



NİĞDE ÖMER HALİSDEMİR UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2025





ANATOLIA'S SHINING STAR IN
*higher education
and science*

INTRODUCTION

SUSTAINABILITY
BEGINS WITH VISION

TOWARDS A CLIMATE
RESILIENT CAMPUS

GOVERNED BY
OUR VALUES

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GLOBALIZING

IN THE MEDIA

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" sustainability
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MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

The accelerating impacts of global climate change, increasing pressure on natural resources, and the deepening of environmental risks have made the sustainability responsibilities of higher education institutions more visible than ever. This process represents not only an environmental transformation but also a structural change supported by a strong regulatory and policy framework. Regulations such as the European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), the Climate Law enacted in Türkiye, and the Water Efficiency Regulation require institutions to measure, monitor, and report their performance in carbon, water, and resource management. Within this framework, universities are strategic actors that not only generate knowledge but also lead this transformation and develop exemplary practices.

As Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, we shape our education, research, and community engagement activities in line with sustainability principles, while considering the reduction of our environmental impacts and the enhancement of social benefit among our primary objectives. Through our energy efficiency practices, renewable energy investments, water management and water footprint studies, waste management initiatives, and biodiversity-oriented applications, we are taking significant steps toward transforming our campus into a more resilient and sustainable environment. At the same time, we continue to create regional and national

impact through our research activities aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and our strong community engagement efforts.

This report represents a significant milestone in our university's sustainability journey and stands as our first sustainability report prepared by drawing on the approach and disclosure framework of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards. While presenting the environmental, social, and governance dimensions of our institutional activities within a transparent, comparable, and measurable framework, the report also serves as a guide for our future strategic decision-making processes. In this context, we address our sustainability performance not only through current practices but also through data driven analyses and a continuous improvement approach.

In the coming period, we aim to accelerate the transition toward a low-carbon, resource-efficient, and climate-resilient campus structure, expand the culture of sustainability among all our stakeholders, and strengthen our presence on national and international platforms. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all our academic and administrative staff, students, and stakeholders who have contributed to this process, and emphasize that we will continue to produce and transform together for a sustainable future.

Prof. Dr. Hasan USLU
Rector of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University



Prof. Dr. Hasan USLU
RECTOR



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ABOUT THE REPORT

The 2025 Sustainability Report of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has been prepared to present the University's environmental, social, and governance performance, priorities, and future objectives. The report aims to evaluate institutional activities from a sustainability perspective and to provide stakeholders with transparent, comparable, and reliable information.

The approach and disclosure framework of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards was taken into consideration during the reporting process. While systematically presenting the University's sustainability approach and performance indicators, this report also serves as a management tool that supports institutional decision-making processes.

ABOUT NÖHÜ

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is a well-established public higher education institution founded in 1992 and operating within the Turkish higher education system with academic autonomy. Our University adopts a holistic approach in carrying out its education, research and development, and community engagement activities, while providing an academic ecosystem that supports regional development and produces innovative and sustainable solutions. With its multidisciplinary academic structure, research centers, application areas, and strong infrastructure, the University contributes to the production of scientific knowledge at both national and international levels. At the same time, it integrates environmental awareness and sustainability principles into all of its activities.

MISSION

To educate individuals who are inquisitive, questioning, participatory, and capable of universal thinking; to contribute to the advancement of science, technology, and art; and to support national and regional development through an environmentally conscious approach.

VISION

To become a pioneering university focused on regional development, specialized in priority areas, innovative, and leading in community service.

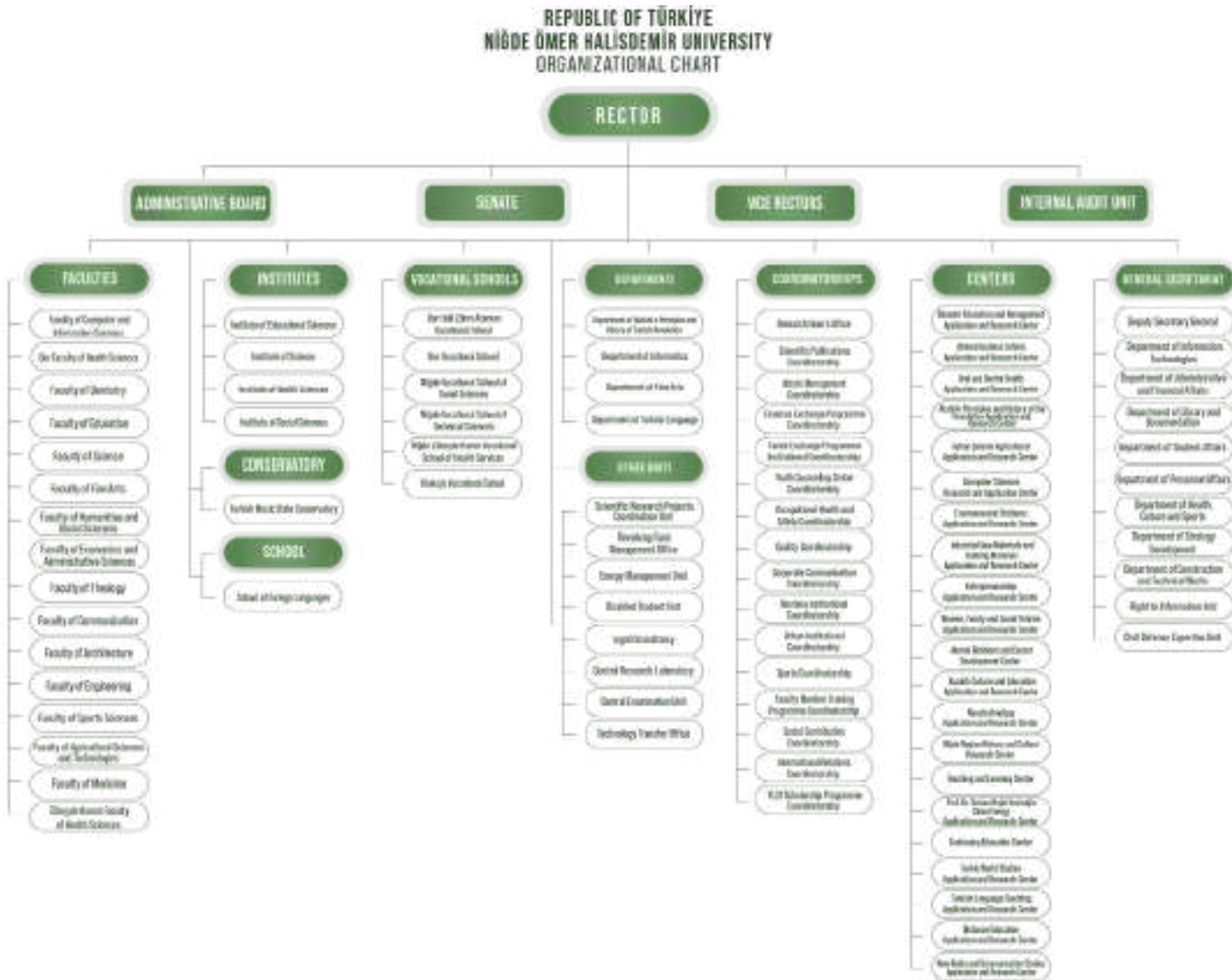
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has an academic and administrative organizational structure established in accordance with higher education legislation.

