November 2024, students from the Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club held the Autumn Workshop to promote creative, nature-based approaches to climate awareness. Participants made leaf prints and lavender sachets, engaging in activities that emphasized the link between creativity, sustainability, and environmental responsibility.

By repurposing unused textiles and materials, students explored the principles of waste reduction and resource efficiency. The workshop encouraged participants to adopt mindful production and consumption habits, directly aligning with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).





# **BAU Young TEMA Student Club Acorn Collection Activity**



On 26 October 2024, members of the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club** gathered in Yıldız Park for the Acorn Collection Activity, designed to promote student participation in nature-based practices that support ecosystem sustainability. Participants collected acorns to be used in future biodiversity-focused workshops and educational projects.

By directly engaging with nature, students contributed to environmental restoration efforts and learned about the importance of preserving ecological balance. The activity encouraged awareness of sustainable resource use and emphasized collective responsibility for protecting natural habitats. Through this hands-on initiative, the event supported **SDG 13** (Climate Action), and **SDG 15** (Life on Land).



Driving Change Together: BAU Young TEMA Student Club SürdürSEK – Sustainability in the Sector Summit



Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club organized the 3rd SürdürSEK "Sustainability in the Sector Summit" on 21 December 2024, aiming to foster environmental responsibility and awareness of sustainability practices among students. The summit hosted three sessions featuring distinguished speakers: Ömür Kula, CEO of WWF-Turkiye, Arda Öztaşkın, Corporate Communications Director at Yapı Kredi, and Serhat Şabap, Communication and Project Specialist at SKD Turkiye.

The sessions focused on nature-based business models, corporate sustainability strategies, and the role of communication in environmental awareness. The event provided a platform for dialogue between private sector and civil society representatives, encouraging collaboration aligned with global sustainability objectives.

The event aligned with **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)** by emphasizing sustainable corporate practices, with **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** through its focus on climate-conscious leadership, and with **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)** by strengthening dialogue between academia, civil society, and the private sector.





Advancing Sustainable Industrial Transformation: Short-Term Scientific Mission Presentation by Assoc. Prof. Yasemin Ülker



Assoc. Prof. Yasemin Ülker, Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul and Faculty Member at Bahçeşehir University, presented her research under COST Action 22110 during a short-term scientific mission at Nova School of Science and Technology. Her presentation, titled "Sustainable Supply Chain, Industrial Symbiosis and Waste Management Integration," examined the interconnectedness of circular resource use, industrial efficiency, and environmental sustainability.

Focusing on the transition toward climate-compatible production systems, the study highlighted how industrial symbiosis and sustainable supply chain management can reduce carbon emissions and promote energy and raw material efficiency. The research demonstrated how resilient and low-impact production models contribute to environmental balance, aligning with SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Through the international collaboration within the European COST Network, Assoc. Prof. Ülker's work also reflected SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering cross-border academic cooperation.

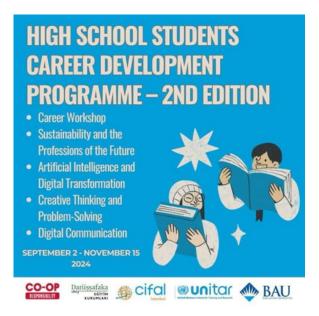
Zero Waste Solidarity: BAU Lotus Student Club's Charity Picnic for Earthquake Relief



On **10 March 2024, the Bahçeşehir University Lotus Student Club** organized the "Zero Waste Charity Picnic" at **İBB Sadabad Recreation Park 2**, uniting environmental consciousness with social solidarity. The event encouraged participants to embrace sustainable habits by bringing reusable containers and thermoses, minimizing waste generation, and contributing donations and aid materials for communities affected by the earthquakes.

The activity emphasized the importance of eco-friendly lifestyles and community resilience, fostering awareness of shared responsibility toward both people and the planet. Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University once again demonstrated its institutional commitment to sustainability and humanitarian values, promoting environmental and social consciousness in line with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Empowering Future Generations: Darüşşafaka High School Students Career Development Programme Second Edition



Held between September 2 and November 25, 2024, the "High School Students Career Development Programme – 2nd Edition" was jointly organized by Bahçeşehir University, **CIFAL Istanbul**, **UNITAR, CO-OP**, and **Darüşşafaka Society**. The program aimed to strengthen students' career awareness, enhance their digital and creative skills, and cultivate a forward-looking mindset grounded in sustainability.

Through sessions such as "Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation," "Sustainability and the Future of Work," "Technology and Creativity," and "Cybersecurity and Digital Ethics," participants explored the intersection of innovation, ethics, and environmental responsibility. The program encouraged students to view technology not merely as a professional tool but as a medium for fostering awareness and contributing to a more balanced and resilient future.

