BAU BAHÇEŞEHİR UNIVERSITY

SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION



2024-2025

BAU AT A GLANCE

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 5 universities (Istanbul, Washington D.C., Berlin, Cyprus, Batumi), 5 liaison offices (BAU Global Azerbaijan Jordan, Uzbekistan, Mongolia, Pakistan) and 5 language schools.

Bahçeşehir University (BAU) is committed to advancing the wellbeing of local and global communities by integrating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its institutional governance, operations, organisational culture, educational programmes, academic research and stakeholder partnerships. Through this integrated approach, BAU seeks to align its academic mission and institutional practices with sustainable development priorities and contribute to positive societal change.

Bringing together staff, students and alumni, BAU promotes a university community guided by ethical conduct, social responsibility and global citizenship. The University encourages its members to recognise their responsibilities towards one another, wider society and the environment, and to apply their knowledge and skills to building a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable future.

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 1000-12000 band in the World University Rankings, 59th in the Impact Rankings and the 251-300 in the Asia University Rankings 2026. Also, BAU is ranked as the top university in Türkiye.

The university continuously increases its standing in categories related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. As of 2026, BAU holds the following standings in the THE Impact Rankings;

- 2nd in Gender Equality
- 6 th in Quality Education
- 77 th in Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 89 th in Partnership for the Goals
- Ranks between 101-200 in Reducing Inequalities
- Ranks between 201-300 in Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

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.

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 the 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 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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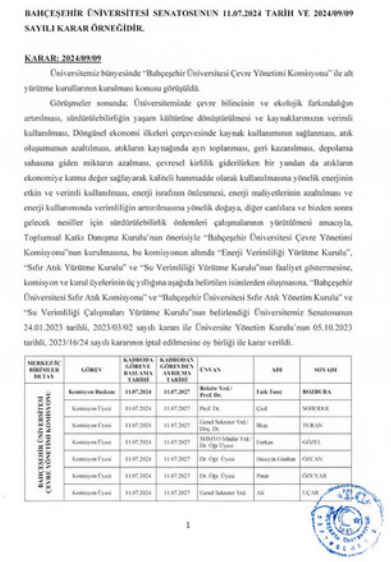

BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ SENATOSUNUN 11.07.2024 TARİH VE 2024/09/09 SAYILI KARAR ÖRNEĞİDİR.

KARAR: 2024/09/09

Üniversitemiz bünyesinde "Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Çevre Yönetimi Komisyonu" ile alt yürütme kurullarının kurulması konusu görüşüldü.

Görüşmeler sonunda: Üniversitemizde çevre bilincinin ve ekolojik farkındalığın artırılması, sürdürülebilirliğin yaşam kültürüne dönüştürülmesi ve kaynaklarımızın verimli kullanılması, Döngüsel ekonomi ilkeleri çerçevesinde kaynak kullanımının sağlanması, atık oluşumunun azaltılması, atıkların kaynağında ayrı toplanması, geri kazanılması, depolama sahasına giden miktarın azalması, çevresel kirlilik giderilirken bir yandan da atıkların ekonomiye katma değer sağlayarak kaliteli hammadde olarak kullanılmasına yönelik enerjinin etkin ve verimli kullanılması, enerji israfının önlenmesi, enerji maliyetlerinin azaltılması ve enerji kullanımında verimliliğin artırılmasına yönelik doğaya, diğer canlılara ve bizden sonra gelecek nesiller için sürdürülebilirlik önlemleri çalışmalarının yürütülmesi amacıyla, Toplumsal Katkı Danışma Kurulu'nun önerisiyle "Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Çevre Yönetimi Komisyonu"nun kurulmasına, bu komisyonun altında "Enerji Verimliliği Yürütme Kurulu", "Sıfır Atık Yürütme Kurulu" ve "Su Verimliliği Yürütme Kurulu"nun faaliyet göstermesine, komisyon ve kurul üyelerinin üç yıllığına aşağıda belirtilen isimlerden oluşmasına, "Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Sıfır Atık Komisyonu" ve "Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi Sıfır Atık Yönetim Kurulu" ve "Su Verimliliği Çalışmaları Yürütme Kurulu"nun belirlendiği Üniversitemiz Senatosunun 24.01.2023 tarihli, 2023/03/02 sayılı kararı ile Üniversite Yönetim Kurulu'nun 05.10.2023 tarihli, 2023/16/24 sayılı kararının iptal edilmesine oy birliği ile karar verildi.

MERKEZ/BİRİM BİRİMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADROYA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHİ	ÜNVAN	ADI	SOYADI
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ ÇEVRE YÖNETİMİ KOMİSYONU	Komisyon Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Rektör Yrd./ Prof. Dr.	Faik Tunç	BOZBURA
	Komisyon Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Prof. Dr.	Çisil	SOMDEDE
	Komisyon Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Genel Sekreter Yrd./ Doç. Dr.	İlkay	TURAN
	Komisyon Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	MESTO Müdür Yrd./ Dr. Öğr. Üyesi	Turhan	GÖZEL
	Komisyon Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Dr. Öğr. Üyesi	Hasçelik Gürhan	ÖZCAN
	Komisyon Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Dr. Öğr. Üyesi	Pınar	ÖZYAR
	Komisyon Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Genel Sekreter Yrd.	Ali	UCAR

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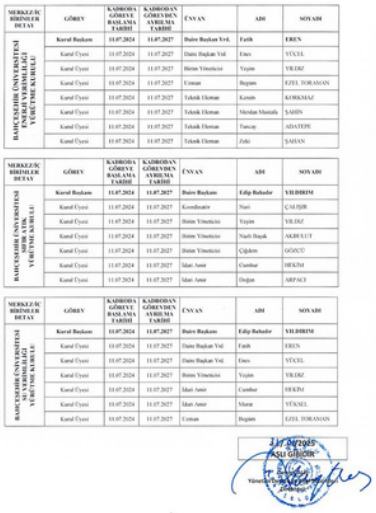

MERKEZ/BİRİM BİRİMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADROYA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHİ	ÜNVAN	ADI	SOYADI
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ ATIK YÖNETİM KURULU	Kurul Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkanı Yrd.	Fatih	ERSEN
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkan Yrd.	Emre	YÜCEL
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yöneticisi	Yeşim	YILDIZ
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Uzman	Begüm	EZEL TORAMAN
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Kerem	KORKMAZ
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Meridan Mustafa	ŞAHİN
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Tuncay	ADATEPE
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Zeki	ŞAHAN

MERKEZ/BİRİM BİRİMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADROYA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHİ	ÜNVAN	ADI	SOYADI
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ ATIK YÖNETİM KURULU	Kurul Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkanı	Edip Bahadır	YILDIRIM
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Koordinatör	Nuri	ÇALIŞIR
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yöneticisi	Yeşim	YILDIZ
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yöneticisi	Nazlı Başak	AKBULUT
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yöneticisi	Çiğdem	GÖNÜÇ
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Cumhur	HEKİM
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Doğan	ARPACI

MERKEZ/BİRİM BİRİMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADROYA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHİ	ÜNVAN	ADI	SOYADI
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ ATIK YÖNETİM KURULU	Kurul Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkanı	Edip Bahadır	YILDIRIM
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkan Yrd.	Fatih	ERSEN
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkan Yrd.	Emre	YÜCEL
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yöneticisi	Yeşim	YILDIZ
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Cumhur	HEKİM
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Murat	YÜKSEL
	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Uzman	Begüm	EZEL TORAMAN

2

Bahçeşehir University Zero Waste Certifications

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.

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T.C.
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ REKTÖRLÜĞÜ
Mekan ve Donatım Birimi

Sayı : E-36229606-812-63534
Konu : Sıfır Atık Belgeleri Hk.

GENEL SEKRETERLİK MAKAMINA

Sıfır Atık Yürütme Kurulu olarak, Çevre Ajansının istemiş olduğu raporların hazırlanması, sunulması ve üniversitemizde gerçekleştirilen teknik gezi için mekanların hazırlanması işleri iş bölümü ile başarılı bir şekilde gerçekleştirilmiştir.

Ayrıca;

- Üniversitemiz eğitim faaliyeti bulunan tüm farklı adreslerdeki binaları için EÇBS sistemine girişleri yapılmış, İdari amirler sistem üzerinde yetkilendirilmiş,
- Girişi yapılan tüm adresler için Sıfır Atık Belge Başvurusunda bulunulmuş,
- Belge başvurusu denetlemeleri öncesinde sıfır atıkla ilgili tüm hazırlıklar yürütülmüş, eksik malzemeler tespit ve tedarik edilmiş,
- Denetleme sonrasında talep edilen düzeltmeler/değişiklikler/eksiklerin giderilmesi işlemleri takip edilmiş ve sonuçlandırılmış,
- Akademik ve idari personele Sıfır Atık Eğitimi verilmiş, eğitimle ilgili video hazırlanmış ve üniversite alanına yüklenmiş,
- Kurum içi yazışmalar yürütülmüş, duş hizmetler için bilgilendirme mailleri hazırlanmış ve muhataplarına gönderilmiştir.

Üniversitemizin tüm kampüs ve binalarına Temel Seviyede Sıfır Atık Belgesi başarıyla alınmıştır. Yürütme Kurulumuz tüm bu süreçlerden kampüslerin yöneticileri başta olmak üzere, Destek Hizmetleri Daire Başkanlığına bağlı İdari amirler ve onların aracılığıyla da idari personellerden destek almıştır.

Sıfır Atık Belgesi alınmış kampüs ve kapsadığı bloklar ile belgenin no ve tarih bilgileri aşağıda listelenmiştir. Sıfır Atık Belgeleri ayrıca ekte sunulmuştur.

S.No	Kampüsler	Kapsadığı Bloklar	Sıfır Atık Belge No	Verildiği Tarih	Son Geçerlilik Tarihi
1	Balmumcu Kampüs	Ana Blok	TS/34/B2/6/5795.07.2023	5.07.2023	5.07.2028
2	Galata Kampüs	Ana Blok	TS/34/B2/6/58112.07.2023	12.07.2023	12.07.2028
3	Göztepe Kampüs	A ve B Blok	TS/34/B2/6/57424.04.2023	24.04.2023	24.04.2028
4	Güney Kampüs	A, B, C, D, G, N, O	TS/34/B2/6/5783.07.2023	3.07.2023	3.07.2028
5	Güney Kampüs	F Blok - Hukuk Fakültesi Binası	TS/34/B2/6/58418.07.2023	18.07.2023	18.07.2028
6	Güney Kampüs	Uzaktan Eğitim Binası	TS/34/B2/6/5805.07.2023	5.07.2023	5.07.2028
7	Galata Kampüs	İdare Binası	TS/34/B3/6/18824.07.2023	24.07.2023	24.07.2028
8	Kemerburgaz Kampüs	Tüm Bloklar, Girişimcilik Merkezi, Yurtlar ve Misafirhane Bloğu	TS/34/B2/6/5879.08.2023	9.08.2023	9.08.2028
9	Kuzey Kampüs	A,B ve C Blok	TS/34/B2/6/57321.03.2023	21.03.2023	21.03.2028
10	Pera Kampüs	Ana Blok	TS/34/B2/6/58524.07.2023	24.07.2023	24.07.2028

Bilgilerinize arz ederim.

Saygılarımla.

Ali UÇAR
Daire Başkanı Vekili

Ek:Tüm Kampüsler Sıfır Atık Belgeleri (10 adet)



T.C. İSTANBUL VALİLİĞİ ÇEVRE,ŞEHİRCİLİK VE İKLİM DEĞİŞİKLİĞİ İL MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ

SIFIR ATIK BELGESİ

(Temel Seviye)

Belge No: TS/34/B2/6/581 Tarih: 12/07/2023

Adı: BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ GALATA KAMPÜSÜ
Adresi: İSTANBUL,MÜEYYETZADE Mahallesi, KEMERALTI CADDE, No: 24 A., BEYOĞLU,Türkiye
Vergi No: 1310162959
Türü: Bina/Yerleşke

12/07/2019 tarihli ve 30829 sayılı Resmi Gazetede yayımlanarak yürürlüğe giren Sıfır Atık Yönetmeliğ'nce Sıfır Atık Yönetim Sistemi'ni kurarak Sıfır Atık Belgesi'ni almaya hak kazanmıştır.