The University comprises 16 faculties, 4 institutes, 1 school, 1 conservatory, 6 vocational schools, and 21 research and application centers. Its governance structure is administered through the rectorate, senate, and executive boards in alignment with strategic planning, performance management, and quality assurance processes.

The University operates across campuses located in different areas of Niğde Province. The main campuses include the Central Campus, Aşağı Kayabaşı Campus, Derbent Campus, Bor Campus, and Ulukışla Campus. With an indoor area exceeding 350,000 m², the University possesses a strong physical infrastructure that includes educational buildings, laboratories, research centers, social facilities, and sports areas.

The campus infrastructure includes a congress and cultural center, a central library, sports complexes, a swimming pool, student living spaces, social facilities, and research and application laboratories. This infrastructure provides an integrated campus life that supports the academic, social, and cultural development of students and staff.





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FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

As of 2025, our University demonstrated a balanced financial structure in which the majority of its revenues (96%) were generated from public resources, while a significant portion of its expenditures (83%) was allocated to human resources.

Category	Description	Amount (TL)	
Enterprise and Property Revenues	Goods & Service Sales + Rent	54.990.488,97	GELİRLER
Grants and Aids	Central Manegement + Project + Other	2.608.583.772,63	
Other Revenues	Interest, Shares, Fines, etc.	45.919.244,99	
Total Revenue (Net)		2.709.493.506,59	
Personnel Expenses	All personnel types	1.988.591.707,20	GİDERLER
SSI Premium Expenses	All personnel	249.760.303,41	
Purchases of Goods and Services	Consumption + Service + Maintenance	142.283.429,99	
Current Transfers	Assignments + Supports	79.674.607,81	
Capital Expenditures	Investment and infrastructure	216.564.998,44	
Total Expenditure		2.676.875.046,85	
BUDGET BALANCE	SURPLUS	32.618.459,74	

AN OVERVIEW OF OUR SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEY

The academic research outputs of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University have been systematically associated with the Sustainable Development Goals, demonstrating a multidimensional knowledge production structure in the fields of environmental, social, and economic sustainability. The studies conducted within our University encompass a wide range of academic outputs, including internationally indexed articles, national publications, conference proceedings, book chapters, and other scholarly works. The academic outputs of 2025 are categorized under the following main headings:

- Internationally indexed articles (SCI, SCI-Expanded, and other indexes)
- Publications in national peer-reviewed journals

- International and national conference proceedings
- Books and book chapters
- Other types of academic publications

When the publications are evaluated on a disciplinary basis:

- Engineering and technology fields demonstrate a strong publication production capacity,
- Health sciences and natural sciences hold a significant share in scientific publication output,
- Studies focused on agriculture, environment, and sustainability show a steadily increasing trend,
- In the field of social sciences, studies emphasizing social impact stand out prominently.

This distribution reflects our University's multidisciplinary research structure and its academic approach that maintains a balance across different fields. The research projects completed at our University during 2025 demonstrate a strong research portfolio that addresses the environmental, social, and economic dimensions of sustainable development through a holistic approach. While the projects are concentrated in various disciplines such as health, energy, climate change, agriculture, digitalization, and social development, they also produce outputs that can be directly associated with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The table presented below includes the classification of projects according to thematic areas and their alignment with the relevant SDGs, thereby systematically and measurably demonstrating our University's research contribution to sustainable development.

Global Goals for Sustainable DEVELOPMENT

Project Thematic Area	Sample Project Content	Related SDG (SKA)	Description
Health and Medical Sciences	Cancer, implant, infection, biomedical studies	3	Clinical and experimental research aimed at improving human health
Energy and Clean Technologies	Fuel cells, solar cells, hydrogen systems	7	Renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions
Climate and Environment	NO2 emission, climate change, water, air quality	13	Climate impacts, adaptation, and mitigation-focused studies
Agriculture and Food Systems	Potato, alfalfa, agricultural production, food quality projects	2	Sustainable agriculture and food security
Biotechnology and Material Science	Nanomaterials, biopolymers, composites	9	R&D and advanced technology development
Water and Ecosystems	Water quality, wastewater, ecological impact analysis	6	Protection and management of water resources
Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence	Artificial intelligence, sensor systems, data analytics	9	Digital transformation and smart systems
Education and Social Development	Educational technologies, teacher academies, awareness projects	4	Studies aimed at increasing the quality of education
Social Sciences and Society	Migration, culture, social behavior, inequality	10	Social structure and social policy studies
Cultural Heritage and Art	Excavations, documentaries, cultural studies	11	Protection of cultural heritage
Waste and Circular Economy	Waste PET, organic waste, recycling	12	Resource efficiency and waste management
Biodiversity and Ecology	Flora-fauna, ecosystem research	15	Protection of ecosystems





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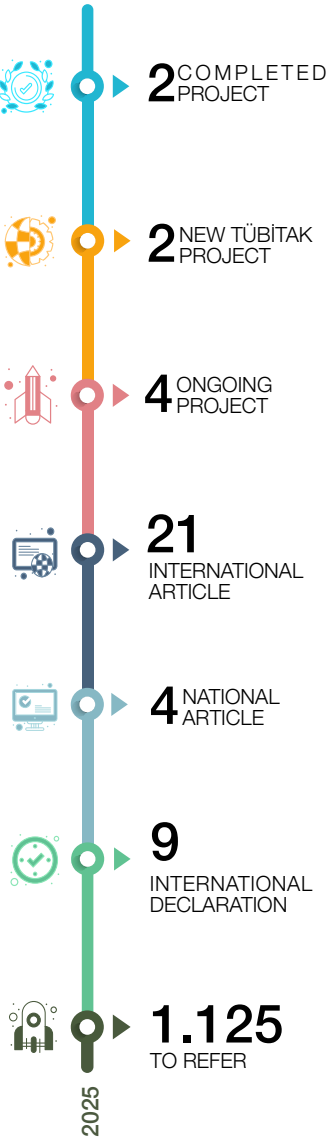
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PROF. DR. T. NEJAT VEZİROĞLU CLEAN ENERGY APPLICATION AND RESEARCH CENTER

The Prof. Dr. T. Nejat Veziroğlu Clean Energy Application and Research Center is a strategic research unit that supports the sustainability vision of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University through clean energy transition, research capacity, and application-oriented collaborations. As of 2025, the Center has successfully completed two projects focused on new and renewable energy, hydrogen technologies, and fuel cells; initiated two new TÜBİTAK projects; and continued a total of four project activities under different funding mechanisms.