By combining personal development with global awareness, the programme encouraged students to adopt a mindset rooted in sustainability and social responsibility. Participants were introduced to the principles of SDG 4 (Quality Education) by promoting inclusive and future-oriented learning; SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) through fostering skills in innovation and entrepreneurship; and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by emphasizing the role of environmental responsibility in future professions. Participants received their official certificates co-signed by Bahçeşehir University CO-OP Directorate, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Darüşşafaka Educational Institutions.



| 1  | CO-OP Programme Introduction – The Business World and Youth: Current<br>Trends in Career Management |
|--|---|
| 2  | DISCOVER YOURSELF - CAREER WORKSHOP   |
| 3  | NETWORKING AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION IN DIGITAL ENVIRONMENTS                                      |
| 4  | SECTOR PANEL: CREATIVE THINKING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS IN THE WORKPLACE                         |
| 5  | ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION CULTURE   |
| 6  | SOCIAL MEDIA, DIGITAL COMMUNICATION AND BRAND MANAGEMENT  |
| 7  | CEO SESSION: HOW I BUILT MY OWN BRAND   |
| 8  | E-COMMERCE AND DIGITAL ECONOMY  |
| 9  | ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION  |
| 10   | TECHNOLOGY AND CREATIVITY: PRODUCTIVE YOUTH   |
| 11   | SUSTAINABILITY AND THE FUTURE OF WORK   |
| 12   | NEXT-GENERATION DIGITAL LEARNING PLATFORMS  |
| 13   | CYBERSECURITY AND DIGITAL ETHICS  |
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Seminar: "Sustainability and Climate Change from the UN Perspective" - Strengthening Private Sector Capacity for Climate Action



On December 24, 2024, Bahçeşehir University CO-OP Directorate, in collaboration with CIFAL Istanbul-UNITAR and Ata Holding, organized an impactful seminar titled "Sustainability and Climate Change from the UN Perspective." The session was delivered by Asst. Prof. Yasemin Ülker, Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul-UNITAR and faculty member at Bahçeşehir University, bringing together professionals, and private sector representatives to strengthen understanding of sustainability within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The seminar examined the **interconnected environmental**, **social**, **and economic dimensions of climate change**, emphasizing the need for systemic, cross-sectoral collaboration. Through global and local examples, participants explored how sustainable production, ethical business practices, and climate-conscious decision-making can contribute to a more resilient economy.

By engaging private sector partners, the session aimed to **enhance corporate sustainability capacity**, encourage the adoption of responsible production and consumption habits, and align business strategies with the UN's 2030 Agenda. This collaborative effort between academia, international organizations, and industry reflects **Bahçeşehir University's ongoing leadership in promoting sustainability awareness and climate action,** contributing directly to SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

Sustainability Literacy Certificate Programme – Advancing Awareness and Competence for a Sustainable Future



The **Sustainability Literacy Certificate Programme**, jointly organized by the **United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), CIFAL Istanbul, Bahçeşehir University (BAU)**, and the BAU Continuous Education Center (BAUSEM), was designed to help individuals and organizations internalize the principles of sustainability and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Developed for participants across all professional backgrounds—including **industry professionals, public sector representatives, civil society leaders, and academics**—the programme provided an interdisciplinary learning environment covering the five core dimensions of sustainability: **people, planet, prosperity, peace, and partnerships.** 

Through interactive modules and case studies, participants examined the interconnections between environmental, economic, and social dimensions of sustainability, with a strong focus on **climate action, ethical production, and responsible consumption practices**. The programme emphasized collective responsibility and the role of education in enabling systemic change toward more sustainable and resilient societies.

This initiative not only advanced **sustainability education (SDG 4)** but also promoted **climate awareness and action (SDG 13)** and covered all other SDG's. It also exemplified **effective partnerships for sustainable development (SDG 17)** through its collaboration between academia, international organizations, and the private sector.

Link: <a href="https://bausem.bau.edu.tr/eqitim/surdurulebilirlik-okuryazarligi.html">https://bausem.bau.edu.tr/eqitim/surdurulebilirlik-okuryazarligi.html</a>

From Waste to Worth: BAU Lotus Student Club's "Threads to Totes" Sustainable Transformation Event



On 3 March 2024, the Bahçeşehir University Lotus Student Club organized the "Threads to Totes: Sustainable Transforming Event" at **Yıldız Park**, inviting participants to turn their unused t-shirts into reusable tote bags. The event encouraged creativity, environmental awareness, and hands-on engagement with sustainability principles.

By reusing materials and reducing textile waste, the activity introduced participants to the concept of the **circular economy**, showing how small lifestyle changes can have meaningful environmental benefits. The initiative also aimed to raise awareness about the environmental footprint of textile production and to inspire more conscious consumption habits among students.

Through this practice-based approach, the event supported **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)** by promoting waste reduction and reuse, and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** by encouraging climate-conscious behavioral change. Demonstrating that sustainability begins with individual action, Bahçeşehir University once again underscored its commitment to nurturing environmentally responsible youth and fostering practical engagement with sustainability.



Lotus Student Club Visit to Museum Gazhane Climate Museum – Fostering Environmental Awareness and Climate Responsibility



On February 24, members of the Bahçeşehir University Lotus Student Club visited the Museum Gazhane Climate Museum to engage with interactive exhibitions centered on **the atmosphere**, **energy transition**, and **climate adaptation**. The visit served as an experiential learning opportunity, deepening participants' understanding of **environmental challenges**, **sustainability**, **and the science behind climate change**.

Throughout the exhibition, students explored innovative displays highlighting renewable energy solutions, circular economy concepts, and sustainable urban living practices. The experience encouraged reflection on how **individual and collective actions can mitigate environmental risks** and promote more **conscious**, **low-impact lifestyles**.

By encouraging awareness of energy efficiency, resource conservation, and low-carbon lifestyles, the activity contributed to SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) by promoting knowledge of sustainable energy systems, SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through behavioral change toward sustainability, and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by empowering young individuals to engage in proactive climate solutions.