Hacı Mehmet GÜNER
Çevre, Şehircilik ve İklim Değişikliği İl Müdürü

Belge Son Geçerlilik Tarihi: 12/07/2028

E-İMZALIDIR



T.C. İSTANBUL VALİLİĞİ ÇEVRE,ŞEHİRCİLİK VE İKLİM DEĞİŞİKLİĞİ İL MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ

SIFIR ATIK BELGESİ

(Temel Seviye)

Belge No: TS/34/B2/6/578 Tarih: 03/07/2023

Adı: Bahçeşehir Üniversitesi- Güney Kampüs
Adresi: İSTANBUL,YILDIZ Mahallesi, OSMAN PAŞA MEKTEBİ ÇIKMAZI SOKAK, No: 4-1, BEŞİKTAŞ,Türkiye
Vergi No: 1310162959
Türü: Bina/Yerleşke

12/07/2019 tarihli ve 30829 sayılı Resmi Gazetede yayımlanarak yürürlüğe giren Sıfır Atık Yönetmeliğ'nce Sıfır Atık Yönetim Sistemi'ni kurarak Sıfır Atık Belgesi'ni almaya hak kazanmıştır.

Hacı Mehmet GÜNER
Çevre, Şehircilik ve İklim Değişikliği İl Müdürü

Belge Son Geçerlilik Tarihi: 03/07/2028

E-İMZALIDIR



T.C. İSTANBUL VALİLİĞİ ÇEVRE,ŞEHİRCİLİK VE İKLİM DEĞİŞİKLİĞİ İL MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ

SIFIR ATIK BELGESİ

(Temel Seviye)

Belge No: TS/34/B2/6/574 Tarih: 24/04/2023

Adı: BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ GÖZTEPE KAMPÜSÜ
Adresi: İSTANBUL,SAHRAYICEDİT Mahallesi, BATMAN SOKAK, No: 60 -68-2, KADIKÖY,Türkiye
Vergi No: 1310162959
Türü: Bina/Yerleşke

12/07/2019 tarihli ve 30829 sayılı Resmi Gazetede yayımlanarak yürürlüğe giren Sıfır Atık Yönetmeliğ'nce Sıfır Atık Yönetim Sistemi'ni kurarak Sıfır Atık Belgesi'ni almaya hak kazanmıştır.

Hacı Mehmet GÜNER
Çevre, Şehircilik ve İklim Değişikliği İl Müdürü

Belge Son Geçerlilik Tarihi: 24/04/2028

E-İMZALIDIR



T.C. İSTANBUL VALİLİĞİ ÇEVRE,ŞEHİRCİLİK VE İKLİM DEĞİŞİKLİĞİ İL MÜDÜRLÜĞÜ

SIFIR ATIK BELGESİ

(Temel Seviye)

Belge No: TS/34/B2/6/579 Tarih: 05/07/2023

Adı: BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ BALMUMCU BİNASI
Adresi: GAYRETTEPE Mahallesi, BARBAROS BULVAR, No: 153 /1-, BEŞİKTAŞ, İSTANBUL, Türkiye
Vergi No: 1310162959
Türü: Bina/Yerleşke

12/07/2019 tarihli ve 30829 sayılı Resmi Gazetede yayımlanarak yürürlüğe giren Sıfır Atık Yönetmeliğ'nce Sıfır Atık Yönetim Sistemi'ni kurarak Sıfır Atık Belgesi'ni almaya hak kazanmıştır.

Hacı Mehmet GÜNER
Çevre, Şehircilik ve İklim Değişikliği İl Müdürü

Belge Son Geçerlilik Tarihi: 05/07/2028

E-İMZALIDIR

SDG 13 Related Courses Opened in 2024-2025 Academic Year at Bahçeşehir University

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.

ode	Course Title	Semester	Program Level	Language	Course Type	Delivery Mode	Theory	Practice	Credit
	Sustainable Marketing	Fall	Graduate	English	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Climate Change Communication	Spring	Undergraduate	English	General Elective	Online	3	0	3
	Climate Change Literacy	Spring	Undergraduate	English	General Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chains	Fall	Undergraduate	English	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	HVAC Design	Spring	Graduate	Turkish	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Energy from a Sustainability Perspective	Fall	Undergraduate	English	General Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Sustainable Marketing	Spring	Undergraduate	English	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Sustainable Nutrition	Spring	Undergraduate	Turkish	Departmental Elective	Hybrid	2	0	2
	Sustainable Development and Education	Spring	Undergraduate	English	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	2	0	2
	Sustainable Energy Systems	Fall	Graduate	English	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Environment and Sustainable Development	Spring	Undergraduate	English	General Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3
	Political Economy of Media	Fall	Undergraduate	English	Departmental Elective	Face-to-face	3	0	3

Certificate Sample:



BAU Activities and Initiatives Supporting SDG 13: Climate Action

The Key to Improving Your Business, Planet, and Society: Corporate Sustainability and ESG





Since 2024, ss part of the Environmental, Social, and Economic Sustainability Certificate Program offered through BAUGO, Bahçeşehir University continues to empower professionals with the knowledge and tools to integrate sustainability principles into business strategies. The training session titled "The Key to Improving Your Business, Planet, and Society: Corporate Sustainability and ESG", led by Prof. Dr. Çisil Sohodol, Director of CIFAL Istanbul and Professor at BAU Faculty of Communication, explored how companies can adopt a holistic approach that balances environmental responsibility, social impact, and ethical governance.

Throughout the session, participants examined the intersection of ESG practices and the Sustainable Development Goals, learning how corporate actions can contribute to global sustainability targets. Special attention was given to the role of environmental accountability, particularly in managing resources efficiently and reducing ecological footprints. The discussion underscored how effective water management, pollution prevention, and sustainable production cycles are becoming integral elements of corporate sustainability strategies.

By emphasizing responsible governance and data-driven ESG implementation, the program encouraged participants to transform their organizations into drivers of positive change, advancing both business resilience and environmental well-being. This initiative demonstrates Bahçeşehir University's ongoing commitment to equipping individuals and institutions with the competencies necessary to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through practical and impactful learning experiences.

By fostering environmental accountability, transparent governance, and ethical leadership, the programme contributes primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by strengthening participants' capacity to integrate climate considerations into corporate strategies and decision-making. Its emphasis on resource efficiency, reduced ecological footprints and data-driven ESG practices

helps professionals connect environmental responsibilities with practical approaches to climate change mitigation and business resilience. The programme also supports SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth and SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production through responsible business practices and sustainable resource use.

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



In the 2024-2025 academic year, 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, Editor-in-Chief of EkoIQ, offered analytical insights into Türkiye's evolving climate policy landscape, highlighting both progress and challenges in meeting international commitments.

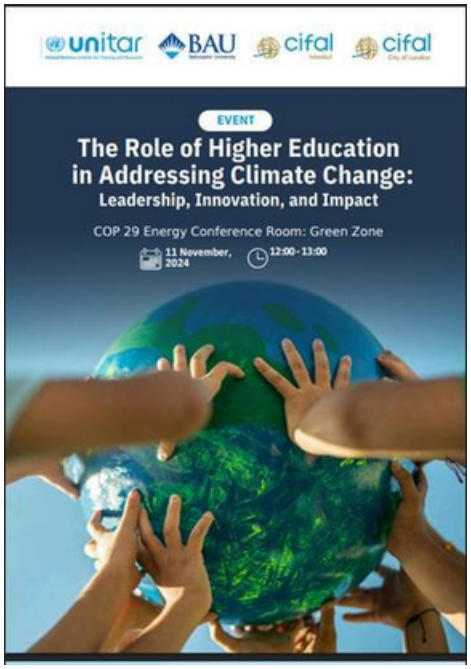
Through this dialogue, participants placed climate change mitigation at the centre of the discussion, emphasizing the need for a realistic roadmap to reduce fossil fuel dependence, expand renewable energy investments and accelerate the transition towards a low-carbon economy. The shared commitment to cooperation between academia, civil society and the

private sector highlighted the importance of coordinated action in turning climate objectives into evidence-based policies and practical emissions-reduction measures.

The roundtable contributed directly to SDG 13: Climate Action by focusing on the policy choices, institutional cooperation and public awareness needed to address climate change. Discussions connected long-term climate commitments with implementation priorities, emphasizing that effective climate governance requires credible transition planning, informed participation and sustained cooperation. Through this focus, the event strengthened dialogue on how national policies and cross-sector efforts can advance climate mitigation and resilience.



Special Session at COP29: Bahçeşehir University and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)- Advancing Climate Policy, Education, and Global Best Practices



In the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.

In alignment with UNITAR's global learning objectives, the session highlighted best practices and comparative approaches to integrating climate change education into higher education, fostering capacity-building initiatives for young leaders, educators, and decision-makers. Expected outcomes included the creation of cross-regional networks between universities, NGOs, and government institutions; the sharing of case studies and innovative models; and the development of policy frameworks to accelerate sustainable transformation.

Representing Türkiye's academic leadership on the global stage, Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, Rector of Bahçeşehir University, and Prof. Dr. 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 bringing higher education's role in addressing climate change directly into the COP29 dialogue, the session placed SDG 13: Climate Action at the centre of its purpose. It highlighted how universities can translate scientific knowledge into climate-informed policies, strengthen education on mitigation and adaptation, and build the institutional and societal capacity needed to respond to the climate crisis. Connecting climate literacy, research-driven policy engagement and international knowledge exchange, the session demonstrated Bahçeşehir University's commitment to advancing climate action through its educational mission and global partnerships. Its contributions to SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals reinforced this central climate focus by supporting the skills and cooperation needed to turn climate commitments into action.



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





Held In the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.

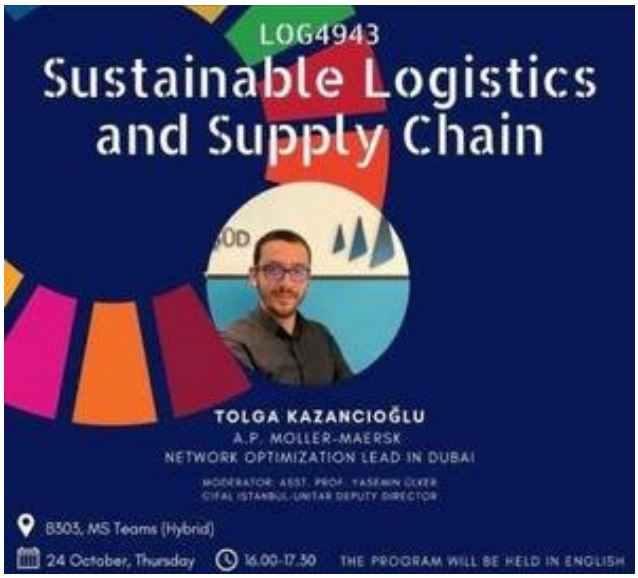
The session convened BAU academics and CIFAL Istanbul representatives from various disciplines conducting sustainability-oriented research to develop a shared vision for integrating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across education, research, and community engagement. Discussions focused on strengthening 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.

Sustainable Logistics and Supply Chain Open Panel



In the 2024-2025 academic year, Bahçeşehir University, in collaboration with CIFAL Istanbul and UNITAR, organised a panel examining how sustainable logistics and supply chain management can contribute to climate change mitigation. Discussions focused on reducing carbon emissions, improving resource efficiency and exploring innovative logistics solutions that support the transition towards lower-emission operations.

Held as a public event open to external participants, the panel extended learning on climate-conscious logistics beyond the university community. By connecting operational practices with their carbon implications, the session encouraged participants to consider how logistics and supply chain decisions can help reduce the climate impact of production and distribution.

The panel contributed primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by strengthening awareness of emissions-reduction opportunities within logistics and supply chains. Through academic engagement and industry dialogue, it connected climate mitigation objectives with practical sectoral decisions, supporting understanding of how businesses can incorporate climate responsibilities into their operations. Its public educational format also supported SDG 4: Quality Education, while its focus on innovation and resource efficiency complemented SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure and SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.

CIFAL Istanbul Visit to the Earthquake Zone: Advancing Sustainable Recovery and Climate Awareness





During the 2024-2025 academic year,, the Bahçeşehir University's CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR team organized a meaningful educational event in Battalgazi, Malatya titled "Heroes of Nature: Raising Awareness on Sustainability," offering support and inspiration to children and their parents affected by the February 6 earthquakes.

During the seminar, CIFAL Istanbul personnel introduced participants to the mission and values of the United Nations, explaining how individuals can actively contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The speakers addressed key topics such as clean water conservation, renewable energy, sustainable cities, climate action, and the protection of natural ecosystems. Presentations focused particularly on waste reduction and the long-term benefits of adopting eco-friendly lifestyles within families and communities. At the conclusion of the event, the CIFAL Istanbul team presented books to the participating children and joined them in a tote bag painting workshop, reinforcing messages of creativity, sustainability, and collective responsibility for the environment. The initiative reflected Bahçeşehir University's dedication to providing quality education beyond its own campus, extending academic expertise to external learning environments.

The following day, on 15 December, the BAU CIFAL Istanbul team, held a series of official meetings with local authorities in Malatya, one of the provinces most affected by the earthquakes of February 6, to discuss sustainable reconstruction and long-term recovery strategies that integrate environmental awareness into rebuilding efforts.