During the same period, the production of 21 international articles, 4 national articles, 9 international conference papers, and 1,125 citations demonstrates the Center's strong capacity for knowledge generation and impact creation. The Center's activities are concentrated in areas such as the development of clean energy technologies, hydrogen production and storage systems, fuel cell applications, energy efficiency, the energy-environment relationship, and low-carbon industrial transformation. In this respect, the Center is strongly aligned with SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 13: Climate Action, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through university-industry collaborations.

Furthermore, the Center's contributions to the Türkiye Hydrogen Action Plan and sectoral consultation processes focused on green transformation demonstrate that the University contributes to sustainable development goals not only through academic outputs but also through policy development and societal impact.



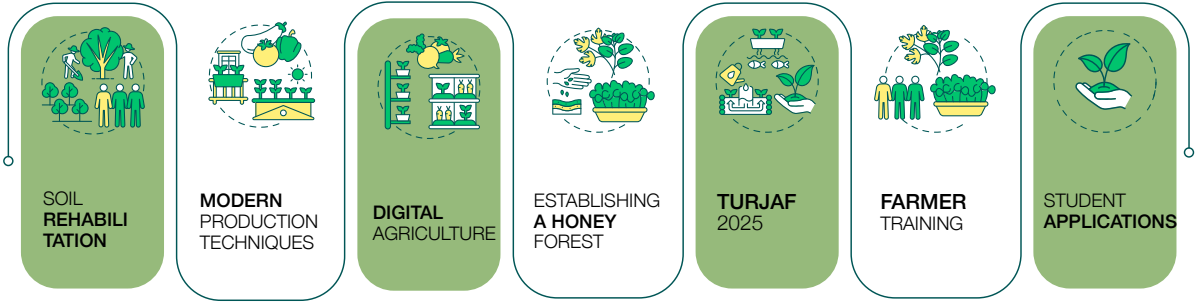
AYHAN ŞAHENK AGRICULTURAL APPLICATION AND RESEARCH CENTER

The Ayhan Şahenk Agricultural Application and Research Center is one of the significant units that strengthens the institutional capacity of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University in the fields of sustainable agriculture, applied education, and local development. With its infrastructure supporting contemporary practices in plant and animal production, the Center conducts research, training, and extension activities in areas such as soil improvement, modern production techniques, fruit growing, viticulture, beekeeping, digital agriculture, deficit irrigation, plant cultivation, and applied harvesting and production processes.

During 2025, activities such as the planting of seven grape varieties and 200 grafted vine saplings, the implementation of the fourth phase of the Honey

Forest Establishment Project, the Digital Agriculture Congress, TURJAF 2025, farmer training programs, technical visits, and applied activities involving students directly in production processes clearly demonstrated the Center's ability to transfer knowledge generation into practice.

These activities show strong alignment with SDG 2: Zero Hunger, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate Action, SDG 15: Life on Land, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through collaborations among the public sector, private sector, and farmers. In this respect, the Center contributes to the University's sustainability performance through research, practical implementation, and societal engagement.



AWARDS

DUBAI - WORLD GREEN ECONOMY SUMMIT

EMIRATES
ENERGY AWARD

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University was honored with the Emirates Energy Awards for its “Green Energy House” project within the scope of the World Green Economy Summit held in Dubai. This achievement demonstrates the University’s institutional competence in the fields of sustainability and energy efficiency at the global level.

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Emirates Energy Award is an international platform that recognizes exemplary projects in the fields of sustainable development and green economy every two years.

It is awarded to exemplary and innovative projects worldwide in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and capacity building.

TÜBA-TEKNOFEST
DOCTORAL SCIENCE AWARDS

2025 3rd Place Award

Within the scope of the 2025 TÜBA-TEKNOFEST Doctoral Science Awards, **Dr. Hamza Alaşalvar**, a faculty member of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, was awarded third place in the field of Basic Sciences for his doctoral dissertation titled “**The Use of Deep Eutectic Solvents in the Extraction of Bioactive Compounds from Lavender and the Production of Biodegradable Films,**” conducted at Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University. This achievement has strengthened the University’s academic visibility in the fields of high-quality doctoral research, innovative scientific production, and sustainable materials/bioactive compounds.

TÜRKİYE BİLİMLER AKADEMİSİ
TURKISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCESYEAR
2025LOCATION
Dubai



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SUSTAINABILITY GOVERNANCE

Sustainability management at Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is carried out under the leadership of senior management and through the participation of academic and administrative units. The University has integrated its sustainability approach into its institutional governance structure by associating it with education, research, campus operations, and community engagement activities.

The coordination of sustainability activities is ensured under the leadership of the Rectorate through the collaboration of relevant administrative departments, the Quality Coordination Office, and academic units. In this context, the Sustainable Campus Commission, established with the participation of academics from different disciplines as well as representatives from technical and administrative units, provides a multi-stakeholder structure. The University's sustainability management approach is based on policies and practices covering environmental, energy, water,

climate, and campus-related issues. Within this framework, the reduction and recovery of waste, improvement of energy efficiency, efficient use of water resources, monitoring of the institutional carbon footprint, and the expansion of green campus practices are among the main priorities.

Within the scope of sustainability, risks and opportunities are addressed together with strategic planning and performance monitoring processes. The main risk areas include water stress, energy costs, carbon emissions, waste management, and the physical and operational impacts associated with climate change. In this regard, our University evaluates environmental, operational, and regulatory risks as an integral part of its institutional decision-making processes within the framework of sustainability management. Accordingly, the priority risk areas are summarized below in terms of their likelihood, institutional impact, and existing/planned mitigation measures.