The visit also reinforced **SDG 4 (Quality Education)** by integrating experiential learning into environmental and sustainability education, fostering an informed and responsible generation ready to act for a cleaner and more resilient future.



Driving Corporate Transformation: The Role of Your Business for a Sustainable Future – Environmental and Social Responsibilities Certified Training Programme

The certified training program titled "The Role of Your Business for a Sustainable Future: Environmental and Social Responsibilities," jointly organized by Bahçeşehir University Global Online (BAUGO) and BAUSEM, has been offered since 2023 and continues in 2024. Across eight sessions, participants explore the following topics: the concept and principles of sustainability, environmental management and natural resource protection, the impact of climate change on businesses, green transformation and circular economy, corporate social responsibility practices, ethical leadership and stakeholder communication, sustainable production and supply chain management, and strategic planning for a sustainable future. The program helps participants build their capacity to assess environmental risks, enhance resource efficiency, and design sustainable business models for long-term impact.

Throughout the program, participants explore key topics such as environmental management, responsible production and consumption, sustainable supply chains, carbon footprint reduction, and corporate social responsibility strategies. The course equips participants with the skills to evaluate environmental risks, enhance resource efficiency, and develop sustainable business models for long-term impact.

By equipping professionals with the ability to assess environmental risks, enhance resource efficiency, and design sustainable business models, the programme fosters leadership aligned with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action). It also strengthens corporate accountability through ethical management practices in line with SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), while advancing SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by integrating academia and business sectors in pursuit of shared sustainability goals.

Link: <a href="https://baugo.online/course/surdurulebilir-gelecek-icin-isletmenizin-rolu-cevresel-ve-sosyal-sorumluluklar">https://baugo.online/course/surdurulebilir-gelecek-icin-isletmenizin-rolu-cevresel-ve-sosyal-sorumluluklar</a>





#### Azerbaijan and Turkiye Youth Came Together in Azerbaijan for Energy and Security

The "Partnership Between Azerbaijani and Turkish Youth in Energy and Security" Forum, held on 23 February 2024, was hosted by the Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University (ADNSU) with the support of the Azerbaijan Youth Foundation, and organized in collaboration with the Azerbaijani Students and Alumni Platform (ASAP), Bahçeşehir University (BAU), CIFAL Istanbul, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and the BAU International Leadership Research and Application Center (ULMER).

Bringing together 300 young participants from Azerbaijan and Türkiye, the forum created a platform to deepen bilateral cooperation in the areas of energy, sustainability, and youth engagement. The opening remarks were delivered by Acting Rector of ADNSU Vazeh Asgarov, Acting Chairman of the Azerbaijan Youth Foundation Gadir Khalilov, Executive Director of ASAP Sevda Mansurova, and Rector of Bahçeşehir University Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu.

Panel discussions explored regional energy security, youth participation in the sustainable energy transition, and the significance of active engagement in international environmental platforms such as **COP29**. Throughout the forum, participants emphasized that climate change mitigation and energy resilience must be pursued through knowledge-sharing, technological innovation, and collaborative action.

This initiative underscored **Bahçeşehir University's** active role in advancing climate-focused regional cooperation and youth-led sustainability initiatives. By addressing the interconnection between clean energy, environmental protection, and cross-border collaboration, the forum contributed to **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** through its emphasis on climate resilience and adaptation; to **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** by promoting the sustainable energy transition; and to **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)** by fostering institutional cooperation between Türkiye and Azerbaijan.

Link: <a href="https://bau.edu.tr/haber/18947-azerbaycan-ve-turkiye-gencleri-enerji-ve-guvenlik-icin-bulustu">https://bau.edu.tr/haber/18947-azerbaycan-ve-turkiye-gencleri-enerji-ve-guvenlik-icin-bulustu</a>

Azerbaijan and Turkiye Youth Came Together in Azerbaijan for Energy and Security







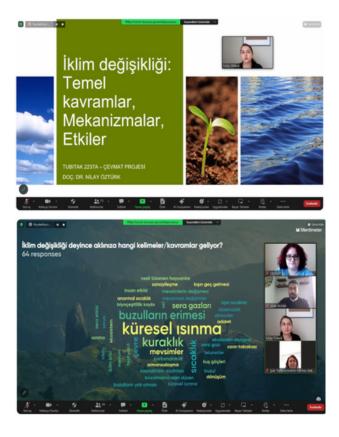
# Connecting Mathematics with Climate Awareness: ÇEVMAT Project Empowers Future Teachers

Supported by the TÜBİTAK 2237-A program, the ÇEVMAT Project aims to enhance the knowledge and awareness of pre-service middle school mathematics teachers regarding the integration of environmental sustainability into mathematics education. The project focuses on building understanding of sustainable development concepts, recognizing the impacts of environmental issues, and exploring practices to reduce ecological footprints while adopting pedagogical approaches grounded in systems thinking and critical mathematics education.

Within this scope, an online session titled "Climate Change: Basic Concepts, Mechanisms, Impacts" was delivered on 9 December 2023 by Assoc. Prof. Nilay Öztürk from the BAUSTEM Center at Bahçeşehir University. Through interactive discussions, participants explored the scientific basis of climate change and ways to incorporate climate literacy into mathematics lessons.