The initiative contributed to SDG 13: Climate Action by bringing climate awareness and practical environmental learning to children and families in an earthquake-affected community. By addressing renewable energy, waste reduction, resource conservation and eco-friendly lifestyles, the educational activities helped participants connect everyday choices with broader climate responsibilities. Complementing this outreach, discussions with local authorities provided an opportunity to consider environmental priorities within long-term recovery and

reconstruction, reinforcing the importance of incorporating climate awareness into community development.

By engaging directly with local administrations and delivering educational activities on-site, Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul continues to expand the social impact of higher education — supporting sustainable recovery and promoting quality learning opportunities in regions most in need.





CIFAL Istanbul Team Participation to Reforestation Efforts in Istanbul

In the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.





TÜBİTAK 4007 Giresun Science Festival: “Green Technology – Scientific Solutions for a Sustainable Future”

Under the coordination of the Giresun Provincial Directorate of National Education and in partnership with Giresun Municipality, Giresun University, and Bahçeşehir University, the TÜBİTAK 4007 Science Festival themed “Green Technology: Scientific Solutions for a Sustainable Future” was held during the 2024-2025 academic year in Giresun. The event, which attracted strong participation from students, educators, and the local community, featured 23 workshops, two conferences, one panel, and one scientific public lecture focused on the integration of technology, clean energy, and environmental responsibility.

With the active contribution of academics from Bahçeşehir University, the festival encouraged scientific inquiry and awareness of sustainable practices, particularly in areas related to renewable energy, energy efficiency, and environmentally friendly innovation. By engaging the public in interactive sessions and research-based discussions, the initiative helped strengthen community understanding of energy-conscious solutions to environmental challenges and fostered a mindset supportive of sustainable development.

The festival contributed to SDG 13: Climate Action by expanding public access to scientific learning on renewable energy, energy efficiency and green technologies relevant to climate change mitigation. Through interactive workshops and discussions, it helped students, educators and community members connect energy choices and technological innovation with opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Bahçeşehir University’s academic contribution supported climate awareness beyond the campus, strengthening understanding of how science and technology can inform practical responses to the climate crisis.



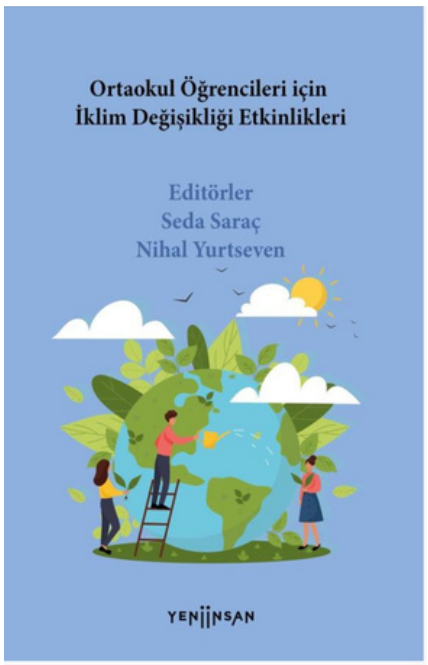


Educating Climate-Conscious Generations: BAU Academicians Publish “Climate Change Activities for Middle School Students”

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 during the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.

The publication contributes primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by equipping educators with practical resources to strengthen climate change education and young learners’ understanding of climate risks and responses. By translating climate science into inquiry-based classroom activities, it supports the knowledge, critical thinking and decision-making skills students need to engage with mitigation and adaptation. This contribution reflects Bahçeşehir University’s commitment to advancing climate literacy through academic expertise, with complementary support for SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production through accessible teaching resources and environmental responsibility.



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



During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.

The programme contributes primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by strengthening understanding of the climate crisis, its future impacts and the importance of informed, collective responses. Its focus on climate, carbon and justice helps learners examine the connections between human activity, climate risks and unequal vulnerabilities, while encouraging reflection on adaptation and resilience. Through BAUGO’s flexible learning format, Bahçeşehir University advances climate literacy as a lifelong learning priority, equipping participants with scientific perspectives to engage with climate challenges. The programme also offers complementary support for SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, and SDG 15: Life on Land through its educational approach and attention to ecological responsibility.

Creative Climate Action: BAU Young TEMA Student Club Autumn Workshop



During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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





During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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" During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.





Empowering Climate Literacy: Sustainability School – Climate Change Training Programme



In the 2024-2025 academic year, 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 climate awareness can be embedded in business strategies and decision-making, placing SDG 13: Climate Action at the centre of the programme. By connecting the scientific foundations of climate change with environmental justice, corporate responsibility and climate communication, the training strengthened participants' understanding of how organisations can respond to the climate crisis and support mitigation efforts. The collaboration between Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul – UNITAR and FLO Academy connected climate knowledge with professional practice, encouraging informed action within organisations. The programme also supported SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 12:

Responsible Consumption and Production, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through climate-focused learning, sustainable business practices and cross-sector cooperation.





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

During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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. Itır 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 contributed primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by highlighting how employee education, corporate engagement and sustainability reporting can strengthen organisational awareness and accountability for climate responsibilities. Building on the FLO Sustainability School's reach of more than 8,000 employees, the event connected environmental learning with the private sector's role in climate action, emphasizing the importance of embedding climate considerations into corporate culture and communicating progress transparently. The partnership between Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR and FLO Group demonstrated how education and business leadership can support sustained engagement with climate challenges. Complementary contributions included SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through responsible business practices, innovation and cross-sector cooperation.



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



During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.

The study placed SDG 13: Climate Action at the centre of its examination of industrial symbiosis, sustainable supply chains and integrated waste management. By exploring how circular resource use can reduce carbon emissions and improve energy and raw material efficiency, it highlighted practical pathways towards lower-emission production systems. Sharing this research through the European COST Network supported international knowledge exchange on integrating climate mitigation into industrial practices and supply chain decisions. The work also contributed to SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through sustainable industrial innovation, resource efficiency and cross-border academic cooperation.

Empowering Future Generations: Darüşşafaka High School Students Career Development Programme – Collaboration Between Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul–UNITAR, CO-OP, and Darüşşafaka Society





1	CO-OP Programme Introduction – The Business World and Youth: Current 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

Originally launched in 2023, the program continued in the 2024-2025 Academic Year. The High School Students Career Development Programme has been led by Bahçeşehir University as a part of its CO-OP Responsibility initiative. The programme embodies Bahçeşehir University's commitment to ensuring equal opportunities in education and expanding access to quality learning experiences beyond the university campus.

Through interactive sessions such as "Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation," "Sustainability and the Future of Work," "Technology and Creativity," and "Cybersecurity and Digital Ethics," participants explored how innovation, ethics, and environmental responsibility shape modern professions. The program encouraged students to use technology as a means to create positive social and environmental impact, rather than merely as a career instrument.

By integrating personal development with global awareness, the initiative fostered the values of sustainability, inclusion, and lifelong learning, exemplifying the power of multi-stakeholder collaboration in education. Through this partnership between academia, international organizations, and a leading educational foundation, the program advanced SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), and SDG 13 (Climate Action)—while embodying SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through its collective commitment to empowering future generations.





Seminar: “Sustainability and Climate Change from the UN Perspective” – Strengthening Private Sector Capacity for Climate Action



During the 2024-2025 academic year, 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).

BAUGO Course: “The Role of Your Business for a Sustainable Future: Environmental and Social Responsibilities”



The 74-minute online training session “The Role of Your Business for a Sustainable Future: Environmental and Social Responsibilities” led by Prof. Dr. Ebru Şule Canan Sokullu in the 2024-2025 academic year, explored the essential role that businesses play in achieving a sustainable and equitable future. The course guided participants through the evolution of sustainability concepts, the foundations of sustainable development, and the significance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in shaping modern corporate responsibility.

Throughout the program, attendees examined the historical trajectory from the Millennium Development Goals to the 2030 Agenda, delving into key topics such as social development, environmental and economic sustainability, and partnerships for progress. The training emphasized that sustainability is not merely an environmental concern but an integrated approach that requires the active participation of the private sector and individuals alike. By highlighting how responsible business conduct and inclusive growth can foster long-term productivity, innovation, and resilience, the program encouraged participants to contribute to a fair and sustainable economic ecosystem.

Bahçeşehir University remains dedicated to advancing sustainability education that empowers individuals and organizations to align their strategies with global development priorities. Through initiatives such as this course, the university strengthens its commitment to nurturing responsible leaders and promoting sustainable business models that support economic vitality while ensuring environmental stewardship and social well-being.
https://baugo.online/course/surdurulebilir-gelecek-icin-isletmenizin-rolu-cevresel-ve-sosyal-sorumluluklar



Climate Change Summit: The Climate Crisis as a Sustainability Issue

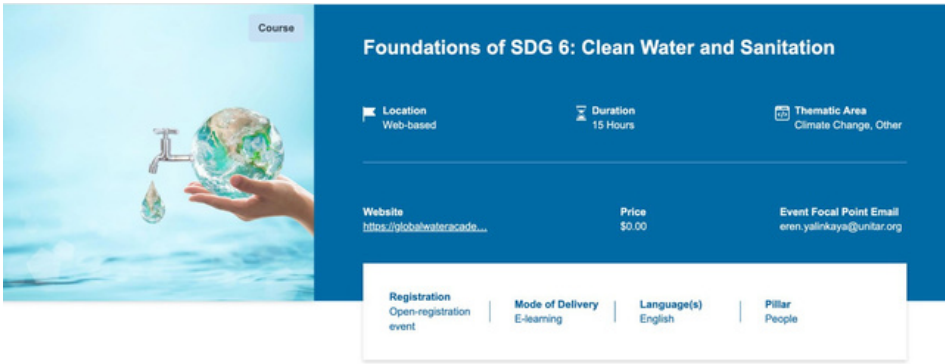


During the 2024-2025 academic year, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University (BAU) jointly organized the "Climate Change Summit: The Climate Crisis as a Sustainability Issue" in collaboration with Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU), the Young Researchers Innovation Club (HİK), and BilimSenOl. 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.

Strengthening Climate Resilience Education through UNITAR's SDG 6 Course



Bahçeşehir University (BAU), through CIFAL Istanbul, has made UNITAR's Foundations of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation available free of charge to its students. Developed by the UNITAR Global Water Academy, the English-language, web-based course takes approximately 15 hours to complete and can be studied at each participant's own pace. UNITAR lists Climate Change among the course's thematic areas, reflecting the relevance of water management to climate-related challenges.

The course covers all eight SDG 6 targets, including water-use efficiency, scarcity reduction, integrated water resources management, water quality and the protection of water-related ecosystems. These topics give learners a foundation for considering how communities can manage water resources under changing environmental conditions. Its case studies and exercises also encourage participants to examine practical responses to water scarcity and unequal access.

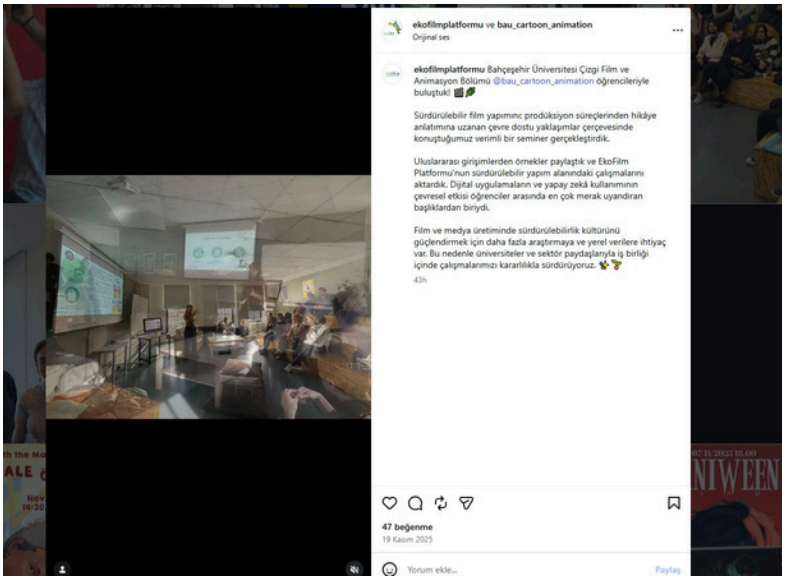
Following UNITAR's invitation to broaden access, BAU began promoting the course through relevant internal channels to students, faculty members, academic units and administrative staff. This outreach creates opportunities for people across disciplines to engage with the links between water security and climate resilience. Free access helps make that learning opportunity available to a wider university community.

