

Istanbul Topkapı University Ecological Campus Policy

Istanbul Topkapı University is an educational institution that operates with a vision of creating an environmentally conscious campus and preserving the balance of the ecosystem. In line with this, our university adopts and implements an ecological campus policy based on sustainability principles. The aim is to plan activities across the campus in a way that has the least possible impact on the environment, to protect natural resources, and to contribute to ecological balance.

Core Values

The Istanbul Topkapı University Ecological Campus Policy is based on the following fundamental values:

1. **Protection of Natural Values:** Our university is committed to using natural resources responsibly and ensuring their sustainability. The conscious and efficient use of vital resources such as water, energy and land is encouraged.
2. **Respect for Ecosystem Balance:** The preservation of green spaces within the campus and the promotion of biodiversity are part of the aim to maintain ecosystem balance. The university aims to create a campus environment that respects nature.
3. **Environmentally Friendly Design and Structures:** Environmentally friendly architectural and engineering solutions are used in the university's buildings and facilities. Green buildings, energy-efficient systems and natural lighting/ventilation are preferred to reduce negative impacts on the environment.
4. **Zero Waste Approach:** Separating waste at source, recycling it and adopting a zero waste target wherever possible is one of our university's key priorities.
5. **Environmental Awareness and Participation:** Istanbul Topkapı University aims to raise environmental awareness among students, staff and the wider community, promote sustainability awareness and encourage environmentally friendly behaviour.

Ecological Campus Policy Strategies

Istanbul Topkapı University implements its ecological campus policy through the following strategies:

1. **Preservation and Expansion of Green Areas:** The preservation of existing green spaces on campus and the creation of new green spaces is a priority strategy. Tree planting initiatives and projects to enhance biodiversity will be carried out on a regular basis.
2. **Water and Energy Management:** Projects that will reduce water consumption and increase energy efficiency will be implemented. Rainwater harvesting systems, low water-consumption plumbing fixtures and energy-saving lighting systems will be installed throughout the campus.

3. **Waste Management and Recycling:** Our university will expand recycling and composting systems across the campus to minimise waste production. Waste management processes will be continuously improved in line with the zero-waste target.
4. **Environmentally Friendly Transport:** The university will encourage environmentally friendly modes of transport on campus. Infrastructure will be strengthened to promote cycle lanes, electric vehicle charging stations and increased use of public transport.
5. **Environmentally Friendly Building Design:** During the construction of new buildings and the renovation of existing structures, environmentally conscious design standards that promote energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions will be implemented. Eco-friendly applications such as green roofs and solar panels will be widely adopted.
6. **Biodiversity Conservation Programmes:** Biodiversity programmes will be developed to protect and support local plant and animal species within the university campus. Natural habitats within the campus will be preserved to increase ecological diversity.
7. **Sustainable Education and Research:** Courses, seminars and workshops will be organised at undergraduate and postgraduate levels to raise ecological awareness and encourage research into environmental sustainability. Academic projects will aim to contribute to ecological balance.
8. **Community and Environmental Cooperation:** The university will continue to carry out social awareness activities on environmental issues and collaborate with local authorities and civil society organisations. Public participation in the university's environmentally friendly projects will be encouraged.

Objectives

The objectives of Istanbul Topkapı University's Ecological Campus Policy are as follows:

1. **Increasing Green Areas:** Expanding green areas on campus by 20 percent and undertaking vegetation and afforestation work to increase biodiversity.
2. **Reducing Water Consumption:** Reducing water consumption on campus by 25 percent to achieve water savings. Achieving this target through rainwater harvesting systems.
3. **Increasing Energy Efficiency:** Reducing energy consumption on campus by 30 percent through energy efficiency projects.
4. **Improving Waste Management:** Within the framework of the zero waste policy, minimise waste production, increase recycling rates by 50 percent, and promote composting practices.
5. **Environmentally Friendly Transport:** Reducing carbon emissions by 40 percent in campus transport by encouraging the use of public transport, bicycles and electric vehicles.

6. **Building Ecological Awareness:** To increase the level of ecological awareness among all students and staff, organise regular annual environmental education programmes and activities.
7. **Strengthening Community Collaborations:** Developing social awareness projects in collaboration with local authorities, environmental civil society organisations and other universities, and actively participating in these projects.

These objectives are to be monitored regularly, the degree of success of the activities carried out is to be measured, and corrective and improvement measures are to be taken where necessary. Istanbul Topkapı University will continue to take decisive steps towards achieving its ecological campus objectives and spreading environmental responsibility awareness.