By strengthening educators' capacity to integrate climate-responsive teaching practices, this initiative directly contributes to Bahçeşehir University's engagement with SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 13 Climate Action, SDG15 Life on Land and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals.

Link: <a href="https://inteach.org/haberler/cevmat-projesinde-iklim-degisikligi-egitimi/">https://inteach.org/haberler/cevmat-projesinde-iklim-degisikligi-egitimi/</a>



Strengthening Climate Education Practices: SOBİD Project Stage 3 Online Session

As the third stage of the **SOBID Project**, funded by the **TÜBİTAK 3501 Career Development Grant**, an online teacher development session was held on 7 March 2024 with the participation of educators across Türkiye.

Building on the instructional plans developed during the in-person sessions hosted at Bahçeşehir University on 17–21 February, the event focused on enhancing teachers' climate change teaching strategies. Led by Project Coordinator Assoc. Prof. Nilay Öztürk and researchers Assoc. Prof. Yasemin Özdem Yılmaz and Asst. Prof. Gaye Defne Ceyhan, the session included structured feedback reviews, collaborative group work, and peer-assessment of lesson plans.

By supporting educators in adopting instructional methods that **strengthen climate literacy in classrooms**, the initiative directly contributes to SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 13 Climate Action, and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals, reflecting BAU's dedication to advancing sustainable development through capacity building in education.

Link: <a href="https://inteach.org/haberler/sobid-projesi-3-cevrimici-bulusma/">https://inteach.org/haberler/sobid-projesi-3-cevrimici-bulusma/</a>



#### Empowering Educators for Climate Action: BAU Supports Skills for a Resilient Future

Hosted at Bahçeşehir University between 17–21 February 2024, an intensive Teacher Professional Development Programme fourth stage was delivered under the TÜBİTAK 3501 Career Development Grant titled "Designing and Implementing a Climate Change Instructional Module through a Socio-Scientific Issue-Based Teaching Approach (SOBİD)."

The programme enhanced teachers' knowledge and pedagogical competencies on climate change by focusing on the scientific foundations of climate systems, human-driven environmental impacts, sustainable lifestyles, and inquiry-based instructional methods. Throughout the sessions, teachers worked collaboratively to redesign their lesson plans to better integrate climate literacy and critical thinking skills into their classrooms.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University contributed to advancing **SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 13 Climate Action, and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals**, ensuring educators are empowered as key drivers of climate-conscious transformation in society.

Link: <a href="https://inteach.org/haberler/sobid-projesi-4-cevrimici-bulusma/">https://inteach.org/haberler/sobid-projesi-4-cevrimici-bulusma/</a>







Protecting Forests, Safeguarding the Future: Wildfire Volunteer Training Programme



On June 12, 2024, Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and the Istanbul Regional Directorate of Forestry jointly organized the "Wildfire Volunteer Training Programme," aiming to raise community awareness, strengthen environmental resilience, and foster volunteer participation in combating climate-induced wildfires. The event took place at BAU's Faculty of Law Conference Hall, with opening speeches delivered by Prof. Tunç Bozbura (Vice Rector of Bahçeşehir University), Prof. Ebru Canan Sokullu (Director of CIFAL Istanbul), and Mr. İkram Çelik (Head of the Wildfire Department, General Directorate of Forestry).

Participants received comprehensive training on early detection and prevention of wildfires, effective intervention methods, coordination during crises, the use of personal protective equipment, and post-disaster recovery processes. At the conclusion of the programme, volunteers were awarded certificates recognizing their preparedness to actively contribute to forest protection and climate resilience.

This initiative advances Bahçeşehir University's sustainability mission and directly contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by promoting environmental awareness, protecting terrestrial ecosystems, and strengthening institutional collaboration for disaster preparedness and sustainable development.

Protecting Forests, Safeguarding the Future: Wildfire Volunteer Training Programme







Empowering Change: Higher Education's Role in Advancing Climate Action and the SDGs



Held on 15 November 2024 at Bahçeşehir University's Senate Room, the round table meeting titled "Empowering Change: Higher Education's Impact on Driving SDGs Progress" brought together Bahçeşehir University (BAU), CIFAL Istanbul, and UNITAR to explore the transformative potential of higher education in advancing sustainable development. The event was moderated by Asst. Prof. Yasemin Ülker, Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul, and featured Dr. Ebru Canan-Sokullu, Associate Director at CIFAL Global Network, UNITAR, as the keynote speaker.

The session convened BAU academics and CIFAL Istanbul representatives from various disciplines conducting sustainability-oriented research to develop a shared vision for integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across education, research, and community engagement. Discussions focused on strengthening academic contributions to climate change mitigation, resilience building, and the transition toward sustainable societies through interdisciplinary collaboration.

In the context of SDG 13 (Climate Action), the round table emphasized the pivotal role of universities in generating science-based climate knowledge, shaping public awareness, and training future leaders who can translate academic research into actionable policies. Participants highlighted that higher education institutions not only educate but also serve as laboratories for climate innovation — fostering solutions that address carbon reduction, renewable energy adoption, and sustainable urban transformation. Through academic research, experiential learning, and partnerships with local and international organizations, universities like Bahçeşehir play a critical role in implementing climate adaptation and mitigation strategies at both institutional and societal levels.

This initiative further aligns with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by reinforcing cooperation between academia, international organizations, and civil society, and contributes indirectly to SDG 4 (Quality Education) by integrating sustainability principles into educational frameworks. By fostering dialogue and collaborative vision-building, the meeting exemplified how higher education can become a driving force in achieving climate resilience and sustainable development.