Corporate Risk	Probability	Impact	Current / Planned Measure
Water stress and drought	High	High	Water footprint monitoring studies, rainwater harvesting system, water efficiency practices
Increase in energy costs	Medium	High	SPP (Solar Power Plant) investments, energy efficiency practices, consumption tracking
Carbon regulations and climate policies	Medium	Medium-High	Corporate carbon footprint calculation, emission reduction strategies
Extreme weather events and infrastructure impacts	Medium	Medium	Climate-resilient campus infrastructure, maintenance-repair and monitoring processes
Waste management and regulatory compliance	Low-Medium	Medium	Zero Waste practices, waste segregation system, temporary storage areas
Biodiversity and ecosystem pressure	Medium	Medium-High	Monitoring, protection and awareness studies for Akkaya Dam Lake and the campus ecosystem

Sustainability governance at Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is supported through monitoring, evaluation, and feedback mechanisms. Activity and performance reports are regularly shared, indicators are monitored within the scope of quality assurance processes, and stakeholders' opinions, requests, and suggestions are collected through various institutional channels. This structure contributes to the implementation of sustainability management in a manner that is aligned with institutional decision-making processes and is both transparent and traceable.

Conducting institutional activities in line with the principles of transparency, accountability, and accuracy constitutes one of the fundamental elements of sustainability governance. In this context, particularly for internal stakeholders, requests, suggestions, inquiries, and complaints can be submitted to the relevant units through the Request Management System (İYS) integrated into OGRIS. In addition, stakeholder access is supported through the Right to Information mechanism, CIMER, and feedback forms specific to certain units. This structure contributes to strengthening the University's participatory governance approach.



GREEN CAMPUS
PRACTICES,
TREE PLANTING



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND MATERIALITY ANALYSIS

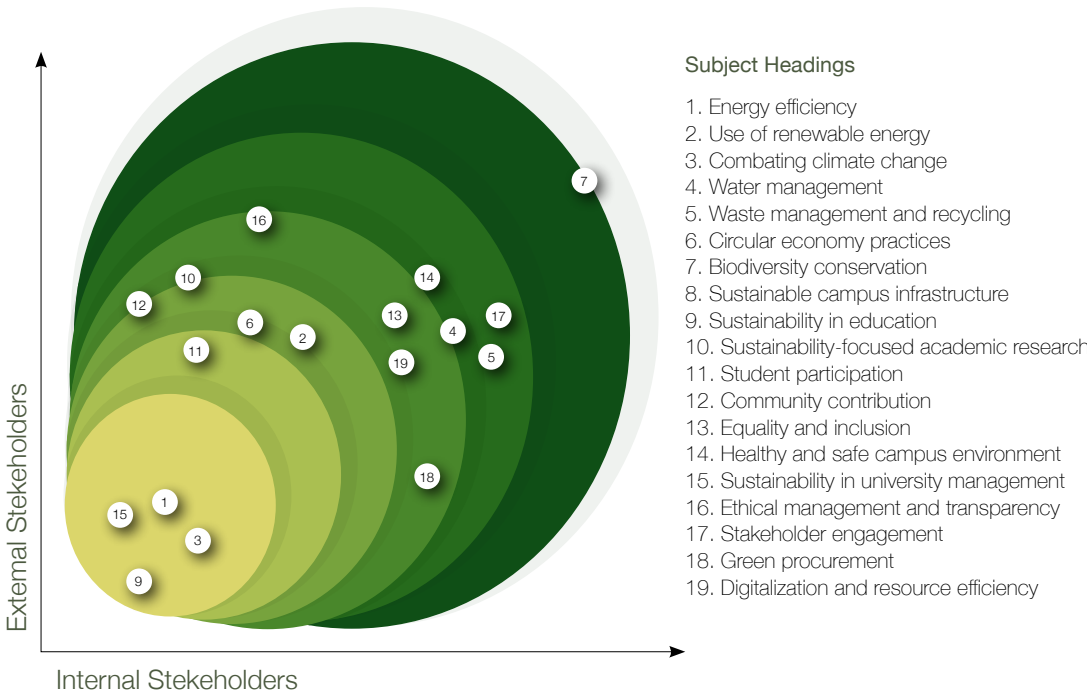
Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University takes into consideration the views of both internal and external stakeholders when determining its sustainability priorities. In this context, feedback obtained from academic and administrative staff, students, alumni, public institutions, and other stakeholder groups was evaluated, and the results were analyzed through a prioritization matrix.

According to the analysis results, biodiversity conservation, stakeholder engagement, waste management and recycling, and sustainable

campus practices were identified by stakeholders as the highest-priority issues. These topics stand out as priority sustainability areas due to both the high level of stakeholder expectations and their direct relevance to the University's sphere of influence.

Although issues such as water management, energy efficiency, and climate change were positioned relatively lower in the matrix, they are still regarded by the University as strategically important areas, taking into account regional conditions and long-term environmental risks.

MATERIALITY MATRIX



STRATEGY AND TARGETS

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University considers sustainability as a field of development encompassing institutional governance, campus operations, education and research activities, and community engagement dimensions. In this context, the University's strategic approach is built upon monitoring environmental impacts, improving resource use, strengthening institutional capacity, and expanding the culture of sustainability.

The results of stakeholder engagement and materiality analysis were considered as an important input in shaping the University's sustainability strategy. Biodiversity conservation, stakeholder engagement, waste management and recycling, and sustainable campus practices emerged as priority topics. These issues are strategically important not only for managing environmental impacts at campus scale, but also for strengthening the sustainability culture among students, employees and external stakeholders.

The University's sustainability objectives focus on increasing water and energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing the resilience of campus infrastructure, improving data collection and monitoring systems, strengthening sustainability-oriented education and research activities, and increasing community engagement capacity. Within this framework, the short-term goals include strengthening data collection, monitoring, and institutional coordination infrastructure;

the medium-term goals focus on expanding efficiency practices and accelerating operational improvements; while the long-term goals aim to develop a low-carbon, resource-efficient, and climate-resilient campus structure.

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University aims to strengthen its environmental performance through measurable and traceable targets. In this regard, the efficient use of water resources is considered one of the priority areas, as the campus is located in a region experiencing high water stress. By 2030, the University aims to reduce daily per capita water consumption related to campus operations, excluding dormitories, by at least 15% compared to the baseline year.

In the field of energy management, the University aims to increase its existing renewable energy capacity and support the transition toward a low-carbon campus. Accordingly, by 2028, the share of electricity demand met through renewable energy sources is targeted to increase from the current level of approximately 20% to at least 30%.

These targets will be regularly monitored through indicators such as annual water consumption, campus population, per capita water consumption, renewable energy generation, and total electricity consumption, and they will be evaluated during sustainability reporting periods.



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ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University monitors and improves its environmental performance under the themes of energy, water, emissions, waste, and biodiversity. The University aims to reduce the environmental impacts arising from campus operations, improve the efficiency of resource use, and establish a management structure that is more resilient to environmental risks. The practices implemented within this framework constitute the operational foundation of the sustainable campus approach.

Sustainability and Social Contribution Studies

- Turning Points
- Awareness Trainings
- Social Sustainability Projects

Waste Management Practices

- 3rd Grade Waste Collection Center
- Common Waste Sorting System
- Zero Waste Best Practice Award

Rainwater
Storage Capacity
20.380 m³



Energy and Carbon Management

- Solar Power Plant (SPP)
- LED Lighting Projects
- Carbon Footprint Calculations



Water Efficiency Applications

- Automatic Irrigation Systems
- Water Conservation in Plumbing
- Rainwater Harvesting



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ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University considers energy management as one of the priority areas of campus operations. In this context, various practices are implemented to reduce energy consumption, increase efficiency, and expand the use of renewable energy sources. Improvements in campus-wide lighting systems, infrastructure modernization, and consumption monitoring activities contribute to the enhancement of energy performance. The University's practices in this field have supported the strengthening of its institutional approach focused on energy efficiency.

Renewable energy investments also constitute an important component of energy management. Through the solar energy systems installed on campus, approximately 20% of the University's electricity demand can be met through its own energy generation. This contributes both to reducing energy costs and lowering carbon emissions. The energy management approach is one of the fundamental tools of the University's environmental performance management in terms of monitoring consumption data and identifying areas for future improvement.

WATER MANAGEMENT AND WATER FOOTPRINT

The water footprint and water risk analysis conducted at Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University demonstrates that the campus has a strong monitoring infrastructure for water management. Within the scope of the study, the total water footprint was calculated to be approximately 862,397 m³, with the largest share consisting of the blue water footprint. According to the assessment based on billing data, daily per capita water consumption across the campus, excluding dormitories, was approximately 18 liters per person per day. This figure indicates a manageable level of consumption for campuses where academic and administrative activities are carried out.

However, the University's location in a region experiencing high water stress and its significant dependence on groundwater resources for water supply make water management a strategic priority. One of the University's important practices in this area is its rainwater harvesting and reuse system. With a storage capacity of approximately 20,380 m³, this infrastructure provides an alternative water source for landscape irrigation and agricultural production, thereby contributing to the reduction of pressure on municipal and groundwater resources.

Overall, the University possesses the infrastructure necessary to further expand water efficiency practices by enhancing its existing monitoring and evaluation capacity in water management.





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EMISSIONS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University considers combating climate change as one of the core components of its institutional sustainability approach and, within this framework, carries out systematic efforts for the monitoring, reporting, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The University conducts institutional carbon footprint calculations in accordance with internationally recognized methodologies in order to identify direct and indirect emissions arising from its activities.

In this context, the University's greenhouse gas inventory has been established based on the operational control approach and includes academic and administrative units as well as support services located within the campus area. Emission sources are classified in line with international standards as direct emissions (Category 1), indirect emissions associated with purchased energy (Category 2), and other indirect emissions (Categories 3–4–5–6). Direct emissions include fuel consumption and fugitive gas emissions, while indirect emissions include those associated with electricity consumption, transportation, waste management, and water consumption.

Greenhouse gas calculations are based on activity data obtained from invoices, meter readings, and inventory records provided by units within the University. In the calculations, IPCC guidelines and international emission factors were used, and

CO₂, CH₄, and N₂O gases were reported in terms of CO₂ equivalent.

By analyzing the resulting emission data, the University has identified major emission sources and conducted prioritization studies. The assessments revealed that electricity consumption and transportation activities constitute a significant share of total emissions, leading to the development of improvement and reduction strategies targeting these areas.

The University evaluates climate change-related risks in terms of both physical and transition risks. Within the scope of physical risks, the potential impacts of rising temperatures, drought, decreasing water resources, and extreme weather events on campus infrastructure and operations are taken into consideration. In particular, the sustainable management of water resources and the increase in energy demand are among the University's priority assessment areas. Within the scope of transition risks, indirect impacts arising from carbon regulations, increasing energy costs, the European Green Deal, and the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) are also considered.

At the same time, the University regards climate change as a transformation area that also presents significant

opportunities. Expanding energy efficiency practices, increasing the use of renewable energy sources, implementing sustainable campus practices, and conducting research on green technologies are among the leading opportunities in this field. Through its academic studies, projects, and educational activities, the University aims both to reduce its own operational impacts and to raise societal awareness.

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University aims, in the long term, to transition toward a low-carbon and climate-resilient campus structure. In this regard, the University plans to establish concrete greenhouse gas reduction targets,

improve energy management systems, increase renewable energy investments, and expand sustainable transportation solutions. Furthermore, it aims to strengthen its contribution in this field by conducting activities aligned with national and international climate change initiatives.

The University seeks to create a broader sphere of influence in combating climate change not only within its operational boundaries but also through its education, research, and community engagement activities, and continues to undertake responsibilities in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.





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WASTE MANAGEMENT

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University considers waste management as one of the fundamental components of its sustainable campus approach and carries out its activities in line with the Zero Waste approach. Within the University, a systematic structure based on a six-category waste separation system has been established to ensure the reduction, segregation, and recovery of waste at its source. These processes are regularly monitored and continuously improved.

Across the campus, practices aimed at the segregation of waste by type, regular collection, proper storage, and recycling are actively implemented. In this context, a Class III Waste Collection Center operates within the University, ensuring the controlled management and quantitative monitoring of waste.

Hazardous waste management is carried out in full compliance with the relevant legislation. Hazardous wastes generated from laboratories and administrative units are safely stored in temporary storage areas and transferred to licensed facilities. In this context, the necessary infrastructure has been established to enable the safe storage of hazardous waste. In addition, waste batteries, toners, and similar special wastes are collected separately and incorporated into recovery processes. Medical waste is also collected and disposed of in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Our University not only focuses on technical practices but also aims to promote behavioral change toward reducing waste generation. In this regard, the reduction of single-use plastics is encouraged in cafeterias, canteens, and social areas, while the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) is utilized to decrease paper consumption. In addition, awareness-raising activities are conducted to increase the participation of students and staff. These practices contribute to the promotion of sustainable consumption habits.

Overall, the University demonstrates strong performance in waste management in terms of regulatory compliance, infrastructure adequacy, and awareness levels, while continuously improving its efforts to enhance resource efficiency and reduce environmental impacts.





BIODIVERSITY AND CAMPUS ECOSYSTEM

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University approaches the campus ecosystem through a holistic perspective that extends beyond green space management to include the protection of natural habitats. Akkaya Dam Lake, located within and immediately adjacent to the University campus, stands out as the most significant natural asset enhancing the ecological value of the campus. According to the results of the materiality analysis conducted, biodiversity was identified by stakeholders as one of the highest-priority sustainability issues.

Thanks to its wetland characteristics, Akkaya Dam Lake and its surrounding area host rich biodiversity, and studies conducted in the region have identified more than 150 bird species. More recent observations indicate that this number has exceeded 200 species, demonstrating that a significant proportion of the bird species observed in Türkiye can be found in this area. This highlights that the campus is not only an educational environment but also an important ecosystem

located along a major bird habitat and migration route. The reservoir provides habitat, breeding, and resting areas for numerous waterbirds, including flamingos, duck species, cormorants, coots, and various birds of prey. In particular, the observation of endangered species such as the White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*) further enhances the ecological significance of the area at both national and international levels. With these characteristics, Akkaya Dam Lake possesses the qualities of an ecosystem that meets the criteria for internationally important wetlands and is considered a candidate Ramsar site. The campus's close integration with this natural area provides the University with a significant advantage in terms of biodiversity conservation, monitoring, and research.

Agricultural and biodiversity-related activities carried out within the University also contribute to the protection of the campus ecosystem and the development of sustainable production approaches. In

this context, honey forest ecosystems are established through the afforestation of barren lands, thereby supporting carbon sequestration and biodiversity. Soil rehabilitation and sustainable agricultural practices implemented in agricultural areas contribute to improving soil health and water efficiency. In greenhouses, bumblebees are used to support natural pollination and reduce the need for chemical inputs, while digital and robotic monitoring systems are employed in animal production facilities to effectively manage resource use and environmental impacts. This holistic approach strengthens the University's sustainable campus vision and positions the campus as a living ecosystem.



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SOCIAL PERFORMANCE

Nıgde Ömer Halisdemir University carries out its education, research, and community engagement activities through a strong human resource structure and a broad student ecosystem. As of 2025, the University has 26,088 students, 1,131 academic staff members, and 924 administrative and support personnel, bringing the total campus population to 28,143 individuals. The University's human resource structure demonstrates a balanced distribution that supports interdisciplinary interaction and contributes to the effective implementation of sustainability-oriented education, research, and practical activities.



The total number of employees is 2,055, constituting a significant human resource capacity that supports the University's operational structure. This demographic composition presents a positive outlook in terms of equality, inclusiveness, and equal opportunity (SDG 5), particularly through the high proportion of female students and the balanced distribution of personnel.

The University aims to establish a social structure that supports the development of both employees and students. In this context, academic staff are encouraged in the areas of research, project development, and international collaborations, while administrative staff are supported through competency-enhancing training programs and process improvement practices. Continuing education centers, research and application centers, and exchange programs further strengthen this development infrastructure.

Occupational health and safety practices constitute an important component of the University's social performance. Within this scope, risk assessments, periodic inspections, and awareness

training activities are regularly conducted, with particular emphasis placed on maintaining safe working conditions in laboratories, workshops, and technical areas. Campus security is supported through physical security personnel, monitoring systems, and access control mechanisms. In addition, preventive measures addressing disasters, emergencies, health, and operational risks contribute to ensuring the continuity of campus life.

The University also integrates its sustainability approach into educational processes. Course contents across various faculties and programs include topics such as environmental protection, sustainable development, ecology, environmental law, renewable energy, ecological design, sustainable nutrition, and sustainable agriculture. This structure reflects a multidisciplinary educational approach that supports students' awareness of environmental and social responsibility.

Student engagement is another important factor strengthening the University's social performance. A total of 115 student clubs operating within the University organize activities in fields such as science and technology, environment, health, arts, sports, and social responsibility. Through these clubs, students actively participate in campus life by engaging in conferences, workshops, technical visits, social events, and project-based activities. The events organized throughout the year cover a broad spectrum ranging from scientific activities to cultural organizations, offering a dynamic campus life that supports students' multidimensional development.

Moreover, a significant number of university clubs receive project support within the scope of nationally implemented programs, thereby strengthening students' capacities in project development, implementation, and management. Through this approach, the University aims to educate its students not only as academically qualified individuals but also as socially responsible and active citizens.





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SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION AND STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University systematically carried out its community engagement activities throughout 2025, strengthening stakeholder interaction and directly contributing to regional development. Through the Community Engagement Coordination Office operating within the University, more than 90 activities and projects were implemented during the year, and collaborations were developed with numerous institutions and organizations.

Indicator	2025 Value	Unit	Activity	Related SDG
Total number of social contribution activities	90+	pcs	All social contribution activities and projects carried out throughout the year	
Number of signed cooperation and protocols	60+	pcs	Cooperation developed with public, NGO, and private sectors	
Number of stakeholder institutions	20+	pcs	Total number of cooperating institutions and organizations	
Number of training / seminar / workshop sessions	40+	pcs	Awareness and capacity building activities	
Total number of people attending trainings	1.000+	person	Individuals participating in training, seminars, and workshops	
Number of volunteer activities	30+	pcs	Volunteer activities carried out with student and staff participation	
Number of volunteer participants	300+	person	Individuals participating in activities as volunteers	
Number of social assistance activities	20+	pcs	Food, clothing, and in-kind support activities	
Number of direct beneficiaries reached	2.000+	person	Individuals directly benefiting from the activities	
Rate of activities for disadvantaged groups	%60+	%	Proportion of activities aimed at women, children, the disabled, and the elderly	
Number of health screenings and awareness events	10+	pcs	Oral-dental health, hygiene, and first aid activities	
Number of cultural, art, and sports events	250+	pcs	Festivals, concerts, exhibitions, and sports organizations	
Number of participants in cultural/ social events	3.000+	person	Total participation in cultural and social events	
Social impact-oriented project budget	~6.000.000	TL	KOP Keşif Merkezi and similar projects	
Student participation rate	%70+	%	Proportion of students participating in activities	
University-society joint activity rate	%80+	%	Proportion of activities carried out jointly with stakeholders	
Number of sustainability-themed activities	500+	pcs	Environment, zero waste, and sustainability activities	





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During 2025, more than 10 institutional collaborations and protocols were implemented through activities carried out with representatives from the public sector, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Through these collaborations, a broad target audience was reached, particularly women, children, persons with disabilities, elderly individuals, students, and disadvantaged groups. Through the training programs, seminars, and awareness activities organized throughout the year, direct outreach was provided to hundreds of participants, increasing knowledge and awareness in critical areas such as disaster awareness, combating addiction, first aid, hygiene, financial literacy, and gender equality. Training programs for women's cooperatives, job club workshops, and family education programs particularly contributed to

strengthening the social and economic capacities of women and families. Within the scope of social solidarity and social responsibility activities, direct support was provided to numerous individuals and families in need. These activities included the donation of 15 boxes of books and toys to village schools, food and clothing assistance for university students, and various forms of social support for international and disadvantaged students. In addition, psychosocial and equipment support was provided to children affected by earthquakes, contributing to post-disaster recovery processes. Within the scope of health-oriented activities, oral and dental health screenings, hygiene training sessions, and first aid programs conducted throughout the year provided direct health services and awareness support to a large number of students and individuals. In particular, screening and

educational activities targeting school-age children supported early diagnosis and preventive healthcare approaches. Events organized in the fields of culture, arts, and sports—including concerts, exhibitions, festivals, and sports organizations—reached thousands of participants and strengthened university–community interaction. Through these activities, social solidarity, cultural sharing, and awareness of healthy living were promoted. Furthermore, the approval of a social impact project with a budget of approximately 6 million TRY in 2025, namely the KOP Discovery Center Project, demonstrates the institutional strengthening of the University's community engagement capacity. Through this project, the University aims to generate long-term social benefits, particularly for young people and disadvantaged individuals.



KEY INFLUENCE AREAS IN 2025

ACCESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- Direct access was provided to a large number of participants through training, seminars, and awareness events.
- Awareness was raised in areas such as disaster preparedness, addiction prevention, first aid, hygiene, financial literacy, and gender equality.

SOCIAL IMPACT AND COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY

- Direct access was provided to a large number of participants through training, seminars, and awareness events.
- Awareness was raised in areas such as disaster preparedness, addiction prevention, first aid, hygiene, financial literacy, and gender equality.

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DIGITALIZATION AND INNOVATION

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University considers digitalization in education, research, and administrative processes as a strategic transformation area and aims to enhance operational efficiency and sustainability performance through a data-driven management approach.

Academic and administrative processes within the University are carried out through integrated digital systems. Thanks to student information systems, personnel management systems, and electronic document management applications, all processes have become traceable and reportable in a digital environment.

In addition, through the online integrated platforms developed and utilized within the University (e.g., OGRIS, VETIS, EDS, EBYS, NOHUKASIS, and İYS), processes such as course management, remote access, academic content sharing, vehicle plate registration systems, user services, and the management of requests, suggestions, inquiries, and feedback are conducted within an integrated digital structure.

The digital infrastructure across the University campus is integrated into service delivery processes, thereby supporting the “smart campus” approach. User experience is enhanced through a strong internet infrastructure, digital access systems, and database solutions implemented throughout the campus. In library services, digital databases and remote access opportunities are provided, enabling students and academic staff to access information independent of location. In addition, campus services, academic processes, and communication channels are managed through a centralized structure via digital platforms.

The University positions data management as a fundamental component of its institutional decision-making processes. Data obtained through digital platforms and information systems are actively utilized in performance monitoring, strategic planning, and sustainability assessments. In particular, data derived from digital learning platforms and institutional information systems enable the analysis of educational processes, resource utilization, and operational performance, thereby supporting continuous improvement. This approach not only increases resource efficiency but also contributes to reducing environmental impacts.





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INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS AND PERFORMANCE

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University utilizes international ranking systems as a strategic management tool to monitor and improve its sustainability and academic performance on a global scale. These rankings present the university's environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance through objective indicators and provide a reference framework for continuous improvement.

The university demonstrates a significant upward trend in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings, which evaluates sustainable campus performance.

As of 2025, the university;
Ranked 254th globally,
Rose a total of 367 places over 4 years, INTRODUCTIONing from 621st in 2021.

This performance indicates that the university has reached a position approaching the top 15% globally. Furthermore, the success of entering the top 300 was achieved by rising to 293rd place in 2024. This momentum is evaluated as a direct result of the systematic implementation of energy efficiency, water management, waste recovery, and low-carbon campus practices.



IN 4 YEARS
367
STEP RISE

IN THE WORLD
254.

IN THE WORLD
621.



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INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS AND PERFORMANCE

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is featured in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, which measures performance aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to 2024 data, the university demonstrates outstanding performance in areas such as:

- Overall ranking: 1501+ band
- SDG-based evaluations:
 - Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12): 201–300 band
 - Climate Action (SDG 13): 301–400 band
 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9): 401–600 band

These results show that the university is in a globally competitive position, particularly in the areas of environmental sustainability and the production-consumption cycle.

Our university is developing its education and research activities on a global scale in line with its internationalization strategy. Student and academic staff mobility is increased through programs carried out within the scope of Erasmus+, bilateral agreements, and multilateral collaborations.

In parallel with its progress in international rankings, our University:

- Strengthens its integration into global academic networks,
- Increases its scientific production capacity through joint research projects,
- Contributes to international knowledge production in the fields of sustainability, environment, and climate.

In this framework, beyond merely being an institution featured in rankings, our University positions itself as a higher education institution that takes an active role and increases its impact in the global sustainability ecosystem.





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Throughout 2025, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University gained media visibility under the topics of clean energy, sustainable campus, hydrogen technologies, green skills, sustainable agriculture, and international rankings. Below are selected news items reflecting the university's sustainability approach.

HYDROGEN PRODUCED FROM HIGH-TECH WASTE



January 29, 2025 | Clean Technology and Circular Economy

The evaluation of waste materials from high-tech production processes for hydrogen production in research conducted at the university has been reflected in the public. This study stands out for bringing together the zero-waste approach and clean energy research.

[Read More](#)

TURJAF 2025 CONGRESS HOSTED BY NÖHÜ



May 2, 2025 | Sustainable Agriculture and Scientific Impact

The TURJAF 2025 Congress, focusing on agriculture and food systems, strengthened the university's academic visibility in the field of sustainable agriculture. The event contributed to making the research capacity and scientific collaborations more visible to the public.

