

SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



2023-2024

BAUATAGLANCE

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

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

BAU WITH NUMBERS

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

BAU IN THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION

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

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

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

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

BAU Water Policy

1. Introduction

Water is one of the most critical resources for sustaining life, economic activity, and ecological balance. Bahçeşehir University (BAU) recognizes that sustainable water management is essential to protecting natural resources, ensuring community well-being, and addressing the global climate crisis.

As an urban university with multiple campuses and a growing academic community, BAU commits to implementing comprehensive water management strategies that minimize consumption, prevent pollution, and promote awareness among students, staff, and the broader community.

2. Guiding Principles

BAU's Water Policy is guided by the following principles:

- Sustainability: Prioritizing responsible and efficient water use across all university operations.
- Efficiency: Reducing water consumption through technology, infrastructure improvement, and behavioral change.
- Equity: Ensuring fair and safe access to clean water for all members of the university community.
- Education & Research: Promoting interdisciplinary education and research on water conservation, urban water management, and climate adaptation.

3. Operational Commitments

3.1 Water Consumption Reduction

- Installation of low-flow fixtures in restrooms, laboratories, and cafeterias.
- Implementation of smart irrigation systems in green spaces using treated greywater where feasible.
- Regular monitoring and reporting of water consumption data to identify and address inefficiencies.

3.2 Wastewater Management

- Ensuring compliance with national and EU environmental standards.
- Collaboration with local authorities for the safe disposal and potential reuse of wastewater.
- Supporting innovative research projects on water recycling and purification technologies.

3.3 Pollution Prevention

- Enforcing strict protocols for chemical handling in laboratories and maintenance areas.
- Conducting awareness campaigns on microplastics, pollution prevention, and sustainable waste disposal.
- Eliminating single-use plastics and promoting refillable water stations across all campuses.

4. Education, Research, and Engagement

4.1 Academic Integration

- Inclusion of sustainability and water management modules in engineering, environmental sciences, and social science curricula.
- Encouraging student research projects and theses on urban water systems, desalination, and water-energy nexus studies.
- Fostering interdisciplinary collaborations to develop digital and data-driven solutions (IoT, AI) for water monitoring and management.

4.2 Awareness and Capacity Building

- Organizing an annual "Water Awareness Week" featuring seminars, exhibitions, and field activities.
- Launching a campus-wide water conservation campaign with real-time dashboards displaying water use data.
- Providing training programs for administrative and maintenance staff on efficient water practices.
- Conducting community-oriented awareness projects such as school visits, workshops, and public campaigns to educate the wider society on sustainable water use.

4.3 Community and Global Partnerships

- Collaborating with municipalities, NGOs, and UN bodies on local and regional water-related projects.
- Developing outreach programs to share BAU's best practices and support sustainable development goals within the education sector.

Bahçeşehir University Environmental Management Commission

On 11 July 2024, the Bahçeşehir University Senate approved the establishment of the Environmental Management Commission to reinforce institutional responsibility for environmental protection, sustainable resource use, and water management. The initiative aims to enhance ecological awareness across the university community while embedding 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. Particularly, the Water Efficiency Executive Board, aligned with SDG6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), places a strong emphasis on responsible water consumption, wastewater reduction, and the implementation of innovative systems to promote water recycling and reuse across university facilities.

Within this framework, comprehensive efforts are directed toward preventing energy loss, reducing waste generation, and promoting wastewater reduction. By adopting a structured and integrated approach to environmental governance, Bahçeşehir University demonstrates its long-term commitment to efficient energy and water management, resource conservation, and the promotion of a sustainable campus ecosystem — one that embodies both environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

Link: https://cdn.bau.edu.tr/content/aducqhya4pkkf- %C3%87evre%20Y%C3%B6netimi%20Komisyonu%2011.07.2024%20Senato.pdf

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

KARAR: 2024/09/09

Oniversitemiz būnyesinde "Bahçeşehir Oniversitesi Çevre Yönetimi Komisyonu" ile alt yūrūtme 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 ankların 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 Senato 24.01.2023 tarihli, 2023/03/02 sayılı karan ile Üniversite Yönetim Kurulu'nun 05.10.2023 tarihli, 2023/16/24 sayılı kararının iptal edilmesine oy birliği ile karar verildi.