Empowering Change: Higher Education's Role in Advancing Climate Action and the SDGs



#### **BAUPRO Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Training Programme**

Bahçeşehir University implemented the **BAUPRO Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Training Programme** as part of its ongoing commitment to advancing sustainability-focused education and promoting responsible business practices. Conducted between **October 4**, **2023**, **and January 10**, **2024**, the 14-week programme offered 42 hours of interactive training, combining theoretical knowledge with practical insights to foster a deeper understanding of sustainable logistics.

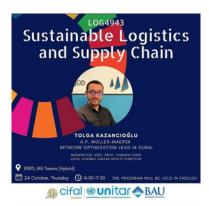
Led by **Cemil Çınar**, Senior Supply Chain and Digital Transformation Consultant, the programme explored key topics such as **climate change**, **waste reduction**, **energy efficiency**, **carbon footprint management**, **ethical sourcing**, **and digital transformation**. Participants learned how to design environmentally and socially responsible supply chain systems that reduce environmental impact, create social value, and ensure long-term economic sustainability.

Through its multidisciplinary approach, the programme equipped participants with the analytical tools and professional awareness needed to develop **resilient and resource-efficient logistics systems**. By promoting innovation, collaboration, and sustainability-driven decision-making, the initiative directly contributes to **SDG 9 by fostering innovation in industrial systems**, **SDG 12 by encouraging responsible production and consumption patterns**, and **SDG 13 by addressing climate-related challenges through sustainable logistics and supply chain management practices**.

Link: https://bausem.bau.edu.tr/egitim/surdurulebilir-lojistik-ve-tedarik-zincirleri.html



Transforming Logistics for a Climate-Resilient Future: Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Panel



As part of the LOG4943 "Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain" course at Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul organized a session titled "Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain" on 24 October 2024. The session was moderated by Asst. Prof. Yasemin Ülker, Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul, and featured Tolga Kazancıoğlu, Network Optimization Lead at A.P. Moller-Maersk in Dubai.

The discussion explored strategies to minimize environmental impact in global logistics systems through energy efficiency, data-driven optimization, and circular supply chain practices. Participants examined innovative methods for developing low-carbon logistics and responsible operational models.

This session reflects Bahçeşehir University's strong commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Through academic engagement and industry collaboration, the University continues to advance sustainable industrial transformation and foster climate-conscious leadership in higher education.



# FLO Group Sustainability Report Launch: Advancing a Shared Commitment to a Sustainable Future

On October 14, 2024, Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul, and UNITAR came together with FLO Group to celebrate the launch of FLO's first Sustainability Report, marking a significant milestone following the success of the FLO Sustainability School project. The event was moderated by Ilgaz Gürsoy and featured Mr. Yenal Gökyıldırım, CEO of FLO Group; Prof. Çisil Sohodol, Director of CIFAL Istanbul; and Prof. Itir Erhart, Dean of the Faculty of Communication at Istanbul Bilgi University.

The discussion highlighted the company's progress in sustainability practices over the past two years and the measurable impact of training programs that reached more than 8,000 employees, fostering behavioral change and environmental awareness across the organization.

Speakers emphasized that sustainability is not solely an environmental agenda but a multidimensional transformation encompassing corporate culture, communication, and innovation. The panel addressed the growing importance of sustainability communication, responsible production and consumption, and the role of the private sector in climate action and industry-wide change.

The initiative aligns directly with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) while also contributing to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through cross-sector collaboration. The FLO Sustainability Report exemplifies how academia-industry partnerships can accelerate sustainable transformation, bridging education, leadership, and responsible business practices.



Advancing Sustainable Industrial Transformation: Short-Term Scientific Mission Presentation by Assoc. Prof. Yasemin Ülker

Assoc. Prof. Yasemin Ülker, Deputy Director of CIFAL Istanbul and Faculty Member at Bahçeşehir University, presented her research under COST Action 22110 during a short-term scientific mission at Nova School of Science and Technology. Her presentation, titled "Sustainable Supply Chain, Industrial Symbiosis and Waste Management Integration," examined the interconnectedness of circular resource use, industrial efficiency, and environmental sustainability.

Focusing on the transition toward climate-compatible production systems, the study highlighted how industrial symbiosis and sustainable supply chain management can reduce carbon emissions and promote energy and raw material efficiency. The research demonstrated how resilient and low-impact production models contribute to environmental balance, aligning with SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Through the international collaboration within the European COST Network, Assoc. Prof. Ülker's work also reflected SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering cross-border academic cooperation.



Climate Change Summit: The Climate Crisis as a Sustainability Issue



On 1 November 2024, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University (BAU) jointly organized the "Climate Change Summit: The Climate Crisis as a Sustainability Issue" in collaboration with Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU), the Young Researchers Innovation Club (HİK), and BilimSenOI. The summit, held at Azerbaijan Technical University in Baku, brought together academics, researchers, and students to explore the growing intersection between climate change and sustainability.

The event featured insights from **Prof. Dr. Çisil Sohodol, Director of CIFAL Istanbul–UNITAR**; **Dr. Yasemin Ülker from BAU Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences**; and **Dr. Nilüfer Geysi from BAU Faculty of Communication**. Discussions focused on how the climate crisis has evolved from an environmental challenge into a broader sustainability issue encompassing social responsibility, energy transformation, and communication strategies for public awareness.