[Read More](#)

HYDROGEN AND STORAGE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OPENED

HİDROJEN VE ENERJİ DEPOLAMA TEKNİKERLİĞİ PROGRAMI

June 16, 2025 | Green Skills and Professions
of the Future

The new program opened at the Bor Vocational School aims to train qualified human resources in the fields of hydrogen economy and energy storage technologies. This development is important in terms of strengthening the educational infrastructure for sustainable development.

[Read More](#)

NÖHÜ CONTINUED ITS RISE IN IMPACT RANKINGS



June 19, 2025 | SDG-Focused International Visibility

The university's inclusion in multiple sustainable development goal categories in the Times Higher Education 2025 Impact Rankings ensured that its institutional sustainability performance gained visibility in the external press. This success supports NÖHÜ's global impact-oriented higher education approach.

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NÖHÜ TO MEET 20 PERCENT OF ITS ENERGY DEMAND FROM SOLAR POWER



August 21, 2025 | Renewable Energy and Green Campus

It was announced that approximately 20 percent of the university's energy needs will be met from renewable sources thanks to the solar power plant installed on campus. This investment stood out as one of the most visible steps of the low-carbon campus transformation.

[Read More](#)

INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS AT DUBAI ENERGY AWARDS



October 3, 2025 | Energy Efficiency and Global Recognition

The university achieved success at the international energy awards presented in Dubai with its UNIKOP Energy House Project. This development increased NÖHÜ's international recognition in energy efficiency and sustainable campus practices.

[Read More](#)

NEW SUCCESS IN GREENMETRIC RANKINGS



December 7, 2025 | Sustainable Campus Performance

NÖHÜ's rise to 254th place in the GreenMetric World University Rankings was one of the concrete indicators of its development in the field of sustainable campus management. The rise recorded by the university in recent years reveals its environmental performance and institutional improvement capacity.

[Read More](#)

TÜBİTAK SUPPORT FOR PROJECT IN THE FIELD OF HYDROGEN TECHNOLOGİES



2025 | Low-Carbon Technologies Obtaining

TÜBİTAK support for the project aimed at hydrogen and solid carbon production from natural gas via the pyrolysis method strengthened the university's capacity to develop low-carbon technology. This support indicates that strategic research conducted in the field of hydrogen technologies is advancing at the institutional level.

[Read More](#)

GREEN AND ECOLOGICAL BUILDING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OPENED

YEŞİL VE EKOLOJİK
BİNA TEKNİKERLİĞİ
PROGRAMI

June 30, 2025 | Sustainable Construction and Technical Education

The new program contributes to the training of expert human resources in environmentally friendly construction, energy-efficient design, and ecological building applications. In this respect, it has been an important step strengthening the university's green transformation-oriented educational capacity.

[Read More](#)

NÖHÜ'S ERA-NET PROJECT COMPLETED



August 1, 2025 | Agroecology and Research Capacity

The completion of the ERA-NET project focused on soil quality, biodiversity, and productivity reflected the university's research strength in the field of sustainable agriculture and agroecosystems. The project drew attention in terms of demonstrating the capacity of R&D outputs to generate regional and international impact.

[Read More](#)



GRI (GLOBAL REPORTING INITIATIVE) STANDARDS RELATIONSHIP MATRIX

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University – 2025

This table has been prepared to show the thematic relationship between the sections included in the report and the GRI Standards. The mappings presented in the table provide a reference that can be further developed within the framework of the University's current data and reporting capacity.

Main Topic	GRI Code	Disclosure / Description	Relevant Section in the Report
General Disclosures 2021	2-1	Organizational details	About University
	2-2	Entities included in the sustainability reporting	About the Report
	2-6	Activities, value chain and other business relationships	About University / An Overview of Sustainability Journey
	2-9	Governance structure and composition	Sustainability Governance
	2-12	Role of the highest governance body in overseeing the management of impacts	Message from the Rector / Sustainability Governance
	2-14	Role of the highest governance body in sustainability reporting	Message from the Rector / About the Report
	2-16	Communication of critical concerns	Sustainability Governance
	2-23	Policy commitments	Sustainability Governance
	2-29	Approach to stakeholder engagement	Stakeholder Engagement and Materiality Analysis
Material Topics 2021	3-1	Process to determine material topics	Stakeholder Engagement and Materiality Analysis
	3-2	List of material topics	Materiality Matrix
	3-3	Management of material topics	Strategy and Targets / Environmental Performance / Social Performance
Economic Performance 2016	201-1	Direct economic value generated and distributed	Financial Performance Indicators
	201-3	Defined benefit plan obligations and other retirement plans	Social Performance
	203-1	Infrastructure investments and services supported	Social Contribution and Stakeholder Impact
	203-2	Significant indirect economic impacts	Social Contribution and Stakeholder Impact
Energy 2016	302-1	Energy consumption within the organization	Energy Management
		Reduction of energy consumption	Energy Management

Main Topic	GRI Code	Disclosure / Description	Relevant Section in the Report
Water and Effluents 2018	303-1	Interactions with water as a shared resource	Water Management and Water Footprint
	303-3	Water withdrawal	Water Management and Water Footprint
	303-4	Water discharge	Water Management and Water Footprint
	303-5	Water consumption	Water Management and Water Footprint
Emissions 2016	305-1	Direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions	Emissions and Climate Change
	305-2	Energy indirect (Scope 2) GHG emissions	Emissions and Climate Change
	305-3	Other indirect (Scope 3) GHG emissions	Emissions and Climate Change
	305-5	Reduction of GHG emissions	Emissions and Climate Change
Waste 2020	306-1	Waste generation and significant waste-related impacts	Waste Management
	306-2	Management of significant waste-related impacts	Waste Management
	306-4	Waste diverted from disposal	Waste Management
Biodiversity 2016	304-1	Operational sites owned, leased, managed in or adjacent to protected areas and areas of high biodiversity value	Biodiversity and Campus Ecosystem
	304-2	Significant impacts of activities, products and services on biodiversity	Biodiversity and Campus Ecosystem
Employment 2016	401-1	New employee hires and employee turnover / workforce structure	Social Performance
Occupational Health and Safety 2018	403-1	Occupational health and safety management system	Occupational Health and Safety
	403-5	Worker training on occupational health and safety	Social Performance
Training and Education 2016	404-1	Average hours of training per year per employee / educational activities	Education and Academic Contribution
Local Communities 2016	413-1	Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs	Social Contribution and Stakeholder Impact
Customer Privacy 2016	418-1	Substantiated complaints concerning breaches of customer privacy and losses of customer data / data security	Digitalization and Innovation



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SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2025

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NİĞDE SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS
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