CIFAL Istanbul is also promoting the course through its wider network of institutions, partners and stakeholders. By extending education on sustainable water management, the initiative supports SDG 13 (Climate Action) through learning relevant to climate adaptation and resilience. Its most direct contribution remains SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), while its educational reach and cooperation with UNITAR also support SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

Climate Action in Audiovisual Production: EkoFilm Platform Workshop

On 19 November 2025, the department partnered with EkoFilm Platform to hold a training seminar on reducing the environmental footprint of audiovisual production. The workshop examined green set practices, carbon auditing in animation rendering, and the ecological costs of server use and generative AI models. It also explored sustainable storytelling as a way to bring environmental concerns into the content of media productions.

By connecting production choices with their climate impacts, the seminar supported SDG 13 (Climate Action) through education on emissions awareness and more sustainable creative practices. The partnership with EkoFilm Platform also contributed to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).



Strengthening Climate Change Education through the TÜBİTAK SOBİD Teacher Workshop

On 31 May 2025, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nilay Öztürk of Bahçeşehir University participated in an in-person teacher workshop in Istanbul as part of the TÜBİTAK 3501-supported SOBİD Project, "Design and Implementation of a Climate Change Teaching Module Using a Socioscientific Issues-Based Approach." The workshop shared the project's educational outputs with science and social studies teachers from Uğur Schools Bakırköy Campus, as well as Campus Principal Elvan Ekinci and earlySTEM&STEM Department Head Gözde Yılmaz.

The teaching module approaches climate change as both a scientific and social issue. Sharing it with educators supported their ability to bring environmental challenges into classroom discussions and help students develop evidence-based reasoning about climate-related decisions. The workshop therefore contributed directly to SDG 13: Climate Action, particularly Target 13.3 on climate change education, awareness and capacity-building. It also supported SDG 4: Quality Education through teacher professional development and the exchange of research-based teaching practices.





Advancing Climate Literacy Education: Bahçeşehir University at the ESERA 2025 Conference





On 26 August 2025, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nilay Öztürk, faculty member at Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Educational Sciences and Director of the ÖGAM–BAUSTEM Center, presented the research paper "Examining Middle School Students' Climate Literacy in Terms of Demographic Variables: Preliminary Findings from a Climate Change Education Project" at the 16th European Science Education Research Association (ESERA) Conference, held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 25–29 August 2025. The presentation shared preliminary findings from the SOBİD project, which focuses on developing a climate change education module using a socioscientific issues approach. By examining the relationship between students' demographic characteristics and climate literacy, the research aimed to inform the development of educational strategies that address diverse learning needs and strengthen students' understanding of climate-related challenges.

By examining how climate literacy relates to students' demographic characteristics, the research can help educators identify differing learning needs and shape climate change education accordingly. Sharing these findings with an international research audience contributed to SDG 13: Climate Action, particularly Target 13.3, which calls for improved climate change education and awareness. The work also supported SDG 4: Quality Education by informing evidence-based approaches to science teaching.

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Examining middle school students' climate literacy in terms of demographic variables: Preliminary findings from a climate change education project

Nilay Ozturk[1], Naz Fulya Cibik[2], Selen Ilgen[1], Ayse Gul Celenk[1], Ferah Topal Arslan[1], Nazmiye Ertugrul[3], Zeynep Aydin[3], Damla Kaya[1], Yasemin Ozdem-Yilmaz[2], Gaye Defne Ceyhan[3]

TÜBİTAK 3501 Project 123K129 – SOBİD: Climate Education for Sustainable and Resilient Communities

Held between the years 2023 and 2025, led by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nilay Öztürk, the SOBİD project developed and implemented a teaching module that addressed climate change through a socioscientific issues approach. The project combined teacher professional development, climate-focused lesson planning and research into students' climate literacy. Its findings and educational materials were also shared with teachers through a dedicated workshop, helping translate academic research into classroom practice.

By equipping teachers and students to understand the social, scientific and local dimensions of climate change, SOBİD contributed to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through the development of informed communities better prepared to participate in urban sustainability and climate-resilience efforts. The project contributed directly to SDG 4: Quality Education by advancing research-informed teaching and teacher capacity, while its emphasis on climate literacy, awareness and responsible action also supported SDG 13: Climate Action.





Advancing Climate Mitigation Research: 12th International Conference on Photosynthesis and Hydrogen Energy at Bahçeşehir University

In the 2024-2025 academic year, Bahçeşehir University's Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences hosted the 12th International Conference on "Photosynthesis and Hydrogen Energy Research for Sustainability-2024" in Istanbul. The conference brought together scholars, researchers and industry professionals from different countries to exchange knowledge on photosynthesis, biological hydrogen production and sustainable energy technologies. This international exchange supported scientific discussion of energy solutions relevant to addressing climate change.

The scientific programme covered photosynthetic electron transfer, water oxidation, biological hydrogen production, hydrogen purification and storage, and developments in the global hydrogen economy. These topics connected fundamental research on biological energy conversion with potential applications in cleaner energy production. By examining production methods alongside processing and storage challenges, the conference addressed research

questions relevant to developing energy systems with lower greenhouse gas emissions.

The conference contributed to SDG 13: Climate Action through the dissemination of scientific knowledge relevant to climate change mitigation and the transition towards lower-emission energy systems. Bahçeşehir University's hosting role supported dialogue across disciplines and national boundaries on the potential contribution of sustainable hydrogen technologies to this transition. The event also supported SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through its focus on cleaner energy research and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through international academic and industry exchange.





Green Dialogue Meeting: Climate Law for Emissions Reduction and the Green Transition

The Green Dialogue Meeting, held on 27 December 2025, examined how climate law can support action on climate change by translating environmental commitments into binding and enforceable public policy. Discussions focused on Türkiye's 2053 net-zero emissions and green development objectives, considering how legal frameworks can regulate greenhouse gas emissions, establish reduction mechanisms and define the responsibilities of public institutions and economic actors.

The meeting explored the relationship between domestic climate policy and international commitments, including the Paris Agreement. It highlighted the importance of clear rules, monitoring systems and accountability mechanisms in turning emissions-reduction objectives into effective implementation. Discussions also connected climate governance with renewable energy, energy efficiency and the protection of water resources, showing how coordinated policies can support the green transition.

The event contributed primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action through dialogue on climate legislation, emissions reduction and net-zero planning. It also supported climate awareness by examining the legal and institutional mechanisms needed to implement climate commitments. Related contributions included SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through accountability in climate governance, SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy through the energy transition, and SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation through the protection of water resources.



Ninth Annual Istanbul Meeting on Human Capital: Session on Climate Risk and Household Inflation Expectations

Held on 24 October 2025, The Ninth Annual Istanbul Meeting on Human Capital: Economics of Education, Health, and Worker Productivity included a presentation titled “Weather Anomalies, Climate Risk and Inflation Expectations of Household and Firms.” This contribution brought a climate perspective to the meeting’s economic discussions, connecting environmental conditions with households’ expectations about future price changes.

The presentation’s focus highlights the relevance of climate risk to everyday economic concerns. Examining weather anomalies alongside household inflation expectations provides an opportunity to consider how environmental uncertainty relates to perceptions of future living costs. This research perspective broadens discussion of climate change to include its economic and social dimensions, encouraging dialogue between climate-related research and household economics.

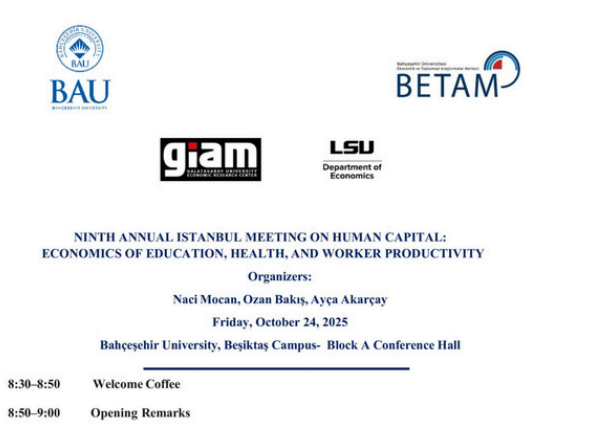
The meeting contributed to SDG 13: Climate Action by providing a platform for sharing research on climate risk and its relevance to economic decision-making. In particular, the presentation supported academic awareness of the connections between environmental pressures and household expectations. This knowledge exchange can inform further research and discussion on how economic policy can account for climate-related uncertainty.



Friday, October 24, 2025

Bahçeşehir University, Beşiktaş Campus- Block A Conference Hall

8:30–8:50	Welcome Coffee
8:50–9:00	Opening Remarks
9:00–10:00	Okan Akarsu, Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye "Weather Anomalies, Climate Risk, and Inflation Expectations of Household and Firms" with Yusuf Emre Akgündüz (Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye), Seyit Mümin Cilasun (TED University) and Saide Simin Bayraktar (Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye)
10:00–11:00	Selcen Çakır, Boğaziçi University "Hidden Pay, Random Matches"
11:00–11:15	Coffee Break
11:15–12:15	Muhammet Enes Çıraklı, Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye "Heterogenous Convergence in the Public-Private Wage Gap: Identifying the Impact of Turkiye's 2016 Minimum Wage Increase" with Müşerref Küçükbayrak (Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye)
12:15–13:30	Lunch
13:30–14:30	Mustafa Özer, Kilis Yedi Aralık University "Does Immigration Affect Natives' Mental Health? Causal Evidence from Forced Syrian Migration to Turkey" with Jan Fidrmuc (Université de Lille)



NINTH ANNUAL ISTANBUL MEETING ON HUMAN CAPITAL:
ECONOMICS OF EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND WORKER PRODUCTIVITY

Organizers:

Naci Mocan, Ozan Bakış, Ayça Akarçay

Friday, October 24, 2025

Bahçeşehir University, Beşiktaş Campus- Block A Conference Hall

8:30–8:50	Welcome Coffee
8:50–9:00	Opening Remarks

Bahçeşehir University Policy Forum and Outcome Report on Artificial Intelligence and Technology in Hazelnut Agriculture with NGOs



During the 2024–2025 academic year, Bahçeşehir University (BAU) contributed to collaborative SDG-related research, the development of educational resources, and open-access knowledge dissemination through the Policy Forum and Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Technology Use in Hazelnut Agriculture, held in Giresun, Türkiye.

The initiative brought together the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Eastern Black Sea Development Agency (DOKA), other public institutions, universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), agricultural cooperatives, and private-sector representatives to explore the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technologies into hazelnut production, a sector of strategic importance to Türkiye's agricultural economy and rural communities.

BAU contributed academic and scientific expertise to the workshop, supporting collaborative discussions and knowledge exchange on agricultural innovation, digital transformation, productivity, workforce development, and environmentally sustainable production practices. The participation of civil society organizations, agricultural stakeholders, researchers, and technology specialists enabled the integration of academic perspectives with practical experience and sector-specific knowledge.

The collaboration also supported evidence-informed policy discussions concerning technological innovation and sustainable agricultural development. While the workshop's

policy recommendations contributed to broader discussions on agricultural transformation, its documented outcome report represents a tangible research and educational resource, extending the impact of the initiative beyond policy dialogue alone.

The initiative primarily contributes to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) through sustainable agricultural production; SDG 4 (Quality Education) through the development and open dissemination of educational resources; SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) through research on AI and agricultural technologies; SDG 13 (Climate Action) through environmentally sustainable farming approaches; and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through collaborative research and knowledge sharing.

The images below show pages from the outcome report of the workshop 'Defining the Roadmap for the Use of Artificial Intelligence and Technology in Hazelnut Farming,' which was conducted with contributions from Bahçeşehir University and other academic, governmental, and industry stakeholders to advance sustainable and technology-driven agriculture.



Bahçeşehir University Games for Change Türkiye Festival 2025: International NGO Partnership and Cross-Sectoral Dialogue on Sustainable Cities, Climate Action and Social Impact



On 6–7 December 2025, Bahçeşehir University (BAU), through its BAU Game Lab (BUG Lab), organized and hosted the Games for Change Türkiye Festival 2025 at its Beşiktaş Campus, in collaboration with Games for Change Türkiye, the Turkish chapter of Games for Change Global, an international non-profit organization founded in 2004 that promotes social impact through games and interactive media.

Games for Change Türkiye was established in 2024 within BAU BUG Lab, creating an institutional connection between the University and the international Games for Change network. At the global level, Games for Change has developed collaborations with international organizations, including UNESCO, UNICEF, and the World Food Programme (WFP), demonstrating the network's broader engagement with education, social development, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Held under the theme “City and Play: Gaming the City, Modding the Future,” the festival brought together over 500 participants, including more than 100 international attendees from 10 countries, providing a platform for dialogue among academia, public institutions, civil society, international networks, urban planning professionals, and the private sector.

The programme featured contributions from the Istanbul Planning Agency (İPA), alongside urban design and participatory planning organizations such as Superpool and Play the City, as well as international academics, game developers, and creative industry representatives. Private-sector sponsors, including Tencent, TaleWorlds Entertainment, Masomo, and Monster

Notebook, further supported the initiative, demonstrating cooperation between higher education and the technology and gaming industries.

Through expert panels, presentations, interactive discussions, and game exhibitions, participants explored sustainable cities, climate action, gender equality, cultural heritage preservation, environmental awareness, and inclusive community development. Sessions on participatory public-space transformation, urban planning, and game-based approaches to social challenges demonstrated how collaboration among public institutions, academia, civil society, and the creative industries can generate innovative solutions to complex urban and societal challenges. The programme highlighted the potential of games and digital technologies to strengthen community participation, promote sustainability awareness, and support more inclusive and resilient cities.

By bringing together an international non-profit network, public-sector urban planning stakeholders, academic institutions, civil society actors, and private-sector partners, BAU facilitated cross-sectoral dialogue and knowledge exchange on SDG-related challenges. The programme connected different forms of expertise and encouraged collaborative approaches to sustainable cities, inclusive communities, and social innovation.

Importantly, BAU's engagement extended beyond hosting a single event. Through BUG Lab's institutional role in Games for Change Türkiye, the University contributed to an ongoing international collaboration linking academic research, public policy, civil society initiatives, and the creative industries in support of sustainable development.

The initiative contributed primarily to SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by strengthening international and cross-sectoral partnerships. It also supported SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) through participatory urban development, SDG 13 (Climate Action) through sustainability-focused discussions, SDG 5 (Gender Equality) through social inclusion, and SDG 4 (Quality Education) through public knowledge exchange and innovative learning approaches.





ArchiDesign Talks: Post-COP29 Climate Dialogue and Biodesign Practices



In the 2024-2025 academic year, The ArchiDesign Talks event "Post-COP29 Sharing: Skimming the Recipes of Climate Change" brought together Terence Tang and Rocky Chan Lok Ken from the Conservancy Association, alongside Yilin Han and Liv Tsim from Biodesign Collective. Organised within Bahçeşehir University's Professional Practice course and coordinated by Aslıhan Yılmaz, the session connected architectural education with contemporary climate discussions and perspectives from environmental and design organisations.

Following COP29, the event provided a space to examine current climate-change debates and explore biodesign-oriented production practices. These contributions encouraged participants to consider how architecture, design and production choices relate to the climate crisis. Bringing environmental advocacy and design practice into the classroom helped connect global climate discussions with questions relevant to students' future professional responsibilities.

The event contributed directly to SDG 13: Climate Action through climate education, awareness and interdisciplinary dialogue on responses to the climate crisis. It also supported SDG 4: Quality Education by incorporating contemporary environmental challenges into professional learning, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through knowledge exchange with external environmental and design organisations.

BAU University Farm Field Trip with FAO Türkiye: Sustainable Agriculture, Climate Awareness and Land Stewardship



On 17 April 2025, CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR organised a field trip to the Bahçeşehir University Agricultural Farm with the participation of members of FAO Türkiye. The visit provided an opportunity for on-site evaluations of sustainable agricultural practices and the efficient management of natural resources. Bringing international agricultural expertise into a university setting, the initiative connected academic knowledge with practical farming contexts and supported dialogue on the environmental responsibilities of agricultural production.

The visit supported SDG 13: Climate Action by strengthening awareness of sustainable agriculture as an important component of responding to climate change. The connection lies in the need for farming systems that use resources carefully and remain viable under changing environmental conditions. By linking sustainable farming knowledge with direct observation, the field trip provided an educational foundation for understanding the relationship between agricultural practices, climate pressures and the resilience of food production.

The initiative further supported SDG 15: Life on Land by drawing attention to the stewardship of the natural resources on which agriculture depends. Its emphasis on sustainable farming provided a basis for considering the importance of soil health, land conservation and the ecological functions that sustain productive landscapes. Through on-site learning and exchange with FAO Türkiye representatives, the visit reinforced awareness that maintaining agricultural production over time requires care for terrestrial ecosystems and the prevention of resource degradation.



Launch of the “Environment and Children: Learn, Watch, Participate” Training Programme with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change



On 11 August Organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, the launch introduced the “Environment and Children: Learn, Watch, Participate” training programme. The initiative aims to strengthen children’s environmental awareness through accessible educational tools and practical activities, helping them develop an early understanding of their relationship with the natural environment.

The launch presented the programme’s objectives, scope and educational approach to participating stakeholders. Activities centred on learning, observation and participation encourage children to engage actively with environmental issues. The event also provided a platform for relevant institutions and practitioners to discuss implementation, dissemination and opportunities for cooperation.

The initiative supports SDG 13: Climate Action by developing foundational environmental awareness that can underpin climate literacy and responsible behaviour from an early age. It also contributes directly to SDG 4: Quality Education through interactive environmental learning, while cooperation with the Ministry and other stakeholders supports SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals by connecting educational expertise with public-sector environmental priorities.

The Key to a Green and Circular Future: Cooperatives



Held at Bahçeşehir University North Campus on 17 December 2025, in collaboration with the BAU Science Communication Office, "The Key to a Green and Circular Future: Cooperatives" explored how cooperative models can support sustainable production and a greener economy. Organised within the framework of the 2025 International Year of Cooperatives, the event featured artist and academic Fırat Neziroğlu and Esra Üzel, President of Ekodoku Cooperative. Their contributions connected ecological weaving, non-violent silk production and eco-ethical fashion with cooperative practices in Türkiye and the green transformation of the textile sector.

The event contributed primarily to SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production by placing ecological and ethical production practices at the centre of the discussion. Through examples from weaving and textile production, participants explored how choices concerning materials, production methods and the organisation of work can support more responsible manufacturing. The focus on eco-ethical fashion also encouraged consideration of the processes behind consumer products, strengthening awareness of the relationship between purchasing decisions and production practices. Cooperatives were presented as a model through which producers can work collectively towards a green and circular future.

The programme also supported SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth by introducing solidarity-based economic approaches and social cooperative models. Discussion of collective production highlighted the relevance of cooperation, shared knowledge and mutual support to sustainable livelihoods. By connecting creative practice with cooperative organisation, the event broadened participants' understanding of economic models that bring social responsibility into productive activity.

The event further supported SDG 13: Climate Action through awareness of the textile sector's green transformation and the role of ecological production approaches in that transition. Its climate relevance lay in encouraging participants to consider how material and manufacturing choices relate to wider environmental pressures. By bringing these questions into dialogue with cooperative practice, the programme provided an educational platform for exploring collective responses to the challenges of more environmentally responsible production.



Enerjisa: A Better and Sustainable Future Course—Advancing Energy Literacy through University–Industry Collaboration

Herkes İçin
Daha İyi Bir
Gelecek

ENERJİSA
Türkiye'nin Enerjisi

During the second semester of the 2024–2025 academic year, Bahçeşehir University delivered the second edition of the “Enerjisa: A Better and Sustainable Future” course in collaboration with Enerjisa Enerji, CIFAL Istanbul and UNITAR. The semester-long course brought BAU students together with professionals working across different areas of the energy sector through weekly guest sessions. Connecting academic learning with industry experience, the programme explored sustainable energy alongside its environmental, economic, technological and social dimensions.

Energy efficiency provided a particularly important link between policy and practice. The course addressed energy efficiency policies, sustainability-oriented practices and strategic approaches relevant to Türkiye’s energy future. Through engagement with sector professionals, students had opportunities to consider the economic, environmental and social dimensions of energy transformation together. This approach helped frame energy efficiency as a practical component of sustainable energy systems, connecting resource use and environmental objectives with institutional and business decisions.

The programme also examined how digital transformation and green finance intersect with the energy transition. Discussions on artificial intelligence, data-driven change and evolving investment models introduced students to technological and financial developments relevant to the sector. By placing these subjects within a broader sustainability framework, the course encouraged students to consider how innovation and investment decisions can support the development of more efficient and sustainable energy practices.

The course’s primary contribution to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy lay in strengthening energy literacy and providing sustained educational engagement with energy efficiency and sustainable energy transformation. It also supported SDG 4: Quality Education through learning enriched by professional expertise, SDG 13: Climate Action through discussion of the

environmental dimensions of energy choices, and SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure through its attention to technological transformation in the energy sector. The collaboration between Bahçeşehir University, Enerjisa Enerji, CIFAL Istanbul and UNITAR further supported SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals by bringing university, private-sector and international training perspectives into a shared educational programme.





Who Will Save the World? Planetary Nursing



Held on 24 February 2025, the event "Who Will Save the World? Planetary Nursing" introduced participants to planetary health and the emerging field of planetary nursing, which recognizes the interdependence between human health and the condition of the natural environment. The programme examined how excessive resource consumption, climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss generate growing risks for physical and mental health, particularly among environmentally vulnerable communities.

Drawing on the foundational principles of the nursing profession, the event positioned nurses as important advocates for planetary health. It emphasized that healthcare professionals can contribute not only through patient care but also by promoting environmental awareness, sustainable practices within healthcare systems, responsible resource use, and preventive approaches that address the environmental determinants of health.

The initiative contributed primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by framing climate change as a public health concern and highlighting nurses' role in responding to its consequences. It strengthened awareness of climate-related risks to physical and mental health, particularly among environmentally vulnerable communities, and encouraged healthcare professionals to integrate climate considerations into education, advocacy and daily practice. By connecting preventive care, responsible resource use and sustainable healthcare practices, the event emphasized how nursing can support both climate mitigation and resilience to climate-related health risks. It also supported SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, SDG 15: Life on Land, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through its attention to public health, ecosystem protection and multidisciplinary cooperation.



Türkiye’s Climate Future: From Legislation to Reporting—An Interdisciplinary Workshop at Bahçeşehir University



On 14 November 2025, Bahçeşehir University’s Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences hosted the workshop “Türkiye’s Climate Future: From Legislation to Reporting” at its Beşiktaş South Campus. Bringing together academics, practitioners, legal specialists, finance professionals and students, the programme examined climate legislation in Türkiye and internationally, followed by climate-related disclosures, reporting and assurance, including Turkish practices presented by PwC Türkiye. The workshop connected the legal foundations of climate action with the institutional processes needed to communicate and assess climate-related responsibilities.

The workshop contributed primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by examining how legislation, corporate disclosures and assurance processes can support responses to climate change. Its first panel addressed the content, effects and criticisms of climate laws, creating space to assess the relationship between legal commitments and implementation. The reporting and assurance panel complemented this perspective by considering how organisations communicate climate-related information and how its credibility can be evaluated. Together, these themes supported understanding of the legal, economic and institutional dimensions of climate action.

The programme also provided a relevant framework for SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation. Climate-related legal obligations and disclosures offer ways to consider water scarcity, dependence on water resources and risks to business continuity. Within this framework, water management can be understood as an organisational responsibility with implications for climate resilience. The workshop’s combination of legal and reporting perspectives is therefore relevant to understanding how water-related risks and resource-management practices can become more visible and accountable.

Its connection to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy lies in the relationship between climate regulation, energy use and organisational transition planning. Examining the effects of climate legislation provides a basis for considering how regulatory expectations influence energy efficiency and investment in cleaner energy. Climate-related reporting and assurance, in turn, offer a framework for communicating energy-related emissions and assessing the credibility of transition commitments. These connections position energy decisions within the wider discussion of how institutions respond to climate responsibilities.

Green Constitutionalism against Climate Change: A Book by Bahçeşehir University Academic Serkan Köybaşı



Published in December 2025, Bahçeşehir University academic Serkan Köybaşı's book İklim Değişikliğine Karşı Yeşil Anayasalcılık (Green Constitutionalism against Climate Change) examines the relationship between the climate crisis and contemporary constitutional, political and economic structures. It explores the transition from human-centred to nature-centred legal systems, identifying sustainability, climate justice, rethinking rights and an economic model compatible with nature as foundations of green constitutionalism. The book also examines international and national judicial decisions concerning climate change and the role of high courts in advancing ecological responsibilities.

The publication contributes primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action by examining how constitutional principles and judicial mechanisms can support responses to the climate crisis. Köybaşı argues that effective climate action requires scrutiny of the legal and economic structures underlying environmental degradation. By bringing together climate justice, sustainability and climate litigation, the book contributes to academic understanding of how legal systems can strengthen accountability for climate-related responsibilities.

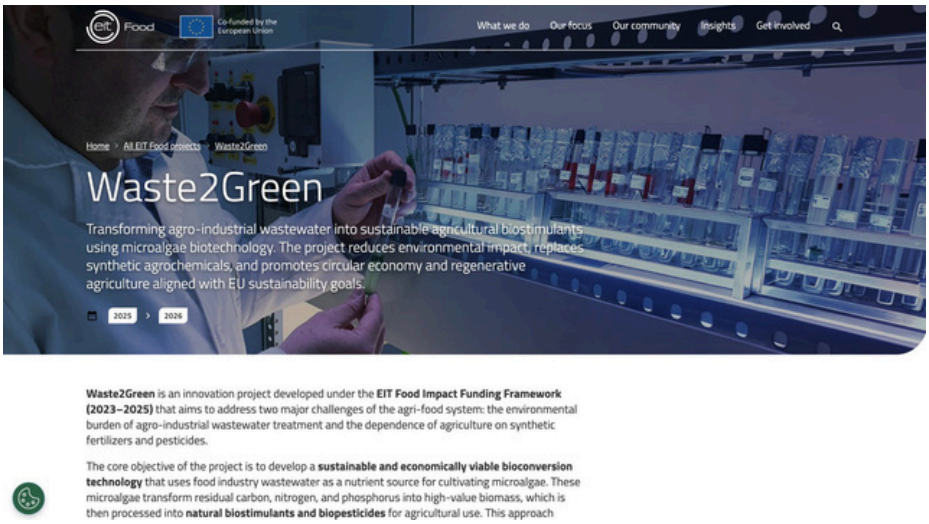
The book's nature-centred constitutional perspective also provides a conceptual connection to SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation. Its discussion of sustainability and the reconsideration of rights offers a basis for understanding the protection of water resources as a legal and ecological responsibility. From this perspective, safeguarding freshwater ecosystems and considering the water needs of present and future generations become relevant applications of a constitutional order that recognises humanity's dependence on nature.

Its relevance to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy lies in its examination of the relationship between economic structures, legal systems and climate change. The proposed shift towards an economic model compatible with nature provides a framework for considering the legal responsibilities surrounding energy production and consumption. Applied to the energy sector, this perspective can inform discussion of cleaner energy transitions and the need to align energy decisions with climate justice and long-term ecological sustainability.

The publication relates to SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production through its critical examination of the economic arrangements underlying ecological harm. Its emphasis on sustainability and an economic model compatible with nature provides a foundation for questioning resource-intensive production and consumption practices. By examining how constitutional principles might constrain environmentally damaging economic power, the book contributes to debate on the legal conditions needed for more responsible resource use and economic activity.

The book also contributes directly to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through its focus on constitutionalism, the rule of law and the role of high courts in climate governance. Its analysis of international and national climate judgments examines how judicial institutions can interpret environmental responsibilities and scrutinise the exercise of power. By placing climate justice within constitutional debate, the publication supports scholarly discussion of accountable institutions and legal mechanisms capable of addressing the climate crisis.

Waste2Green: Converting Agricultural and Industrial Waste into Green Solutions through Microalgae Biotechnology



Bahçeşehir University participates in Waste2Green, an international research and innovation project supported through the EIT Food Impact Funding Framework, bringing together expertise in biotechnology, sustainable agriculture, wastewater management and circular resource use. The project aims to transform agro-industrial wastewater from an environmental management challenge into a valuable resource for developing innovative agricultural products, demonstrating the potential of biotechnology to contribute to more sustainable and resource-efficient food systems.

Bahçeşehir University's contribution is led by Dr. Alper Devrim Özkan, from the Department of Pharmaceutical Microbiology, Faculty of Pharmacy. Within the international consortium, BAU is responsible for characterising microalgal biomass and evaluating its potential applications as a biostimulant and biopesticide, including laboratory investigations of plant growth and protection against plant diseases. These activities involve algal characterisation, sequencing and biological activity assessments using model crops, contributing scientific evidence on the potential effectiveness of microalgae-derived agricultural products.

By connecting wastewater nutrient recovery with the development of biological agricultural inputs, Waste2Green addresses two interconnected sustainability challenges: reducing the environmental pressures associated with agro-industrial waste and developing alternatives that could support productive, resilient and environmentally responsible agriculture. BAU's participation brings pharmaceutical microbiology expertise into an interdisciplinary research framework linking environmental biotechnology, agricultural innovation and the circular bioeconomy.

Waste2Green contributes to SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) through research into innovative biological products designed to support sustainable agricultural productivity. Microalgae-derived

biostimulants and biopesticides offer potential alternatives or complements to conventional agricultural inputs, with applications in improving plant growth, supporting crop resilience and protecting plants against diseases.

The development of these products is particularly relevant to the long-term sustainability of food production, as agricultural systems face increasing pressure to maintain productivity while reducing their environmental impacts. By investigating the biological properties and potential agricultural applications of microalgal biomass, the project contributes to the scientific development of approaches that may support more efficient and resilient crop production.

BAU's laboratory research plays an important role in this process by assessing whether microalgae-derived materials demonstrate biological activity relevant to plant development and crop protection. These investigations provide an evidence base for determining the potential of the resulting products to contribute to sustainable agricultural practices.

The initiative is particularly aligned with SDG Target 2.4, which promotes sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices that maintain ecosystems and progressively improve land and soil quality. Waste2Green explores how biological innovation and resource recovery can be integrated into agricultural production, supporting research towards food systems that are both productive and environmentally sustainable.

Waste2Green also addresses SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) by exploring innovative approaches to agro-industrial wastewater treatment and resource recovery.

The project uses wastewater as a cultivation medium for microalgae, which can assimilate residual nutrients, including nitrogen and phosphorus, during biomass production. This process creates an opportunity to recover valuable nutrients from wastewater streams while producing biomass with potential agricultural applications.

By treating wastewater as a resource rather than solely as a waste product, the project contributes to the development of more circular approaches to water management. Its research is relevant to reducing nutrient pollution, improving the efficiency of wastewater treatment processes and exploring opportunities to decrease the demand for additional resources in biomass cultivation.

These objectives are particularly relevant to SDG Target 6.3, which calls for improving water quality by reducing pollution and increasing wastewater treatment, recycling and safe reuse.

The project's contribution lies in developing and validating biological treatment and recovery technologies, with their actual effectiveness in reducing wastewater pollution to be established through technical assessment.

SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) is one of the project's central sustainability dimensions. Waste2Green applies circular-economy principles by seeking to convert waste streams generated through agro-industrial activities into valuable biological resources that can be reintegrated into agricultural production.

Rather than treating wastewater nutrients as materials to be discarded, the project explores their recovery through microalgal cultivation. The resulting biomass is then investigated for its potential to serve as a source of biostimulants and biopesticides, creating a research pathway through which resources originating in the food production system may be transformed into inputs for future agricultural use.

This approach illustrates the potential of circular bioeconomy models to reduce resource losses, recover value from agricultural and industrial by-products, and support more efficient production systems.

The project's planned modular, mobile processing system is intended to enable wastewater valorisation closer to its source, while the proposed Digital Product Passport aims to strengthen traceability and transparency concerning the resulting products.

These features are relevant to SDG Target 12.2, which promotes sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources, and SDG Target 12.5, which focuses on reducing waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.

By integrating waste recovery, biotechnology, product development and traceability, Waste2Green demonstrates how innovation can help redesign production processes around resource efficiency and circularity.

Waste2Green contributes to research relevant to SDG 13 (Climate Action) by exploring technologies with the potential to reduce the environmental footprint of agricultural inputs and wastewater processing.

Its approach combines biological nutrient recovery with the development of agricultural products that may reduce dependence on certain conventional synthetic inputs. By investigating resource-efficient biological processes and alternative agricultural products, the project supports the development of technologies relevant to climate-responsive and environmentally sustainable agri-food systems.

The proposed modular processing approach may also create opportunities to examine resource use and processing efficiency at the source of wastewater generation.

However, potential reductions in energy consumption or greenhouse gas emissions require comparative lifecycle assessment and technical validation. The project's contribution to SDG

13 therefore lies in advancing research into potentially lower-impact production pathways rather than demonstrating quantified emissions reductions at this stage.

Waste2Green has an indirect but relevant connection to SDG 14 (Life Below Water) through its focus on recovering nutrients from agro-industrial wastewater and developing biological agricultural products.

Excessive nutrient discharge into aquatic environments can contribute to eutrophication and the deterioration of water quality. By investigating microalgal processes capable of recovering nitrogen and phosphorus from wastewater, the project explores a potential pathway for reducing nutrient loads before treated water reaches receiving environments.

Similarly, the development of effective biological alternatives to certain conventional agricultural inputs may offer opportunities to reduce pollution pressures associated with agricultural runoff.

These research directions are relevant to SDG Target 14.1, which addresses marine pollution, including nutrient pollution originating from land-based activities.

The project's relevance to SDG 14 is therefore preventive and indirect, arising from its potential contribution to reducing land-based pollution pressures rather than from direct marine conservation activities.

Waste2Green also establishes a meaningful connection with SDG 15 (Life on Land) through the development of biological agricultural products intended to support crop productivity while reducing environmental pressures associated with conventional agricultural practices.

The project's investigation of microalgae-derived biostimulants and biopesticides is particularly relevant to the relationship between agricultural production and the long-term sustainability of terrestrial ecosystems. Developing effective biological inputs could offer opportunities to reduce reliance on certain synthetic agricultural chemicals, support more environmentally responsible crop management and limit some of the pressures agricultural activities place on soils and surrounding ecosystems.

BAU's contribution is particularly significant in this context. Through the characterisation of algal biomass and laboratory evaluation of its potential effects on plant growth and disease protection, the University contributes to establishing the scientific foundations for agricultural technologies that seek to balance crop productivity with environmental sustainability.

The project is relevant to SDG Target 15.3, which addresses land degradation and the sustainable management of land and soil. Its research also supports broader consideration of how agricultural innovation can contribute to maintaining the ecological conditions necessary

for long-term food production.

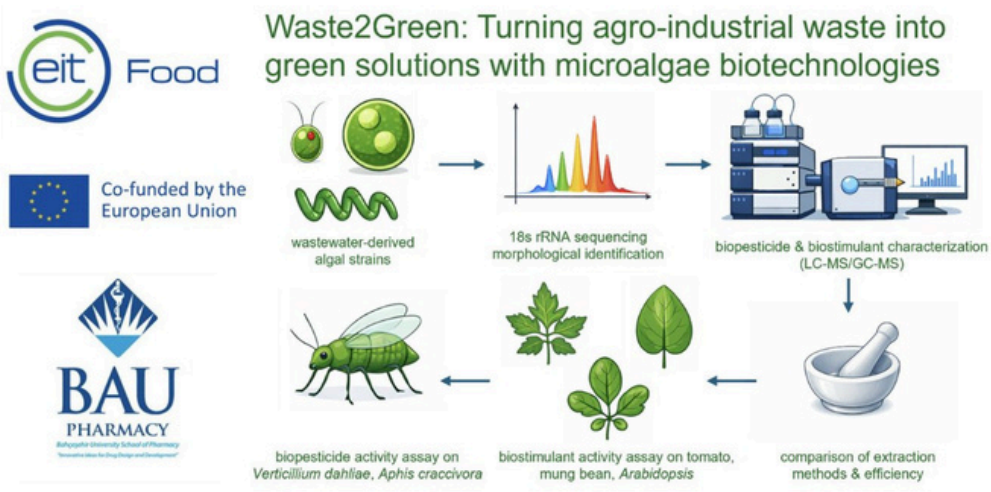
Importantly, the project does not itself demonstrate soil restoration, biodiversity conservation or reduced ecosystem damage. Such outcomes would require subsequent field trials, environmental safety assessments and evidence of the products' performance under agricultural conditions. Its contribution to SDG 15 is therefore best understood as applied research supporting the development of potentially more sustainable agricultural land management practices.

Through its participation in Waste2Green, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates how interdisciplinary scientific research and international collaboration can contribute to addressing interconnected challenges across agriculture, water management and environmental sustainability.

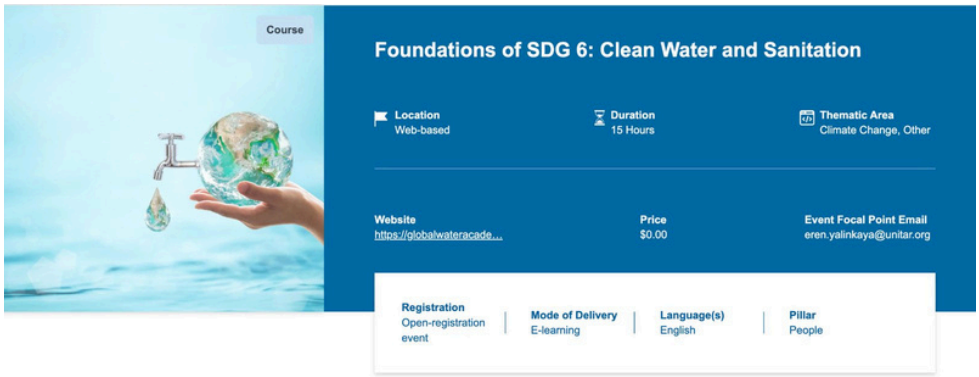
The project brings together SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) through the development of biological inputs for sustainable agricultural production; SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) through wastewater treatment research and nutrient recovery; SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) through circular resource management and waste valorisation; and SDG 15 (Life on Land) through research into environmentally responsible agricultural inputs and sustainable land management.

It also contributes to research relevant to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through potentially lower-impact agricultural technologies and SDG 14 (Life Below Water) through approaches that may reduce nutrient pollution reaching aquatic environments.

By transforming the relationship between agricultural waste and agricultural production, Waste2Green represents an innovative approach to sustainability in which wastewater becomes a potential source of valuable biological resources. Bahçeşehir University's research contribution helps advance the scientific assessment of this approach, supporting the development of agricultural technologies that seek to improve productivity, recover resources and reduce environmental pressures across the food system.



Expanding Water Literacy and SDG 6 Education through Bahçeşehir University, CIFAL Istanbul and UNITAR Global Water Academy



Bahçeşehir University has integrated UNITAR's Foundations of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation into its learning opportunities through CIFAL Istanbul, making the course available free of charge to BAU students, academicians and administrative staff. Developed by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Global Water Academy, the English-language, web-based course is designed for self-paced study and takes approximately 15 hours to complete. Its availability gives students an opportunity to explore water and sanitation challenges through an international learning programme.

The initiative represents an important step in strengthening institutional capacity for water-related sustainability education. By facilitating access to a specialised United Nations training programme, Bahçeşehir University connects its academic community with internationally developed knowledge on water security, sanitation, sustainable water management and the protection of water-related ecosystems. Rather than approaching water solely as an environmental issue, the programme encourages an integrated understanding of its significance for human health, food production, social equality, climate resilience and sustainable development.

Through case studies, readings, multimedia materials and exercises, participants can connect these topics to practical approaches for managing water resources and addressing unequal access. The learning experience is designed to strengthen participants' ability to recognise water-related sustainability challenges, understand relevant policy and management approaches, and consider how these challenges intersect with their academic disciplines and future professional responsibilities.

As UNITAR places the course within its climate change thematic area, its coverage of water scarcity, sustainable resource management and environmental pressures also connects it to SDG 13 (Climate Action), particularly the importance of strengthening education and awareness concerning climate-related challenges.

Through this initiative, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates its commitment to making internationally developed sustainability education accessible to a broader learning community. By combining UNITAR Global Water Academy's specialised educational resources, CIFAL Istanbul's international training network and BAU's university-wide outreach capacity, the programme creates an institutional framework for advancing water literacy and awareness of sustainable water management.

https://event.unitar.org/full-catalog/foundations-sdg-6-clean-water-and-sanitation-0

The certificate below confirms that Ergün Akgün, an academic at Bahçeşehir University, successfully completed UNITAR's "Foundations of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation" course. Although the certificate does not display the BAU logo, the recipient's affiliation demonstrates participation from the university's academic community.


unitar
United Nations Institute for Training and Research

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

Ergün AKGÜN

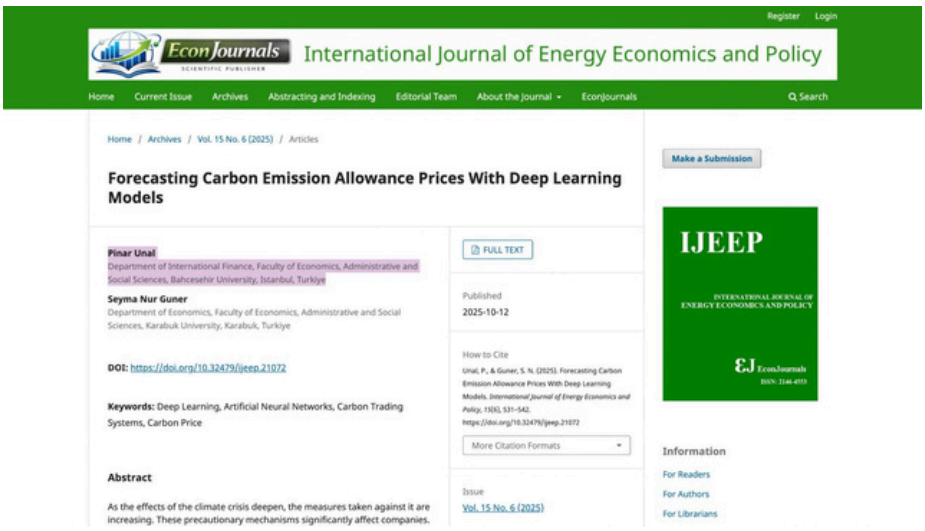
has successfully completed the

Foundations of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Certification date: October 23, 2026

Michelle Gyles-McDonnough
UN Assistant Secretary-General,
Executive Director, UNITAR

Forecasting Carbon Emission Allowance Prices With Deep Learning Models



On 12 October 2025, Dr. Pınar Ünal, a research assistant at Bahçeşehir University, contributed to a study on forecasting European Union Emissions Allowance (EUA) prices using deep learning models. The research addresses an important challenge in the transition towards a low-carbon economy: understanding and anticipating the financial implications of greenhouse gas emissions. It examines the importance of forecasting carbon costs for companies operating under emissions trading systems, where the price of carbon allowances can influence energy-related expenditures, investment planning, and decisions concerning emissions reduction.

The study uses energy and electricity market prices, together with economic indicators, to capture factors influencing carbon allowance prices. By examining the relationship between carbon markets, energy prices, and wider economic conditions, the research provides an analytical perspective on the economic mechanisms associated with decarbonisation and energy transition.

The study compares two deep learning approaches: feedforward neural networks (FFNN) and Elman recurrent neural networks. Both models achieved strong predictive accuracy, with different advantages. The FFNN model produced more stable results with lower variance, while the Elman model offered advantages in short-term forecasting. These findings demonstrate the potential of deep learning to More reliable carbon price forecasting that can support financial planning and investment assessments concerning renewable energy technologies, energy efficiency improvements, and cleaner production processes. By helping market participants better understand potential carbon-cost exposure, the research provides information relevant to decisions about long-term energy investments and the economic transition towards less carbon-intensive energy systems.

The study has a particularly strong connection with SDG 13 (Climate Action) through its focus on carbon pricing, an important policy instrument used to create economic incentives for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Emissions trading systems assign a financial cost to covered emissions, making carbon prices an important consideration in corporate environmental strategies and investment decisions. However, fluctuations in allowance prices can create uncertainty for businesses seeking to evaluate future compliance costs, plan emissions-reduction investments, and manage their exposure to carbon markets.

By applying deep learning techniques to forecast EUA prices, the research contributes to the development of analytical tools that can help businesses and market participants better understand these uncertainties. Improved forecasting capabilities may support more informed carbon-cost planning, assessment of decarbonisation investments, and evaluation of the financial implications of emissions-related policies.

Overall, the study illustrates the potential of artificial intelligence to connect financial forecasting with the challenges of energy transition and climate action. By improving analytical understanding of carbon allowance price movements, it contributes research that can inform cleaner energy investment assessments, corporate carbon-cost management, and climate-related economic planning, reinforcing the complementary objectives of SDG 7 and SDG 13.

The Lost Sea: Documenting the Aral Sea's Environmental Collapse and the Future of Water and Ecosystem Sustainability

Initiated in 2025, the Aral Sea Documentary Project is an international documentary production exploring one of the world's most significant environmental transformations: the dramatic shrinkage of the Aral Sea and its consequences for ecosystems, natural resources, and communities across Central Asia. Filmed in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan, the project examines the historical, environmental, social, and cultural dimensions of the Aral Sea crisis, bringing together perspectives from academics, environmental activists, government representatives, and local communities.

Once one of the world's largest inland lakes, the Aral Sea has undergone extensive environmental degradation, largely resulting from large-scale irrigation policies and the diversion of rivers during the Soviet era. Its transformation represents a striking example of the long-term consequences of unsustainable water resource management, demonstrating how decisions concerning agricultural production and natural resource use can profoundly affect ecosystems, biodiversity, and human livelihoods.

Beyond its environmental significance, the Aral Sea holds an important place in the historical and cultural identity of the peoples of Central Asia and the wider Turkic world. The documentary explores this relationship between people and their environment, examining how ecological transformation has reshaped local communities, cultural memory, and perceptions of the future.

Through interviews, field observations, and documentary storytelling, the project seeks to connect scientific knowledge with lived experiences, encouraging reflection on the environmental consequences of human activity and the importance of sustainable development policies.

The documentary establishes a particularly strong connection with SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) by examining the consequences of unsustainable water management and large-scale irrigation practices that contributed to the Aral Sea's dramatic decline.

By documenting the historical processes behind the depletion of the lake and their environmental and social consequences, the project highlights the importance of responsible water allocation, long-term resource planning, and integrated approaches to water management.

The Aral Sea crisis demonstrates that water sustainability extends beyond access to drinking water and sanitation. It also requires the protection of freshwater ecosystems, the responsible management of shared water resources, and consideration of the long-term environmental consequences of agricultural and economic development.

The documentary also relates to SDG 13 (Climate Action) through its exploration of environmental change and the vulnerability of communities and ecosystems to long-term ecological disruption.

The decline of the Aral Sea has affected regional environmental conditions, demonstrating how human interventions in natural systems can intensify ecological vulnerabilities and create additional challenges for communities dependent on natural resources.

By examining these consequences through scientific and community perspectives, the project encourages reflection on environmental resilience, adaptation, and the importance of incorporating ecological considerations into development policies.

Its educational and awareness-raising objectives are particularly relevant to SDG Target 13.3, which promotes education, awareness, and institutional capacity concerning climate change mitigation, adaptation, and impact reduction.

The documentary distinguishes the historical water-management decisions that primarily drove the Aral Sea's decline from the broader climate-related challenges affecting the region, contributing to a more informed understanding of environmental change and resilience.



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

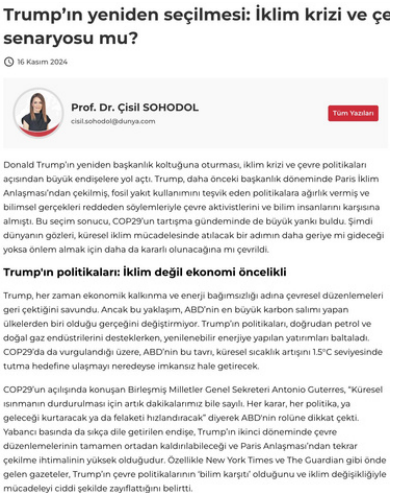
In the article written in the 2024-2025 academic year, “Trump’s Re-election: A Catastrophic Scenario for Climate and the Environment?”, Prof. Çisil Sohodol from Bahçeşehir University explores the global implications of Donald Trump’s return to power on international climate policy, sustainable development, 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°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.

The article contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action), particularly Target 13.2, by examining the importance of integrating climate-change measures into national policies and international commitments, highlighting the risks of weakened climate governance and emphasizing the need for sustained mitigation efforts and global cooperation under the Paris Agreement.

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.



Trump’ın yeniden seçilmesi: İklim krizi ve çe senaryosu mu?

16 Kasım 2024

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Tüm Yazıları

Donald Trump'ın yeniden başkanlık koltuğuna oturması, iklim krizi ve çevre politikaları açısından büyük endişelere yol açtı. Trump, daha önceki başkanlık döneminde Paris İklim Anlaşması'ndan çekilmiş, fosil yakıt kullanımını teşvik eden politikalara ağırlık vermiş ve bilimsel gerçekleri reddeden söylemleriyle çevre aktivistlerini ve bilim insanlarını karşısına almıştı. Bu seçim sonucu, COP29'un tartışma gündeminde de büyük yankı buldu. Şimdi dünyanın gözleri, küresel iklim mücadelesinde atılacak bir adımın daha geriye mi gideceği yoksa önlem almak için daha da kararlı olunacağına mı çevrildi.

Trump'ın politikaları: İklim değil ekonomi öncelikli

Trump, her zaman ekonomik kalkınma ve enerji bağımsızlığı adına çevresel düzenlemeleri geri çektiğini savundu. Ancak bu yaklaşım, ABD'nin en büyük karbon salımı yapan ülkelerden biri olduğu gerçeğini değiştirmiyor. Trump'ın politikaları, doğrudan petrol ve doğal gaz endüstrilerini desteklerken, yenilenebilir enerjiye yapılan yatırımları baltaladı. COP29'da da vurgulandığı üzere, ABD'nin bu tavrı, küresel sıcaklık artışını 1.5°C seviyesinde tutma hedefine ulaşmayı neredeyse imkansız hale getirecek.

COP29'un açılışında konuşan Birleşmiş Milletler Genel Sekreteri Antonio Guterres, "Küresel ısınmanın durdurulması için artık dakikalarımız bile sayılı. Her karar, her politika, ya geleceği kurtaracak ya da felaketi hızlandıracak" diyerek ABD'nin rolüne dikkat çekti. Yabancı basında da sıkça dile getirilen endişe, Trump'ın ikinci döneminde çevre düzenlemelerinin tamamen ortadan kaldırılabileceği ve Paris Anlaşması'ndan tekrar çekilme ihtimalinin yüksek olduğudur. Özellikle New York Times ve The Guardian gibi önde gelen gazeteler, Trump'ın çevre politikalarının 'bilim karşıtı' olduğunu ve iklim değişikliğiyle mücadeleyi ciddi şekilde zayıflattığını belirtti.

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

In the 2024-2025 academic year, 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. The article contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action), particularly Target 13.3, by promoting transparent, evidence-based climate communication, challenging greenwashing and green silence, and strengthening public awareness, trust, and accountability in climate action.

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.



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" on 11 January 2025, 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.

The article contributes directly to SDG 13 (Climate Action), particularly Target 13.3, by strengthening public awareness of the climate emergency through scientific evidence and emphasizing the urgent need for climate mitigation, adaptation, and collective action.

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.



Gezegenin alarm zili: 2024'ün acı gerçeği

11 Ocak 2025

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Tüm Yazıları

2024 yılı, iklim krizinin ne denli ciddi olduğunu kanıtladı ve gezegenimiz için kara bir dönüm noktası olarak tarihe geçti. Guardian tarafından yayınlanan ve AB'nin Copernicus İklim Değişikliği Servisi (C3S) verilerine dayanan inceleme, 2024'ün insanlık tarihindeki en sıcak yıl olduğunu ve sanayi öncesi seviyelere kıyasla sıcaklıkların 1,6°C'ye ulaştığını ortaya koyuyor. Bu, Paris Anlaşması'nın 1,5°C hedefinin ilk kez aşıldığını ve iklim krizinin artık inkar edilemez bir noktaya ulaştığını gösteriyor. Sıcaklık artışı, yalnızca termometrelerde bir rakam değişikliği olarak kalmadı ve bu korkutucu tablo, dünyanın dört bir yanında benzeri görülmemiş afetlere zemin hazırladı ve milyonlarca insanı etkiledi.

Valensiya'da seller, ABD'de yıkıcı kasırgalar, Filipinler'de tayfunlar ve Amazon'da kuraklık gibi felaketlerle hayat bulan iklim değişikliği, ekosistemleri altüst etti. Ancak bu bir son değil, uyarıdır. Bu yılın aşırı hava olayları ve felaketlerle dolu bilançosu, insanlığı daha kötü senaryolara hazırlanmaya çağırıyor.

“The Silent Tears of the Climate Crisis” — Article by Prof. Çisil Sohodol

Published in Dünya Newspaper in the 2024-2025 academic year, 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.



Dünya Gazetesi › Yazarlar › Prof. Dr. Çisil SOHODOL

İklim krizinin gözyaşları

21 Aralık 2024

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Tüm Yazıları

Bu yılın sonbaharı Avrupa'ya romantizm değil doğa olaylarının neredeyse kıyametvari bir hızda artmasıyla felaketleri getirmiş durumda. Avusturya, Çek Cumhuriyeti, Hırvatistan, Almanya, Macaristan, İtalya, Polonya, Romanya ve Slovakya aşırı hava olayları nedeniyle yorgun düşmüş durumda.

Boris fırtınasının geçen ay onlarca can almasının travması sürerken şimdi İspanya kaosa teslim olmuş durumda. İspanya'nın özellikle Valensiya bölgesi, tarihin en ölümcül sel felaketlerinden birine sahne oldu.

Sadece birkaç gün süren yoğun yağışlar, şehrin sokaklarını suyla doldurdu; arabalar, gemi misali sahillere sürüklendi ve ne yazık ki yüzden fazla kişi yaşamını yitirdi. Ekim ayının güneşinin altında ABD'nin büyük bir bölümü yağmur yoksunluğuyla kuraklık çekerken, Avrupa, doğa ananın farklı bir yüzüyle karşı karşıya kaldı.

Bu trajik tablo, iklim krizinin sadece geleceğin bir sorunu olmadığını, aksine bugünün somut bir tehdidi olduğunu gözler önüne sermiyor mu?

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

In the 2024-2025 academic yearProf. 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.

The article contributes to SDG 13 (Climate Action), particularly Target 13.3, by promoting climate literacy, public awareness and engagement through strategic communication, demonstrating how responsible storytelling can transform climate concerns into collective responsibility and encourage meaningful climate 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.



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İletişim Fakültesi

COP 29'DAN İLETİŞİMCİLERE NOTLAR / İKLİM DEĞİŞİMİNDE HİKAYE

KRİZİ YENİDEN YORUMLAMAK

Beş gün boyunca COP29'un koridorlarında dolaştım, panellere katıldım, tartışmaları dinledim ve umutla umutsuzluk arasında gidip gelen bir atmosferin parçası oldum. Her koridor, her panel ve her tartışma, dünyanın en büyük krizlerinden biri olan iklim değişikliğiyle mücadelede ne kadar yol kat edildiğini ve önümüzde hâlâ ne kadar uzun bir yolun olduğunu gösteriyordu.

Liderlerin vaatleri, şirketlerin projeleri ve aktivistlerin çağrıları arasında iletişimcilerin bu süreçteki kritik rolü daha da belirgin hale geldi. İklim krizi artık yalnızca bilim insanlarının, politikacıların ya da çevrecilerin meselesi değil; aynı zamanda iletişimcilerin, markaların ve toplum liderlerinin de çözüm üretmek zorunda olduğu bir insanlık sorunu.

İletişim dünyasının bu kritik dönemde üstlenmesi gereken sorumluluklar artık yalnızca farkındalık yaratmaktan ibaret değil; değişimin katalizörü olmak zorundayız.

Daha fazla eylem, daha az söylem

COP29 boyunca sıkça duyduğum kelimeler "taahhüt", "hedef" ve "strateji" oldu. Ancak, sahadaki gerçekler taahhütlerin çoğunun hayata geçirilemediğini gösteriyor. İletişimciler olarak markaların yalnızca sözde değil, özde sürdürülebilirlik projelerine imza atmalarını teşvik etmek, hatta gerekirse bu konuda hesap sorucu bir rol üstlenmek zorundayız. Yeşil yıkama (greenwashing) gibi etik olmayan pratiklere karşı durmalı ve şeffaflığı bir standart haline getirmeliyiz.

Verilerle hikâye anlatımı

İklim krizinin soyut bir kavram olarak algılanması, bireylerin ve kurumların harekete geçmesini zorlaştırıyor. COP29'daki panellerde verilen istatistiklerin etkileyici hikâyelerle birleştirildiğinde nasıl güçlü bir farkındalık yaratabildiğine şahit oldum.

Örneğin, bir konuşmacının "2050'de deniz seviyeleri bu şekilde yükselirse, doğduğum ada sular altında kalacak." sözleri verilerle desteklendiğinde, salondaki sessizliği hissetmek mümkündü.

Grönland'dan gelen bir bilim insanının, eriyen buz tabakalarının sadece Kuzey Kutbu'nu değil, dünyanın su döngüsünü nasıl etkilediğini açıklarken, kendi ailesinin çiftçilikten balıkçılığa geçmek zorunda kaldığını duygularıyla anlatması herkesin aklına kazındı.

Doctoral Research on Climate Action, Eco-Anxiety and Community Resilience

Completed within Bahçeşehir University's Guidance and Psychological Counselling Doctoral Programme in January 2025, Dr. Hande Korkmaz Çakır's dissertation was supervised by Prof. Dr. Berna Güloğlu and defended in January 2025. Titled "Predictors of Being an Individual Climate Activist in the Fight Against Climate Change: A Structural Equation Modelling," the study examined the psychological factors influencing personal engagement in climate-change mitigation and adaptation. Using structural equation modelling and data from 752 participants aged 18–36 across Türkiye, it explored the relationships among climate-change awareness, fundamental world assumptions, connectedness to nature, general anxiety, eco-anxiety and individual climate action.

The findings indicate that climate awareness, positive world assumptions and connectedness to nature encourage pro-environmental behaviour, while eco-anxiety can act as a mediating mechanism that transforms environmental concern into climate action. By generating evidence that can inform climate education, psychological counselling and public policy, the research contributes primarily to SDG 13: Climate Action, particularly efforts to strengthen climate awareness, adaptive capacity and public participation.

The research makes a significant contribution to SDG 13 (Climate Action), particularly Target 13.3, which focuses on improving education, awareness-raising, and human and institutional capacity for climate-change mitigation, adaptation, and impact reduction. By identifying psychological factors that influence individuals' willingness to engage in climate action, the study provides an evidence base for developing more effective climate education, public awareness initiatives, and community engagement strategies.

Importantly, the research demonstrates that strengthening climate awareness alone may not be sufficient; understanding emotional responses, personal beliefs, and people's connection with nature is also essential for encouraging active participation in climate solutions. These findings offer valuable insights for educators, psychological counsellors, and policymakers seeking to translate climate concern into meaningful individual engagement.

Through this doctoral research, Bahçeşehir University advances SDG 13 by contributing scientific knowledge on the psychological foundations of climate action and the factors that can help transform environmental awareness into active participation in addressing climate change.

The study also relates to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, as climate-resilient settlements depend not only on infrastructure and institutional planning but also on informed, engaged and psychologically resilient communities capable of participating in local mitigation and adaptation efforts. Its examination of climate-related emotional distress among young people further supports SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being, highlighting the importance of integrating mental-health considerations into climate-resilience policies.




T.C.
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ
LİSANSÜSTÜ EĞİTİM ENSTİTÜSÜ
EĞİTİM BİLİMLERİ ANABİLİM DALI

İKLİM DEĞİŞİKLİĞİ İLE MÜCADELEDE BİREYSEL İKLİM AKTİVİSTİ OLMANIN YORDAYICILARI: BİR YAPISAL EŞİTLİK MODELLEMESİ

DOKTORA TEZİ
HANDE KORKMAZ ÇAKIR

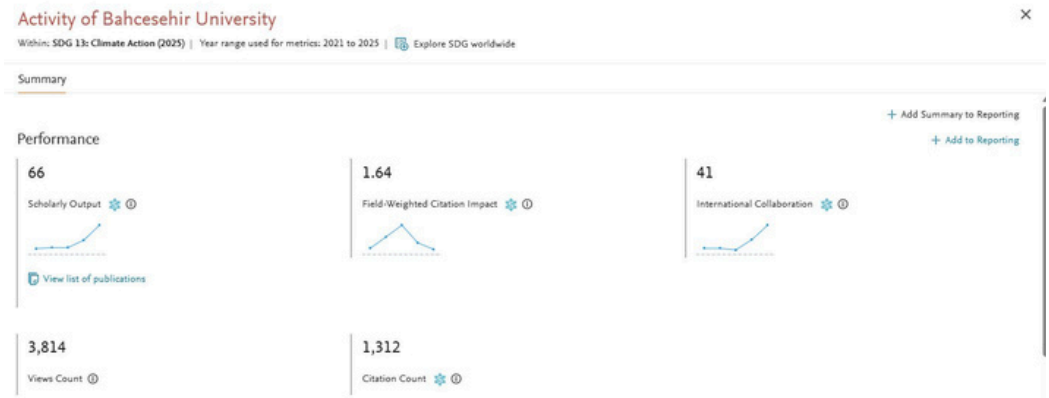
İSTANBUL 2025

Bahçeşehir University's Research Performance in SDG 13: Climate Action (2021–2025)

According to SciVal data, Bahçeşehir University produced 66 publications classified under SDG 13: Climate Action during the 2021–2025 period. These publications achieved a Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) of 1.64, indicating citation performance 64% above the global average for comparable publications, adjusted for subject field, publication year and publication type.

The research output received 1,312 citations and recorded 3,814 views, reflecting its visibility and uptake within the academic community. These indicators demonstrate BAU's contribution to the scientific knowledge base relevant to climate action, providing resources for further investigation and informed discussion of climate-related challenges and potential responses.

The figure below presents SciVal's overview of Bahçeşehir University's research performance under SDG 13 for the 2021–2025 period, including scholarly output, citation impact, international collaboration and publication views.





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