Through its multidisciplinary approach, the summit highlighted Bahçeşehir University's ongoing commitment to global climate education and its active engagement in international dialogue addressing the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of climate change. The initiative contributed directly to **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** by advancing awareness and scientific dialogue on climate resilience, and to **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)** by fostering cross-border cooperation between Türkiye and Azerbaijan on sustainability-oriented education and research.

#### **Upcycling Workshop by BAU Young TEMA Student Club**



On 29 November 2023, the **Bahçeşehir University Young TEMA Student Club** organized an upcycling workshop titled "**Slow the Fashion, Create Your Bag!**" to promote sustainable consumption habits and reduce textile waste. During the event, students transformed old and unused t-shirts into reusable tote bags, learning how creative action can support environmental protection.

By giving new life to discarded materials, participants explored the concept of **responsible production and consumption**, experiencing firsthand how small individual actions can make a positive impact on the planet. The initiative reflected Bahçeşehir University's dedication to fostering environmental consciousness and climate awareness among its students.

The workshop directly supports **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)** by encouraging reuse and waste reduction, and **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** by highlighting the importance of sustainable choices in mitigating environmental impact.





# Academic Contributions to Sustainability Awareness and Capacity Building at Bahçeşehir University

At Bahçeşehir University, academic engagement plays a pivotal role in advancing sustainability, strengthening social responsibility, and fostering climate literacy. Faculty members from diverse disciplines continuously contribute to public awareness and institutional capacity building through research articles, opinion pieces, and policy-oriented publications.

These writings not only bridge the gap between scientific knowledge and social action but also serve as accessible resources for understanding the multifaceted challenges of the climate crisis, environmental governance, and sustainable development. By addressing issues such as green transformation, responsible consumption, energy transition, and climate communication, Bahçeşehir University academics aim to cultivate a culture of informed responsibility and collective awareness.

Through these intellectual contributions, the university reinforces its commitment to integrating the principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—particularly SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)—into academic life. These efforts reflect Bahçeşehir University's holistic approach to sustainability, where education, research, and community engagement work in synergy to inspire actionable change for a more resilient and equitable future.

#### Trump's Re-election: A Turning Point for Global Climate Policy Article by Prof. Çisil Sohodol

In the article written on 24 November, 2024, "Trump's Re-election: A Catastrophic Scenario for Climate and the Environment?", **Prof. Çisil Sohodol from Bahçeşehir University** explores the global implications of Donald Trump's return to power on international climate policy, sustainable development, and multilateral environmental cooperation.

Prof. Sohodol examines how Trump's previous withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and his pro-fossil fuel stance pose a renewed threat to global climate goals. She highlights that the continuation of such policies could jeopardize international efforts to limit global warming to  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  — a critical threshold emphasized during **COP29**. The article references statements from **UN Secretary-General António Guterres**, who warned that every political decision now represents a choice between preserving the planet or accelerating disaster.

Addressing the economic and social dimensions of this shift, Prof. Sohodol notes that prioritizing short-term economic gains over environmental protection undermines the foundations of the **green economy**, risking setbacks in renewable energy investment and global sustainability targets. The piece also reflects on the surge of youth-led protests and activism following the election results, framing them as a renewed demand for climate justice and intergenerational accountability.

Through this perspective, the article underscores Bahçeşehir University's engagement in climate-focused academic dialogue and its commitment to advancing awareness on the interconnectedness of politics, sustainability, and global cooperation. By addressing these issues, the piece contributes to **SDG 13 (Climate Action)** through its call for urgent global mitigation efforts, **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** through the emphasis on renewable transition, and **SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)** by advocating for international solidarity in upholding the Paris Agreement.

Link: <a href="https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/trumpin-yeniden-secilmesi-iklim-krizi-ve-cevre-icin-felaket-senaryosu-mu/753606">https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/trumpin-yeniden-secilmesi-iklim-krizi-ve-cevre-icin-felaket-senaryosu-mu/753606</a>



Green Silence and Greenwashing: Two Challenges in Sustainability Communication Article by Prof. Ahu Ergen

On 4 November 2024, Prof. Ahu Ergen, faculty member at Bahçeşehir University, published the article "Green Silence and Greenwashing: Two Challenges in Sustainability Communication," examining the ethical dilemmas organizations face when communicating their sustainability efforts. The study highlights how misleading or absent communication—whether through exaggeration (greenwashing) or omission (green silence)—can undermine public trust and slow progress toward environmental and social goals.

Emphasizing the importance of transparency and accountability, the article calls for organizations to adopt measurable sustainability strategies, clear reporting standards, and meaningful stakeholder engagement. Through this approach, it reinforces the principles of SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by encouraging ethical corporate behavior, SDG 13 (Climate Action) through genuine climate communication, and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) by strengthening integrity and governance in sustainability reporting. By addressing these global challenges from an academic perspective, Bahçeşehir University contributes to shaping more transparent and responsible communication practices in alignment with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) and supports a culture of environmental honesty and institutional accountability.