MERKEZÁÇ BÜRÜNLER BETAY	GÜREV	KADRODA GÖREYE BASLAMA TARİHİ	KADBODAN GÖREYDEN AVRILMA TARİHİ	ENVAN	ADI	SOVADI
BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNVERSİTESİ ÇEVBE VÖNETİMİ KOMİSYONU	Komisyon Baykana	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Rekste Yed./ Prof. Dr.	Fail, Tenç	BOZBURA
	Komiyon Cycsi	11.07.2104	11.67,2627	Prof. Dr.	Ciell	SOHODOL.
	Komisyon Cypsi	11.07.2024	11.67.2627	Genel Sekretor Ynl./ Dug. Dr.	Diay	TURAN
	Ковіоров Суркі	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	SIBMYO Madar Ynt/ Dr. Oğr Üyesi	Furkan	60ZL
	Komiyon Cycsi	11.07.2104	11.07.2027	Dr. Opr. Oyesi	Hospin Goshan	08CAN
	Komisyon Cycsi	11.07.2024	11.67.2627	Dr. Ogr. Cyesi	Peter	02XYAR
	Kominyon Cycsi	11.07.2104	11.67.2627	Genel Sekreter Ynl.	.05	UCAR AREA

MERKEZ/IC BIRIMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADRODA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHI	ENVAN	ADI	SOVADI
3	Kurul Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkan Yrd.	Eath	EREN
£35	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkan Yrd.	Enes	YÜCH.
233 E	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yoneticisi	Yeşim	YILDIZ
IR ONIVERSITI VERIMILIĞI TME KURULU	Kurul Oyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Uzman	Begüm	EZEL TORAMAN
TAR	Kurul Öyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Kerem	KORKMAZ
IÇEŞEHİR ENERLİ VI YÜRÜTMI	Kurul Oyesi	11.97.2924	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Mordan Mustafa	ŞAHİN
BAHCI	Kurul Oyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Tuncay	ADATEPE
9	Kurul Oyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Teknik Eleman	Zdxi	SAHAN

MERKEZ/IÇ BIRIMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADRODA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHİ	ENVAN	ADI	SOYADI
8	Kurul Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkanı	Edip Bahadır	YILDIRIM
F 3	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Koordinator	Nuri	ÇALIŞIR
SAS	Kurul Üyesi	11.67.2624	11.07.2027	Dirim Yeneticisi	Yeşim	YILDIZ
	Kurul Üyesi	11.67.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yöneticisi	Nazh Başak	AKBULUT
BAHCESEHİR Ü SIFIR VÜRÜTME	Kurul Üyesi	11.67.2624	11.07.2027	Dirim Yoneticisi	Çigárm	GÖZCÜ
5 6	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Cumhur	HEKIM
3	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Doğun	ARPACI

MERKEZ/IC BIRIMLER DETAY	GÖREV	KADRODA GÖREVE BAŞLAMA TARİHİ	KADRODAN GÖREVDEN AYRILMA TARİHİ	ENVAN	ADI	SOYADI
200	Kurul Başkanı	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Duire Başkanı	Edip Bahadır	YILDIRIM
5,3	Kurul Oyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Daire Başkan Yel.	Fanh	EREN
E E E	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Duire Buşkan Yıd.	Encs	YÜCEL
CESEDIÉ ÜNIVERSI SUVERIMITAĞI VÜRÜTME KURULU	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Birim Yoneticisi	Yeşim	YILDIZ
ESEMIR SUVER OROTM	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Mari Amir	Cumbur	HEKİM
RAHÇES	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Idari Amir	Murat	YÜKSEL.
28	Kurul Üyesi	11.07.2024	11.07.2027	Uzman	Begüm	EZEL TORAMAN



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, 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. These actions have also contributed to more efficient use of natural resources, including the responsible management of water throughout campus operations—strengthening the University's holistic approach to sustainability.

Link: https://aday.bau.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Sifir_atik_belgeleri.pdf

Evrak Tarih ve Sayısı: 10.08.2023-E.63534



T.C. BAHÇEŞEHİR ÜNİVERSİTESİ REKTÖRLÜĞÜ Mekan ve Donatım Birimi

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

GENEL SEKRETERLİK MAKAMINA

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

- Ayrıca;

 Oniversitemiz 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 başvurusundencelemeleri öncesinde sıfır atıkla ilgili tüm hazırtıklar yürütülmüş, eksik malzemeler teşpit ve tedarik edilmiş,
 Denelmen sonranında silan edilen diğenlemeler(deliği) ilkleriskeiklerin eiderilmesi islemleri işkin.
- Denetleme sonrasında talep edilen düzeltmeler/değişiklikler/eksiklerin giderilmesi işlemleri takip edilmiş ve sonuçlandırılmış.
- commiş ve sonuştanın ininş, Akademik ve idazi personele Sıfır Atık Eğitimi verilmiş, eğitimle ilgili video hazırlanmış ve itsleaming alanına yüklenmiş,
- Kurum içi yazışımalar yürüülmüş, dış 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 amiştir. Sıfır Atık Belgeleri ayrıca ekte sunulmuştur.

Sıfır Atık Belge

S.N	o Kampüsler	Kapsadığı Bloklar	No	Verildiği Tarih	Son Geçerlilik Tarihi
1	Balmumcu Kampūs	Ana Blok	TS/34/B2/6/57	95.07.2023	5.07.2028
2	Galata Kampüs	Ana Blok	TS/34/B2/6/58	112.07.2023	12.07.2028
3	Göztepe Kampüs	A ve B Blok	TS/34/B2/6/57	424.04.2023	24.04.2028
4	Güney Kampüs	A, B, C, D, G, N, O	TS/34/B2/6/57	83.07.2023	3.07.2028
5	Güney Kampüs	F Blok - Hukuk Fakültesi Binası	TS/34/B2/6/58	418.07.2023	18.07.2028
6	Güney Kampüs	Uzaktan Eğitim Binası	TS/34/B2/6/58	05.07.2023	5.07.2028
		Bu belge, güvenli elektronik imzu ile	impalanments.		

k inte or me Belge Takip Adresi : https://www.tarkiye.gov.trbabceschir-univers Bilgi için: Yeşim YiLDEZ Birin Yöteticisi

Bu belge 5070 savili Elektronik İmza Kanununun 5. Maddesi Gereğince güvenli elektronik İmza ile imzalar





Galata Kampüs TS/34/B3/6/18824.07.2023 24.07.2028

loca Banası 15/34/B3/6/18824.07/2025 24.07/2025 Tüm Bloklar, Girişimcilik Merkezi, Yurtlar ve Misafirhane TS/34/B2/6/5879.08.2023 9.08.2028 Bloğu Kemerburgaz Kampüs 8 A,B ve C Blok Ana Blok Kuzey Kampūs Pera Kampūs TS/34/B2/6/57321.03.2023 21.03.2028 TS/34/B2/6/58524.07.2023 24.07.2028

Bilgilerinize arz ederim.

Saygılarımla.

Ali UÇAR Daire Başkanı Vekili

Ek:Tüm Kampüsler Sıfır Atık Belgeleri (10 adet)

ik imza de imzanamen. Belge Takip Adresi : https://www.tarkiye.gov.tr/balcesehir-unive Belge içes: Yeşim YiL.DiZ. Birim Yöseticisi

Bu belge 5070 sayılı Elektronik İmza Kanununun 5. Maddesi gereğince güvenli elektronik imza ile imzala





From Water Scarcity to Water Security: Navigating Challenges, Discovering Solutions — "Water is Life, Water Means Food" Collaborative Workshop with FAO and Bahçeşehir University



As part of its 2023–2024 academic year sustainability activities, Bahçeşehir University (BAU), through its CIFAL Istanbul Centre affiliated with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), hosted the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the World Food Day Workshop, under the global theme "Water is Life, Water Means Food." This collaborative event brought together academics, public officials, professionals, and students to explore the interconnections between water, food systems, and sustainable development from an interdisciplinary and global perspective.

The workshop served as an engaging platform to examine the crucial role of water security in ensuring environmental sustainability and food resilience, emphasizing its importance across the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals—particularly those addressing clean water, ecosystem health, and marine resource protection. Participants discussed the global challenges of water scarcity, pollution, and resource inequity, while also identifying innovative policy, research, and communication strategies to promote sustainable water and ocean management.

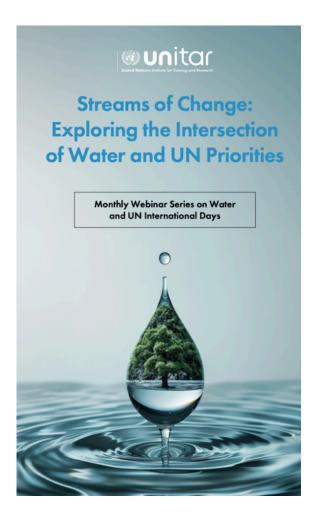
Throughout the sessions, experts highlighted the intricate relationship between freshwater and marine ecosystems, the impacts of climate change on oceanic biodiversity, and the need for equitable water governance to secure both terrestrial and aquatic food chains. By fostering inclusive dialogue among scientists, students, and policymakers, the event promoted a holistic understanding of how sustainable water use directly supports marine conservation and the protection of life below water.

By providing a collaborative platform for knowledge exchange and advocacy, Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing sustainability, ecosystem integrity, and responsible resource management. This initiative exemplifies BAU's contribution to the achievement of SDG 14: Life Below Water, emphasizing the protection of marine and freshwater ecosystems as integral to global food security and sustainable development.





UNITAR Global Water Academy (22 March 2024)

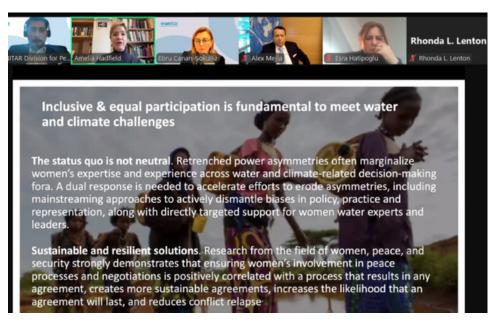


On 26 March 2025, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) launched the UNITAR Global Water Academy (UGWA) in Geneva, Switzerland, marking its commitment to advancing sustainable water governance and equitable resource management. The launch took place during the virtual side event "Bridging Gender Gaps and Advancing Equity in Water Governance", held in conjunction with World Water Day and the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, emphasizing the essential role of glaciers in sustaining global freshwater resources.

As CIFAL Istanbul operates under the joint framework of Bahçeşehir University and UNITAR, Prof. Dr. Esra Hatipoğlu, Rector of Bahçeşehir University, participated as a panelist in the high-level discussion. The event convened experts and practitioners from different CIFAL Centres, UNITAR divisions, and leading universities worldwide, highlighting the interconnection between gender equity and sustainable water management.

Prof. Hatipoğlu's participation reflected Bahçeşehir University's ongoing dedication to global dialogue on sustainability and inclusive governance. Through this engagement, the University contributed to the exchange of knowledge on gender-sensitive water policies, reaffirming its commitment to promoting education, innovation, and equitable access to clean water as cornerstones of peace and sustainable development.

Through active participation in these sessions, Bahçeşehir University and CIFAL Istanbul contribute academic insights and foster knowledge exchange on sustainable water systems and community-based resource management. This engagement positions the University as a proactive regional partner within the UNITAR Global Network, reinforcing its long-term commitment to the responsible use of water resources and the promotion of a sustainable and resilient future.





Strategic Collaboration between Bahçeşehir University and İstanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (İSKİ)



Bahçeşehir University (BAU), through its Career Development Application and Research Center (BAU CO-OP), continues its long-standing collaboration with the İstanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (İSKİ), representing an exemplary public-academic partnership in sustainable water management and urban resilience. Supported by İSKİ General Director Assoc. Prof. Şafak Başa, this collaboration connects higher education and public administration to promote practical knowledge sharing, capacity-building, and innovation in the management of metropolitan water and wastewater systems.

By aligning academic expertise with institutional experience, BAU and İSKİ jointly address the challenges of providing equitable access to clean water, improving wastewater treatment, and strengthening digital infrastructure for efficient resource use. The partnership enhances students' and professionals' understanding of integrated watershed management, circular water use, and sustainable infrastructure planning—key components of resilient and climate-adaptive cities.

Beyond technical cooperation, the initiative reflects a shared commitment to public benefit and environmental stewardship. It demonstrates how academia and government can work together to foster informed decision-making, cultivate skilled human capital, and embed sustainability principles into the governance of essential urban services. Through this collaboration, Bahçeşehir University contributes directly to the realization of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, advancing inclusive, efficient, and sustainable water management systems for present and future generations.

Urban Water Management and Infrastructure Course (12 February 2024-24 May 2024)



Bahçeşehir University, in collaboration with the Istanbul Water and Sewerage Administration (İSKİ), offered the Urban Water Management and Infrastructure course for the second time in the 2023–2024 Spring Semester as a branded course under the BAU CO-OP program, bringing academia and the public sector together to advance sustainable water management education.

Developed jointly by BAU's Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences and İSKİ experts, the course provided students with an in-depth understanding of Istanbul's water and wastewater systems—one of the most complex urban networks in the world. Over 13 weeks, İSKİ professionals and senior managers delivered lectures on topics including water treatment, wastewater management, urban flood control, environmental monitoring, and integrated watershed management, complemented by field visits to key facilities such as the İkitelli and Ataköy Advanced Biological Treatment Plants.

The initiative not only enhanced students' technical and practical knowledge but also promoted awareness of sustainable resource management, circular water use, and digital transformation in the water sector. By engaging public institutions in the academic learning process, the collaboration contributed to developing skilled human capital for the future of sustainable urban infrastructure. This partnership exemplifies Bahçeşehir University's active role in bridging education, industry, and sustainability to ensure equitable access to clean water and resilient sanitation systems.

Bahçeşehir College XI. Young Diplomats Conference – "A Communicative Perspective on the Water Crisis"



Hosted at Bahçeşehir University's Future the XI. Campus, Youna Diplomats Conference brought together students from Bahçeşehir College to engage in a multidisciplinary discussion on one of today's most pressing global challenges the water crisis. The conference addressed the issue from multiple perspectives including ecology, law, health. and industry, encouraging participants to develop comprehensive and solution-oriented viewpoints.

As part of the event, Dr. Nilüfer Geysi, Coordinator of CIFAL Istanbul and Assistant Professor at BAU Faculty of Communication, delivered an insightful presentation titled "A Communicative Perspective on the Water Crisis," highlighting how effective communication strategies can play a transformative role in raising awareness and inspiring behavioral change toward more responsible water use. The session emphasized the importance of fostering dialogue, empathy, and cooperation across generations to address water scarcity and ensure the sustainable management of this vital resource.

Through such initiatives, Bahçeşehir University continues to promote academic and social platforms that deepen understanding of global sustainability issues while nurturing future leaders who are conscious of their role in safeguarding clean water and sanitation for all.



BAU Young TEMA's Nature and Water Awareness Workshop (01 November 2024)



Raising early awareness for a sustainable future, BAU Young TEMA, the environmental student club of Bahçeşehir University, delivered the "Nature and Water Awareness Workshop" at Biltes College, Istanbul, on 1 November 2024. The session aimed to introduce young learners to the fundamental values of environmental responsibility, sustainable living, and the mission of TEMA Foundation, to which the club is proudly affiliated.

Throughout the session, the BAU Young TEMA members emphasized the interconnectedness of soil, nature, and water, helping students understand how these elements sustain life and how protecting them ensures the continuity of clean water resources. By sharing interactive examples and stories, they cultivated a sense of personal responsibility and encouraged participants to see themselves as future guardians of natural ecosystems.

This initiative exemplifies Bahçeşehir University's approach to sustainability education, where learning extends beyond the classroom and transforms into community-oriented engagement. By nurturing environmental consciousness from an early age, BAU Young TEMA directly contributes to the advancement of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, fostering awareness about the necessity of preserving water quality, maintaining ecosystem balance, and ensuring equitable access to water for future generations.

CIFAL Istanbul Team's Visit to the Earthquake Zone in Malatya (13-15 December 2024)



Between 13-15 December 2024, the CIFAL Istanbul team organized a meaningful educational initiative in Battalgazi, Malatya, under the title "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, emphasizing how individuals can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In particular, the team highlighted the importance of clean water conservation and sanitation. Other topics included renewable energy, sustainable cities, climate action, and ecosystem protection, with practical guidance on waste reduction and the long-term benefits of adopting environmentally responsible lifestyles. 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.

This initiative reflects Bahçeşehir University's commitment to fostering awareness of sustainable development principles and extending educational expertise beyond its campus. The seminar encouraged participants to understand how individual and community actions can contribute to SDGs and empower them to adopt environmentally responsible practices.





Sailing Towards Sustainability: BAU Young TEMA's Bosphorus Canoe Event (24 March 2024)



Bahçeşehir University's student club, BAU Young TEMA, organized a Canoe Event on 24 March 2024, within the scope of World Water Week, in Beykoz, Istanbul. The event invited students to explore the Bosphorus by canoe, offering them an opportunity to connect with nature while engaging directly with the marine ecosystem that sustains the city's environmental balance.

Throughout the journey, participants reflected on the importance of preserving clean water sources and the responsibility of individuals and communities in safeguarding aquatic ecosystems. The experience highlighted the interdependence between urban life and natural water systems, emphasizing how sustainable actions at the local level contribute to global water security and sanitation goals.

By turning environmental awareness into a hands-on learning experience, Bahçeşehir University and BAU Young TEMA demonstrated their commitment to advancing sustainable water management and supporting the principles of SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation. This initiative also underlined the University's dedication to fostering student-led engagement in sustainability, encouraging young people to take an active role in protecting natural resources and promoting a culture of environmental responsibility.

Turkey's First Domestic Water Spectrum Measurement Device Developed by BAU (11 September 2024)



Bahçeşehir University, in partnership with Defense Technologies Engineering and Trade Inc. (STM), has successfully developed Türkiye's first domestically produced CTD Probe (Conductivity, Temperature, Depth) system, marking a significant step in sustainable water and marine research and technological innovation. The project, coordinated by BAU Innovation and Consultancy Inc. (BAUMIND) and supported under TÜBİTAK's Technology and Innovation Support Programs, aims to strengthen national capabilities in water analysis, environmental monitoring, and responsible resource management.

The locally engineered CTD Probe enables real-time measurement of seawater conductivity, temperature, and pressure — parameters crucial for assessing water quality, mapping underwater environments, and supporting the sustainable management of marine resources. Designed for use in both research vessels and underwater platforms, the device provides critical data that can inform scientific studies on ocean dynamics, ecosystem health, and the protection of aquatic life.

Beyond its technological contribution, the initiative reinforces the synergy between academia and industry in advancing data-based approaches for marine observation and environmental research. By enhancing national capacity in underwater analysis and ensuring access to accurate, high-quality data on aquatic environments, the collaboration contributes directly to the protection of marine ecosystems and the sustainable management of water resources.

STM and BAU Collaboration: Co-Light Underwater Lighting System



Bahçeşehir University, in collaboration with Defense Technologies Engineering and Trading Inc. (STM), has developed the Co-Light Underwater Lighting System, an innovative technology that enhances underwater visibility and supports sustainable marine research and maintenance practices. Originating from a long-term university-industry partnership, the initiative combines engineering excellence with environmental responsibility to advance the study and protection of aquatic environments.

Designed to provide clearer imaging and detailed observation beneath the water's surface, the Co-Light system allows for the inspection of submerged structures without the need for extensive dry-docking or disruptive interventions. By enabling divers and researchers to conduct real-time underwater analyses, the system minimizes resource consumption and promotes the efficient management of marine operations. It also offers valuable applications in underwater photography, ecological monitoring, and coastal infrastructure assessment.

Through the integration of advanced illumination technologies, Bahçeşehir University contributes to the sustainable use and conservation of water resources. The project exemplifies how academic research can generate practical, eco-conscious solutions that strengthen environmental stewardship and the resilience of marine ecosystems.

BAUROV Team's Innovative Underwater Robot: G.Ü.L.L.E



Founded by Bahçeşehir University students, BAUROV (Bahçeşehir Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Team) develops innovative underwater robotics systems aimed at addressing marine and freshwater sustainability challenges through science-driven engineering. With a vision grounded in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in the responsible management of water resources, the team combines technological innovation with environmental consciousness to support cleaner and healthier aquatic ecosystems.

The team's latest model, G.Ü.L.L.E, represents their most compact and efficient autonomous underwater vehicle to date. Weighing 7.1 kilograms with a 30.2 cm frame and equipped with eight motors, the vehicle has been successfully tested at depths of up to 80 meters. BAUROV's field operations include underwater research dives in the Marmara Sea, where the team conducted imaging and data collection to better understand the environmental dynamics behind the mucilage phenomenon that threatens marine life. By integrating sensor-based systems for detecting pollutants and monitoring water quality, BAUROV contributes valuable data for environmental management and early response systems.

Through its engineering projects, BAUROV not only exemplifies student-led innovation but also strengthens Bahçeşehir University's institutional efforts toward sustainable water governance, pollution monitoring, and ecosystem preservation. The initiative reflects a growing culture of environmental responsibility within the University community — one that merges technology, education, and sustainability to protect vital water resources for future generations.

Navi IDA's Innovative Approaches to Autonomous Marine Systems





Navi İDA is a research and development team founded by Bahçeşehir University students, focusing on autonomous marine technologies that contribute to the protection and sustainable use of water resources. Integrating artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, and computer vision, the team develops innovative solutions for maritime operations, environmental monitoring, and scientific research. Composed of 11 students from the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Navi İDA has already demonstrated remarkable success, earning the "Most Original Software" award at the TEKNOFEST Unmanned Marine Vehicle Competition.

Established in 2024, the team's autonomous marine vehicles are designed to operate with precision and environmental sensitivity, enabling the monitoring of marine ecosystems and the collection of critical data on water quality and underwater conditions. These technologies support the preservation of aquatic environments, help identify sources of pollution, and promote the sustainable management of marine and freshwater resources.

By merging innovation with environmental consciousness, Navi İDA embodies Bahçeşehir University's commitment to responsible engineering and the protection of natural resources for future generations — ensuring that technological progress advances in harmony with the health of our waters.

The Key to Improving Your Business, Planet, and Society: Corporate Sustainability and ESG (18 January 2024)





As 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.

Link: https://bausem.bau.edu.tr/sinif/isletmenizi-gezegeni-ve-toplumu-gelistirmenin-anahtari-kurumsal-surdurulebilirlik-ve-esg67078259108f1.html

3rd "SürdürSEK: Sustainability in the Sector Summit" (21 December 2024)



Bahçeşehir University's student club BAU Genç TEMA successfully held the third edition of the SürdürSEK: Sustainability in the Sector Summit on 21 December 2024. The summit gathered leading experts from the fields of environmental protection and corporate sustainability, including WWF-Türkiye CEO Ömür Kula, Yapı Kredi Corporate Communications Director Arda Öztaşkın, and SKD Türkiye Communication and Project Specialist Serhat Şabap.

The event served as a dynamic forum where students and professionals exchanged ideas on building more sustainable and responsible business ecosystems. Discussions focused on how industries can integrate sustainability into corporate strategies, particularly by reducing resource waste, preserving water ecosystems, and ensuring equitable access to essential environmental resources. Speakers addressing challenges such as water efficiency, pollution prevention, and the circular use of natural resources, participants underlined the shared responsibility of every sector in safeguarding the foundations of a healthy and sustainable future.

Through initiatives like SürdürSEK, Bahçeşehir University continues to nurture student-led awareness and leadership on sustainability, promoting a holistic understanding of environmental responsibility that includes the sustainable management of water and sanitation systems within the broader framework of global development goals.



Sustainability School Certificate Program



Bahçeşehir University, in collaboration with CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR launched the Sustainability School Certificate Program under the BAUPRO framework to empower professionals and leaders committed to embedding sustainability into the core of their institutional and personal practices.

Through its comprehensive eight-module structure, the program places particular emphasis on responsible resource and water management, highlighting the importance of clean water accessibility, sanitation awareness, and ecosystem protection as integral components of sustainable growth. Within the Environmental Sustainability and Resource Management module, participants explore innovative strategies for water efficiency, infrastructure resilience, and sustainable urban systems, addressing one of the key challenges of a livable and equitable future.

Participants who successfully complete the program receive a UNITAR-accredited certificate jointly signed by CIFAL Istanbul, UNITAR, and Bahçeşehir University, recognizing their expertise in sustainable transformation. By combining academic depth with practical application, the program nurtures leaders capable of translating sustainability goals into action—particularly in advancing responsible water and resource stewardship across sectors.