Link: <a href="https://www.ekoiq.com/yesil-suskunluk-ve-yesil-aklama-iki-surdurulebilirlik-iletisimi-sorunu/">https://www.ekoiq.com/yesil-suskunluk-ve-yesil-aklama-iki-surdurulebilirlik-iletisimi-sorunu/</a>



#### The Planet's Alarm Bell: The Harsh Truth of 2024 Article by Prof. Çisil Sohodol

In the article "The Planet's Alarm Bell: The Harsh Truth of 2024", Prof. Çisil Sohodol, Faculty Member at Bahçeşehir University delivers a sobering reflection on what has been scientifically recorded as the hottest year in human history. Drawing on data from The Guardian and the EU Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), the article reveals that global temperatures in 2024 reached 1.6°C above pre-industrial levels, surpassing the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C threshold for the first time.

Prof. Sohodol emphasizes that this temperature milestone is not merely statistical — it represents a profound ecological, social, and economic turning point. From devastating floods in Valencia to hurricanes in the U.S., typhoons in the Philippines, and drought in the Amazon, she underscores that climate change has evolved from an environmental concern into a human survival crisis.

The article stresses that the worsening climate emergency demands immediate and collective action: phasing out fossil fuels, halting deforestation, and accelerating the transition to renewable energy systems, as part of a globally coordinated effort under the Paris Agreement. Prof. Sohodol highlights that without transparent implementation and political will, pledges made at recent UN Climate Conferences risk becoming empty promises.

Through her evidence-based narrative, the piece reflects Bahçeşehir University's commitment to scientific communication and sustainable transformation. It contributes directly to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by raising awareness of urgent mitigation and adaptation strategies; supports SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) through its call for renewable transitions; aligns with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by addressing resilience in urban systems; and reinforces SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by advocating for international cooperation to secure a liveable future for the next generations.

Link: <a href="https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/gezegenin-alarm-zili-2024un-aci-gercegi/760132#google\_vignette">https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/gezegenin-alarm-zili-2024un-aci-gercegi/760132#google\_vignette</a>



#### "The Silent Tears of the Climate Crisis" — Article by Prof. Çisil Sohodol

Published in Dünya Newspaper on 21 December 2024, the article "The Silent Tears of the Climate Crisis" by Prof. Çisil Sohodol, faculty member at Bahçeşehir University, delivers a compelling reflection on the accelerating climate disasters across Europe. Through examples such as the devastating floods in Valencia and widespread extreme weather events throughout the continent, the piece underscores that the climate crisis is not a distant threat but a present reality already reshaping lives and ecosystems.

Drawing on scientific insights, Prof. Sohodol highlights how human-induced factors—rising temperatures, altered jet streams, and weakened infrastructure—exacerbate the intensity of floods, storms, and droughts. Her article emphasizes the urgent need for collective global action ahead of COP29, calling on governments, institutions, and individuals to embrace climate responsibility through green energy transition, sustainable urban planning, and climate education.

This work embodies the university's ongoing commitment to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by amplifying public understanding of the climate emergency and promoting science-based awareness. It also supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) through the dissemination of accessible environmental knowledge, SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by highlighting urban resilience, and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through collaboration between academia, media, and global networks in shaping informed climate discourse.

Link: https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/iklim-krizinin-gozyaslari/757589



#### The Deadly Face of the Climate Crisis: Extreme Heat Could Triple Mortality Rates

In her article "The Deadly Face of the Climate Crisis: Extreme Heat Could Triple Mortality Rates" published in Dünya Newspaper on 24 August 2024, Prof. Çisil Sohodol from Bahçeşehir University sheds light on the alarming rise of heat-related deaths across Europe. Drawing from data published in The Lancet Public Health, she warns that if current climate policies remain unchanged, extreme temperatures could triple mortality rates by the end of the century.

Prof. Sohodol's analysis emphasizes that heat waves are no longer seasonal anomalies but recurring humanitarian and public health crises, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations such as the elderly, individuals with chronic illnesses, and communities in low-income regions. Beyond the direct health impacts, she explores the cascading consequences of climate change on public health systems, economic stability, and urban resilience.

By highlighting the interlinked dimensions of health, economy, and governance, the article aligns with the objectives of SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). It underscores the urgent need for proactive climate adaptation policies, sustainable urban design, and community-based resilience planning. Additionally, through her evidence-based narrative, Prof. Sohodol reinforces the role of academia and journalism in advancing SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by connecting scientific knowledge with societal awareness and decision-making.

Link: <a href="https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/iklim-krizinin-korkunc-yuzu-asiri-sicakliklar-olumleri-uc-katina-cikarabilir/742996">https://www.dunya.com/kose-yazisi/iklim-krizinin-korkunc-yuzu-asiri-sicakliklar-olumleri-uc-katina-cikarabilir/742996</a>



#### 39-Reinterpreting Crisis: Climate Change Storytelling at COP29 by Prof. Çisil Sohodol

Prof. Çisil Sohodol, Director of CIFAL Istanbul and faculty member at Bahçeşehir University, authored an article titled "Reinterpreting Crisis" for the 56th issue of Brand Map Magazine, offering insightful reflections on her observations at COP29. The article focuses on the intersection of climate communication, leadership, and strategic narrative design, emphasizing how storytelling can become a transformative tool in addressing the global climate emergency.

Prof. Sohodol discusses how communicators and decision-makers can reinterpret crisis narratives beyond alarmism—transforming them into messages that inspire collective responsibility, climate literacy, and behavioral change. By highlighting the ethical dimension of sustainability communication, she advocates for a balance between data-driven realism and human-centered storytelling that fosters empathy and action.

This work reflects Bahçeşehir University's commitment to integrating sustainability and communication within academic and professional domains. It contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by strengthening public engagement with the realities of the climate crisis, to SDG 4 (Quality Education) by advancing environmental awareness and communication literacy, and to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering collaboration among academia, media, and global networks to amplify the impact of climate storytelling.

Link: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/DDpKC1mgKrt/">https://www.instagram.com/p/DDpKC1mgKrt/</a>



"Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplants!" — Climate Change and Everyday Sustainability by Prof. Çisil Sohodol

In her thought-provoking article titled "Tomatoes, Peppers, Eggplants!", 23 March, 2023, Prof. Çisil Sohodol from Bahçeşehir University draws attention to the alarming impact of climate change on food security and daily life through a vivid, relatable narrative inspired by Barış Manço's iconic song.

Prof. Sohodol explains that due to extreme weather events in Spain and North Africa—the regions supplying much of Europe's fresh produce—harvests of tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, lettuce, and eggplants have drastically declined. Prolonged droughts, unseasonable cold spells, and destructive floods have led to major supply shortages. The result: supermarkets in the UK, such as Tesco and Asda, now ration basic vegetables, symbolizing how climate change has reached the very center of daily consumption.

The article warns that this is not a distant problem, but a sign that "our world is darkening," as Manço's lyrics foresaw. Prof. Sohodol calls on individuals to recognize their consumer power and act responsibly to reduce their carbon footprint—through choices like minimizing waste, supporting sustainable brands, and influencing institutional behavior.

Highlighting innovative corporate sustainability initiatives, she points to Yapı Kredi's "STEP – Sustainable Choice Program", which helps individuals integrate eco-conscious decisions into everyday financial transactions, and Enerjisa Üretim's e-mail deletion campaign, which raises awareness about digital carbon footprints. These small but tangible actions, she notes, embody the idea that "a single choice can change everything."

Through this article, Bahçeşehir University's academic voice reinforces the message that combating the climate crisis requires not only international policy but also everyday engagement. The piece aligns with SDG 13 (Climate Action) by promoting behavioral change to mitigate environmental degradation, and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by emphasizing sustainable lifestyle practices and institutional accountability.



# SDG 13 Related Courses Opened in 2024 at Bahçeşehir University -Fall and Spring Semesters

The SDG13-related courses offered at Bahçeşehir University during the 2024 Fall and Spring semesters reflect the university's strong commitment to advancing sustainability-focused education and integrating climate action across academic disciplines. Covering diverse themes such as climate change, sustainable energy, environmental responsibility, green marketing, sustainable production and consumption, logistics, nutrition, and education for sustainable development, these courses provide a comprehensive learning framework that aligns with the principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Through an interdisciplinary approach, the programs contribute to SDG 4 (Quality Education) by embedding sustainability and climate literacy into higher education; address SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) by exploring energy efficiency and renewable systems; and support SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) by promoting innovation and sustainable industrial practices. In addition, the courses directly foster the objectives of SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) by equipping students with the knowledge and practical skills to design sustainable solutions, apply circular economy principles, and develop eco-friendly strategies to mitigate climate impacts.

Some courses are also supported by certificate programmes, enhancing professional capacity in sustainability leadership and stakeholder engagement—further reflecting Bahçeşehir University's dedication to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through collaborative learning and international educational partnerships.

The SDG13 Related Courses Opened in 2024 at BAU Fall and Spring Semesters are listed in the table below.

Link: https://akts.bau.edu.tr/

# SDG 13 Related Courses Opened in 2024 at Bahçeşehir University -Fall and Spring Semesters

#### Table of Courses Info:

| <b>Course Code</b> | Course Title                             | Semester | Program Level | Language | Course Type           | Delivery Mode | Theory | Practice | Credit | ECTS |
|--------------------|--|----------|---------------|----------|-----------------------|---------------|--------|----------|--------|------|
| MAR5104            | Sustainable Marketing                    | Fall     | Graduate      | English  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 8    |
| GEP0635            | Climate Change Communication             | Spring   | Undergraduate | English  | General Elective      | Online        | 3      | 0        | 3      | 5    |
| GEP0642            | Climate Change Literacy                  | Spring   | Undergraduate | English  | General Elective      | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 5    |
| LOG4943            | Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chains  | Fall     | Undergraduate | English  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 4    |
| IMT5438            | HVAC Design                              | Spring   | Graduate      | Turkish  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 12   |
| GEP0643            | Energy from a Sustainability Perspective | Fall     | Undergraduate | English  | General Elective      | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 5    |
| IB3010             | Sustainable Marketing                    | Spring   | Undergraduate | English  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 6    |
| BES4079            | Sustainable Nutrition                    | Spring   | Undergraduate | Turkish  | Departmental Elective | Hybrid        | 2      | 0        | 2      | 6    |
| EDS1218            | Sustainable Development and Education    | Spring   | Undergraduate | English  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 2      | 0        | 2      | 4    |
| ESE5502            | Sustainable Energy Systems               | Fall     | Graduate      | English  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 8    |
| GEP0633            | Environment and Sustainable Development  | Spring   | Undergraduate | English  | General Elective      | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 5    |
| NMD4102            | Political Economy of Media               | Fall     | Undergraduate | English  | Departmental Elective | Face-to-face  | 3      | 0        | 3      | 5    |

### Certificate Sample:



