

NİĞDE ÖMER HALİSDEMİR UNIVERSITY

## **SUSTAINABILITY** REPORT

2025

www.ohu.edu.tr

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#### LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Growing and increasingly complex social and environmental crises, along with economic uncertainties worldwide, place a great responsibility on higher education institutions that generate scientific knowledge and carry out educational activities. These institutions are expected to become actors that address local challenges, initiate transformation with the qualified knowledge they produce, and help shape the future. With a history spanning over 30 years, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, one of Türkiye's strong and well-established higher education institutions, continues its work with this awareness and makes significant contributions to its region, its country, and humanity in many fields.

Guided by the vision of "becoming a regionally development-oriented, specialized, innovative university that leads in serving society," our University has also adopted a sustainability strategy shaped by its core values such as "Innovation," "Healthy, environmentally conscious, and safe living," "Social responsibility," and "Support for regional and national development." In this regard, our University pursues a holistic and institutional strategy that encompasses many areas—from education and training to research and development, from social contribution to governance, and from environmental stewardship to sustainable development. Our aim is to transform sustainability into a culture embedded in all components of the institution.

Another cornerstone of our sustainability approach is our fundamental mission: "to raise individuals who are inquisitive, questioning, participatory, capable of thinking universally, and who possess ethical and cultural values; to contribute to the development of science, technology, and art; and to foster the development of the country and the region with an awareness of respect for the environment." With the mission, vision, and core values it upholds, our University has achieved significant success at both national and international levels.

Indeed, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has secured its place among the 11 pilot higher education institutions in Türkiye in the field of Sustainable and Climate-Friendly Campus Initiatives, and has been awarded the Best Practice Award in waste management. Furthermore, in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2025, which assesses performance based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, our University ranked 201st in Responsible Consumption and Production, 301st in Climate Action, and 401st in Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, Life Below Water, and Life on Land among 2,526 higher education institutions worldwide. In other categories as well, our University has placed in the top tiers and is among the few Turkish universities ranked within the top 40 in five different categories. In addition, in the field of Life Sciences under the International Outlook category, our University ranked third in Türkiye after the country's leading higher education institutions.

Moreover, our University has carried out pioneering and strategic projects particularly in the fields of environment and energy efficiency. By implementing major projects across its physical facilities to maximize energy savings, our University won first place in the Interuniversity Energy Efficiency Competition (ÜNVER-2), organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). In addition, with the installation of 858 solar panels on the Faculty of Sport Sciences campus, our University is now capable of producing 20% of its electricity consumption through its own resources. These achievements are not only tangible outcomes of our sustainability strategy but also clear indicators of the potential we hold in becoming a more sustainable higher education institution in every respect.

Alongside these efforts, our University's Sustainability Commission, composed of academic and administrative staff, worked intensively throughout 2024 to develop a broad strategic framework. Drawing on the indicators of international organizations such as Times Higher Education, QS Sustainability Rankings, and UI GreenMetric, the Commission addressed a wide range of components—from education and training to research and development, from social contribution to governance. The resulting report not only documents the activities of the past year but also sets forth our University's determination, vision, and roadmap in the field of sustainability.

I extend my gratitude to all our academic and administrative staff, as well as to all our stakeholders with whom we collaborate, for their contributions to this endeavor, which symbolizes our University's potential and steady progress toward a stronger and more sustainable future.

NİĞDE ÖMER HALİSDEMİR UNIVERSITY

### **SUSTAINABILITY** REPORT

2025



#### Chairperson

Prof. Dr. Ece Ümmü DEVECİ

MemberProf. Dr. Arzu AYDOĞAN YENMEZ Member: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Neslihan KILAR Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Yusuf Kağan DEMİR Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Bilal ÇİLKAYA Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Tolga KAYNAK Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Barış KAHVECİ Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Hidayet DİKİCİ Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Nuriye Ebru YILDIZ Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Yasin AFŞAR Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Seval YILMAZ Member: Asst. Prof. Dr. Halil İbrahim KOÇ Member: Res. Asst. Esma KARAKOYUN YAŞAR Member: Res. Asst. Meryem Sevde DOĞRUER

Member: Res. Asst. Metehan BULUT Member: Res. Asst. Kemal ULUSOY

Member: Senior Environmental Engineer İbrahim YOKSULABAKAN

Member: Harun YALÇINDAĞ Member: Alper YILMAZ Member: Hürriyet GÜRLEK



#### **FOREWORD**

Deepening environmental crises, social inequalities, and economic fluctuations on a global scale have transformed higher education institutions from being mere producers of knowledge into active agents of sustainable development. In this context, our University has approached institutional sustainability with a multidimensional perspective and carried out comprehensive academic and administrative initiatives throughout 2024.

The Sustainability Commission established within our University has structured its activities in line with international performance indicators such as the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, QS Sustainability Rankings, and UI GreenMetric. Guided by these frameworks, the Commission has developed a holistic strategy encompassing the dimensions of education and training, research and development, social contribution, and governance. Through regular meetings, internal data collection processes, indicator-based performance analyses, research activities, and implementation projects, the Commission has aimed to embed a culture of sustainability across the entire university.

This report covers all sustainability-focused academic, administrative, and operational activities of 2024. It is intended both to provide data-driven input to the decision-making processes of our internal stakeholders and to strengthen our University's position in national and international sustainability rankings. Conducted within the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), these efforts not only document the current situation but also lay the foundation for an institutional transformation aligned with our strategic objectives.

In this regard, we would like to express our gratitude—on behalf of the mission and vision of our University, which has more than 30 years of institutional experience in higher education—to our esteemed Rector, Prof. Dr. Hasan Uslu, to all academic and administrative staff serving on the Sustainability Commission, to all units that contributed to the processes, and to all stakeholders who have supported the internalization of our sustainability vision.

The report in your hands not only records a year in which we integrated our institutional responsibilities with academic ethics but also serves as a systematic resource that will shed light on future periods.

Respectfully.

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Sustainability Commission





#### 1.NO TO POVERTY

According to the data of October 2024, the total number of students at Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is 26,293. (https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/JEcTD8XJqoo13f3)

Social support programs for students with insufficient financial means are carried out within the framework of the Higher Education Law No. 2547 and the relevant university regulations.

In this context, in accordance with Article 46, paragraph (j) of Law No. 2547 and Article 4 of the Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Meal Assistance Directive, a maximum quota of 300 students was allocated in the 2023–2024 Academic Year for successful and low-income associate, undergraduate, and graduate students enrolled in formal education. A total of 285 students actually benefited from this support.

Furthermore, in line with Article 46, paragraph (k) of the same Law and the relevant provisions of the "Regulation on the Principles and Procedures Regarding the Employment of Part-Time Students in Higher Education Institutions," a quota of 200 students was set for part-time employment within the academic and administrative units of our university throughout the 2023–2024 Academic Year (including the mid-term and summer period). Within this scope, 193 students were employed.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/gACafS96RqTPDCthttps://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/24uW4j2l3ju9fUj

These data demonstrate that our university provides both meal assistance and employment opportunities in order to support the educational lives of students in need of financial aid.

#### **University Programs for Combating Poverty**

Our University does not have any policy of accepting students based on lower or higher income groups, nor does it practice any form of discrimination. Anyone who achieves the required score in the Higher Education Institutions Examination (YKS) can be centrally placed by ÖSYM (Student Selection and Placement Center) and receive education at our University, within the available quotas. The link below provides information on the lowest-scoring student admitted to each department at our University, along with their national ranking.

https://www.osym.gov.tr/TR,8789/hakkinda.html https://static.ohu.edu.tr/uniweb/media/portallar/oidb//sayfalar/3950/asuyyp2h.pdf

At Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, no distinction is made among students based on their financial status regarding graduation. Graduation requirements are clearly defined in the relevant regulations, and all students who meet these requirements can graduate regardless of their income level.

The graduation requirements are specified in the regulations linked below:

• For associate and undergraduate students, graduation requirements are outlined in Article 33 of the Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Associate and Undergraduate Education, Training, and Examination Regulations. https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?MevzuatNo=9392&MevzuatTur=8&MevzuatTertip=5











- For graduate and doctoral students, the relevant provisions are regulated under the Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Graduate Education, Training, and Examination Regulations.
- https://www.mevzuat.gov.tr/mevzuat?MevzuatNo=29028&MevzuatTur=8&MevzuatTertip=5 Within this framework, graduation is based on equal and objective criteria for all students.

#### Meal Assistance

In accordance with Article 46, paragraph (j) of the Higher Education Law No. 2547 (which stipulates that up to ten percent of the revenues obtained under this article may be used for the provision of book, stationery, meal, and accommodation assistance to successful students with low-income levels, as determined by the higher education institution's administrative board) and within the framework of budgetary possibilities, a quota was allocated to provide meal assistance to 300 successful and low-income students.

Based on the decisions of the Faculty, Institute, and Vocational School Administrative Boards, it was decided to provide daily one meal assistance during the 2023–2024 Academic Year to 285 students who were deemed eligible for meal support.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/gACafS96RqTPDCt https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/24uW4j2l3ju9fUj

#### **Accommodation Assistance**

Under the provision of Article 46, paragraph (j) of the Higher Education Law No. 2547, titled "Calculation of Current Service Costs, Student Contribution Fees, and Tuition Fees"—which states that "up to ten percent of the revenues obtained under this article may be used for the provision of book, stationery, meal, and accommodation assistance to successful students with low-income levels, as determined by the higher education institution's administrative board"—accommodation assistance is provided to identified students in need.

Our Ayhan Şahenk Student Dormitory, affiliated with the University, has a total capacity of 192 students, including 101 female students and 91 male students, where accommodation services are offered to our students. https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sksdb/sayfa/barinma

Our University, as an institution, has a program to support underprivileged students coming from low- or lower-middle-income countries, providing accommodation and meal assistance. Within the scope of the Exchange Programs for the Spring Semester of the 2023–2024 Academic Year, a quota of 32 students was allocated, and for 16 of these students, the costs of meals and accommodation were covered by the University Rectorate's budget.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/RWqyX9TqXCjrjES

#### **Tuition Fees**

As a public university, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University offers tuition fees that are reasonable and accessible, unlike private (foundation) universities where fees tend to be higher. The student contribution fees/tuition fees for the 2023–2024 Academic Year are presented below. These fees are generally collected in two equal installments at the beginning









of each semester (typically in September and February).

An exception applies to Faculty of Medicine students: for 6th-year students, the contribution fee is collected as a single installment in July, while for other years (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th years), the fee is collected as a single installment in September.

The contribution fees/tuition fees are set according to program levels. The calculation is based on the USD/TRY exchange rate of 34 TL as of September 30, 2024.

#### https://www.tcmb.gov.tr/kurlar/202409/30092024.xml

- Associate Programs: Annual fee 507 TL (approximately 15 USD) → 253.50 TL × 2 installments
- Undergraduate Programs: Minimum 757 TL (approximately 22 USD), Maximum 3,146 TL (approximately 92.50 USD)
- Graduate Programs: Annual fee 686 TL (approximately 20 USD) → 343 TL × 2 installments Detailed fee information and related announcements can be found at the links below:
- 2023–2024 Fall and Spring Semester Contribution Fees/Tuition Fees https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/R6QSVPI30BUBMTj https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/T1VUrObAmg0YScS
- 2023-2024 Fall and Spring Semester Course Registration/Renewal Announcements https://ohu.edu.tr/oidb/manset/23833 https://ohu.edu.tr/oidb/manset/24245

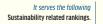
Through these practices, our University aims to ensure equal opportunities in access to higher education and to minimize the financial burden on our students.

#### **Community Poverty Alleviation Programs**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, various governmental institutions, universities, local companies, and community stakeholders, organizes scientific and social activities in numerous fields such as agriculture, animal husbandry, sustainability, biotechnology, environmental technologies, and food technologies. Through these activities, the University not only supports the production of academic knowledge but also aims to contribute to regional development and societal engagement.

Within this scope, the following activities have been carried out as examples:

- Agricultural Development Support (Panel)
- https://www.ohu.edu.tr/tarimbilimlerifakultesi/etkinlik/11162
- A Journey to Personal Development in Seed Potato Production (Panel)
- https://www.ohu.edu.tr/tarimbilimlerifakultesi/etkinlik/11174
- Plant Health in Sustainable Agriculture (Panel)
- https://www.ohu.edu.tr/tarimbilimlerifakultesi/etkinlik/11186
- Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (Panel)
- https://www.ohu.edu.tr/tarimbilimlerifakultesi/etkinlik/11198
- Looking for the Future Agricultural Engineers (Conference)
- https://www.ohu.edu.tr/tarimbilimlerifakultesi/etkinlik/11151









• 3rd R&D and Project Market Days (Scientific Event)

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/3-ar-ge-ve-proje-pazari-gunleri/1038

• Societal Contribution and University-Community Collaboration (Workshop) https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/toplumsal-katki-ve-universite-toplum-is-birligi-calistayi/1047

• Apple Harvest Day and Current Topics in Apple Cultivation (Conference)

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/elma-hasat-gunu-ve-elma-yetistiriciliginde-guncel-konular/1016

• 7th International Anatolian Agriculture, Food, Environment and Biology Congress (Congress)

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/7-international-anatolian-agriculture-food-environment-and-biology-

#### congress/929

Turkey Environment Week Activities (Event)

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/turkiye-cevre-haftasi-etkinlikleri/984

Practical Queen Bee Breeding Training (Hands-on Training)

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/uygulamali-ana-ari-yetistiriciligi-egitimi/962

Honey Forest Establishment (Event)

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/bal-ormani-kurulumu/925

The Central Research Laboratory and Analysis Unit of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University provides paid analysis services to researchers working at universities, industrial organizations, and public institutions across the country, as well as to individuals and organizations wishing to contribute to scientific studies at an academic or personal level. These services aim to provide scientific support for studies conducted in various fields, primarily in the natural sciences.

Detailed information about the advanced technological equipment used in the laboratory and the analysis services offered can be accessed through the links below:

Central Research Laboratory Equipment Catalog

https://static.ohu.edu.tr/uniweb/media/portallar/merkezilaboratuvar/sayfalar/39840/xbeihfzq.pdf

• 2023–2024 Analysis Price List

https://static.ohu.edu.tr/uniweb/media/portallar/merkezilaboratuvar//sayfalar/15099/zs2ayxb4.pdf

#### **Continuing Education Center**

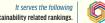
Within our University, a Continuing Education Center has been established to design educational and social activity programs beyond associate, undergraduate, and graduate programs. The Center aims to develop cooperation with public institutions, private sector, and international organizations and to organize sustainable educational activities that support lifelong learning.

The scope of the Center's activities includes providing educational and consultancy services to university students and staff, as well as to individuals, legal entities, public institutions, and private sector organizations in need of such services. https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/merkezin-amaci

Within the Center, courses and certificate programs are offered in a wide range of fields, including exam preparation, foreign languages, information technology, agriculture, animal husbandry, sports, music, arts, and daily life skills.

#### Among the courses programs;

Practical training is offered in various fields, including ALES, ÜDS, KPSS preparation courses, Speed Reading Techniques,









Primary and Secondary Education English Courses, Pilates, Latin and Argentine Tango Dance, Tennis and Football, Fencing and Archery, Professional Guitar and Piano, Organic Niğde Strawberry Cultivation, and Quality Training in Seed Production. https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/kurs-programlari

#### Within the scope of Certificate Programs;

A wide range of practical and application-oriented trainings are offered, including General English, German, Russian, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Basic Genetics and Plant Breeding, Teaching Niğde's Traditional Local Dishes to Women, Bread and Pide Making, Web Programming, Basic Coding for Middle School Students, Advanced Programming with Python for High School Students, Teaching Mathematics with GeoGebra, Cattle and Small Ruminant Breeding, Feeding and Herd Management (online), Fast Keyboard Techniques (F Keyboard), Professional Culinary and Pastry Training, Prenatal Preparation Instructor Training, and Feed Technology (online). https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/sertifika-programlari

#### Commitment to Poverty Alleviation in Line with the 2030 Goal

Our University aims to contribute, at local, regional, national, and global levels, to policies aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular focus on ending all forms of poverty by 2030. Within this framework, projects are developed and implemented through multi-stakeholder approaches involving different segments of society, with coordination managed by our University. In the fight against poverty, collaboration is established with individuals, public institutions, the private sector, civil society organizations, and international entities, contributing to the production of high social impact and sustainable solutions.

To ensure that students facing economic difficulties can continue their education without interruption, our University has developed multidimensional support mechanisms. In this context, students are provided with part-time employment opportunities within the University and meal support. Additionally, essential services such as healthcare, accommodation, nutrition, psychological counseling, and on-campus transportation are offered to support low-income students' access to basic necessities.

The provision of necessary financial support for students' education is effectively coordinated by our University, with scholarships and loan opportunities provided by public institutions, foundations, associations, and private sector organizations, ensuring proper follow-up and management of these processes. This approach aims to facilitate easy access to support for students while ensuring that processes are transparent and equitable.

Furthermore, seminars, panels, social responsibility projects, and volunteer-based activities conducted within the University raise societal awareness on poverty alleviation and encourage student participation. Through collaborative projects with various civil society organizations, students not only support their individual development but also contribute to social solidarity and equality.

Our University regards not only academic success but also social justice, lifelong equal opportunities, and the empowerment of disadvantaged groups as core responsibilities, and continues to develop sustainable and inclusive policies in line with these principles.









## 2. ZERO HUNGER



#### 2. NO TO HUNGER - ZERO HUNGER

Within our University, there are 16 faculties, 1 vocational school, 4 institutes, 6 vocational colleges, 1 conservatory, and 13 application and research centers. As of the end of 2024, the total number of full-time staff is 2,035, of which 1,102 are academic staff and 933 are administrative (including contracted) and support personnel. The number of staff working at units outside the main campus (Asağı Kayabası, Derbent, Bor, and Ulukısla) is 394.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/ALcRIIOWr19qMoA https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/hkBf2JfFZXvSDjg

As of October 2024, the total number of students at our University is 26,293. Considering that 10,274 students are enrolled in units outside the main campus, the number of students at the central campus is 16,019. The number of staff working at the central campus is 1,641. Accordingly, the total population on the central campus (students + staff) is approximately 17,660. https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/JEcTD8XJgoo13f3

Meal services for students and staff at our University are provided through contracted catering companies determined via tender. Food waste generated from the served meals is monitored and reported daily by the University Dietitian and the Food Engineer from the relevant company. Based on the data collected, the food waste is processed by our University's Waste Collection Center, and suitable waste is recycled through composting for use as fertilizer and other purposes. https:// www.ohu.edu.tr/sifiratik/sayfa/kompost-uretimi

#### Hygiene, Quality, and Inspection Practices in Meal Services

At our University, meal services are provided annually through external contractors via a tendering process. In this context, the meal services offered at the Central Campus dining hall are carried out in accordance with the signed contracts and technical specifications. To ensure the sustainability of service quality and student/staff satisfaction, criteria such as portion sizes, nutritional quality, calorie content, hygiene conditions, and compliance with health standards are taken into consideration.

To manage and supervise this service effectively, and to conduct periodic inspections and necessary controls, the Central Campus Dining Hall and Kitchen Control Organization has been established. This body is responsible for ensuring that meal services are conducted in accordance with quality standards. The organization carries out both daily inspections and planned controls, taking necessary actions based on the findings. Regulations and operational procedures for the control organization can be accessed via the following link: https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/ab4uYHt5shs3F3I

Additionally, throughout the meal production and distribution processes, regular inspections are conducted at all stages by the University Dietitian and the Food Engineer employed by the contracted company. These inspections cover detailed aspects such as menu planning, portion sizes, food safety, temperature controls, staff hygiene, and service procedures. As an example, the December 2024 Meal Menu is provided in the appendix. Each meal on the menu has been prepared considering nutritional balance and calorie content, and variety has been ensured through weekly and monthly cycles. https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/JaRbkPRfhGUwA85

Our University adopts as a fundamental principle the support of balanced and healthy nutrition for students and staff, while also ensuring sustainable quality meal services.









#### **Combating Hunger and Sustainable Food Policies**

Our university provides sustainable and accessible meal services across the campus to support the fight against hunger and promote healthy nutrition. Meals prepared at the Central Campus Dining Hall are delivered to faculties and vocational schools in Nigde Central and Bor districts, while at the Ulukışla Vocational School, meals are prepared in its own kitchen and served to students and staff.

The meal services, provided annually through outsourced catering companies via tender, are regularly monitored by university control units, dietitians, and the catering company's food engineers based on criteria such as quality, hygiene, nutritional value, and affordability. Additionally, a gluten-free menu is offered for celiac patients, reflecting an inclusive service approach. https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/yHX5F9T2IdIJ4vz

Monthly meal menus are planned by the University Dietitian, ensuring that students and staff receive balanced and healthy meals. While meal fees vary for students and staff, they are kept well below the average market prices. https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/YE609ZFdxRNeWWG

Cafeteria and canteen services are provided across all campuses of our University, with product prices regularly monitored to consider students' economic conditions.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/65XHxgC38FFA2cv

#### Sürdürülebilir Tarım ve Gıda Güvencesi

In collaboration with the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Technologies, the Continuous Education Center, and the Ayhan Sahenk Agricultural Application and Research Center, our University organizes training sessions, seminars, and practical activities for farmers and producers in the fields of sustainable agriculture, animal husbandry, and food safety. Within this scope, numerous trainings and events have been conducted in areas such as plant breeding, beekeeping, feed technologies, queen bee rearing, and traditional food production.

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/tarimbilimlerifakultesi/etkinlik/11162

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/elma-hasat-gunu-ve-elma-yetistiriciliginde-guncel-konular/1016

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/uygulamali-ana-ari-yetistiriciligi-egitimi/962

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/ana-ari-dagitim-programi-/991

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/3-ar-ge-ve-proje-pazari-gunleri/1038

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/avcilik-ve-yaban-hayati-semineri/963

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/aricilikta-yeni-yaklasimlar-egitimi/913

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/meyve-bahcesi-kurulumu/900

Additionally, to provide scientific support to local producers, our University's Central Research Laboratory and Analysis Unit offers technical services such as soil, water, food, and feed analyses. These analyses are critical for supporting environmental sustainability, enhancing production quality, and ensuring food safety.

https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/kurs-programlari https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/sertifika-programlari











#### **Promotion of Local and Sustainable Production**

Our university supports the local economy and encourages sustainable consumption habits by enabling direct sales of products sourced from local resources within the campus. Within this scope, products such as adult cherries, vegetables, and fruits, propolis, broiler chickens, and almonds are made available for sale through the university's revolving fund.

- Adult Cherries
- Vegetables and Fruits
- Propolis
- · Broiler Chickens
- Almonds

#### **Education in Agriculture and Graduation Rate**

In the 2023-2024 academic year, a total of 2,993 students graduated from our university, of which 101 graduated in agricultural and livestock fields (plant production, animal production, agricultural genetic engineering). This represents approximately 3.4% of all graduates. Graduates in the agricultural field possess the knowledge and skills necessary to contribute to sustainable food systems.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/AbJLKdQwFe6M1suhttps://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/eRIYOBUf7zdo1Pa











#### 3. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

#### Graduate Information and Contribution to the Health Sector

Our university continues to strengthen its human resources in the field of health in line with its mission to improve public health. In the 2023-2024 academic year, a total of 2,993 students graduated, of which 254 completed undergraduate programs in health sciences, and 27 completed master's or doctoral programs in health-related fields. With these figures, the proportion of health-focused graduates stands at 9.4%. This rate demonstrates the university's direct contribution to the regional health infrastructure and workforce.

https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/TfjJHIUmqXvh0Bq https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/bMAX9jhWSpgUQLo https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/wI7r5j76bIBYK0P (Lisans) https://bulut.ohu.edu.tr/owncloud/index.php/s/uzw4I9Vs06Xie2d

#### **Integration of Education and Health Services**

Our university maintains a strong collaboration with Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Training and Research Hospital. Medical Faculty students complete their 6th-year clinical training at this hospital. Faculty members actively contribute both to academic education and the delivery of healthcare services. In addition, continuous interaction is sustained with representatives of health and social service institutions who take part in the Advisory Board, ensuring that planning processes address current needs.

https://omerhalisdemireah.saglik.gov.tr/# https://www.ohu.edu.tr/kalitekoordinatorlugu/sayfa/nohu-danisma-kurulu

#### **Community Contribution and Social Support Services**

Various projects are carried out within the scope of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to support disadvantaged groups in society. Food assistance, scholarship coordination, housing, and psychological counseling services are provided for students in need. Nutrition and healthy lifestyle trainings are organized both for students and the wider community. Health screenings (such as blood pressure, diabetes, etc.) are offered free of charge, particularly targeting citizens living in rural areas. In addition, our university contributes to public health through the distribution of hygiene kits and initiatives aimed at raising public health awareness.

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/toplumsalkatki/sayfa/kulturel-sanatsal-faaliyetler https://www.ohu.edu.tr/toplumsalkatki/sayfa/egitim-ogretim-faaliyetleri https://www.ohu.edu.tr/toplumsalkatki/sayfa/arastirma-gelistirme-faaliyetleri

#### **Physical Activity and Healthy Living Infrastructure**

Our university continues to expand health-oriented physical activity facilities for students and the local community. The semi-Olympic swimming pool, indoor and outdoor sports halls, fitness centers, and running and walking tracks are accessible to the public at affordable rates. These facilities support public health while also promoting the physical and mental well-being of students.

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/toplumsalkatki/sayfa/saglik-ve-spor-faaliyetleri

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/tyana-su-yolu-bisiklet-turu/931

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/engelli-yasam-ile-ilgili-toplumsal-ve-kulturel-sorunlara-yonelik-yaklasimlar/952











#### Physical Health, Mental Health, and Counseling Services

Our university provides comprehensive services aimed at supporting student and community health, focusing on sexual health, mental well-being, and psychosocial welfare. In this context, sustainable, accessible, and science-based support mechanisms have been developed through the collaboration of Zübeyde Hanım Faculty of Health Sciences, the Guidance and Psychological Counseling Unit, the Youth Counseling Center (GDM), and the Yeşilay Club.

Particularly to support the physical, emotional, and social development of young individuals, regular individual and group-based activities are conducted in the following areas:

**Reproductive Health and Sexual Education**: Students receive science-based training on topics such as safe sex, prevention of sexually transmitted infections, body awareness, and boundary-setting skills. These trainings are offered as elective courses in both health sciences faculties and other academic units. USD3081/Youth Reproductive Health

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/akts/bilgipaketi\_dersdetay/1/USD3081/dersbilgi USD4080/Reproductive Health in High-Risk Groups https://www.ohu.edu.tr/akts/bilgipaketi\_dersdetay/1/USD4080/dersbilgi EBE4022/Infertility and Assisted Reproductive Techniques https://www.ohu.edu.tr/akts/bilgipaketi\_dersdetay/1/EBE4022/dersbilgi

• Family Planning Awareness: Students and the public are informed about birth control methods, healthy pregnancy planning, and gender roles. Outreach activities are conducted in rural areas to provide community-level education. EBE3072/Reproductive Health and Family Planning

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/akts/bilgipaketi\_dersdetay/1/EBE3072/dersbilgi

• Mental Health and Psychological Support: Through the Guidance and Psychological Counseling Unit, students are offered individual therapy, group therapy sessions, and training in stress management skills. Specialized counseling sessions address anxiety, exam stress, addiction risk, loneliness, and social adjustment issues.

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/genclikdanismamerkezi/sayfa/hizmetler https://www.ohu.edu.tr/genclikdanismamerkezi/sayfa/merkezimiz-faaliyet-alanlari http://ohu.edu.tr/gdmbasvuru

- Addiction Prevention: The Yeşilay Club, Youth Counseling Center, and Faculty of Health Sciences collaborate to conduct awareness seminars, poster campaigns, and educational activities addressing tobacco, alcohol, substance, and technology addictions. Education programs are also offered at middle and high school levels to raise societal awareness.
- Psychosocial Support and Crisis Intervention: Professional psychological support is provided during traumatic events or individual crises, with referrals to relevant health institutions when necessary.
- Support through Education: Life skills related to health, emotional awareness, effective communication, gender equality, and healthy relationships are integrated into the university's elective course offerings. This approach allows students to enhance their life skills alongside academic development.

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/toplumsalkatki/sayfa/egitim-ogretim-faaliyetleri











#### **Smoke-Free Campus and Tobacco Control**

Within the framework of combating the harms of cigarettes and tobacco products, designated smoking areas on the university campus have been restricted, and "Smoke-Free Campus" initiatives have been implemented. Physical signage and educational activities have been carried out. Although an official policy document has not yet been published, an interdisciplinary approach focused on practical implementation has been adopted.











#### 4. QUALITY EDUCATION

One of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals presented by the United Nations as a global call to action, "quality education," is directly linked to all other goals and contributes positively to each. Education, serving as a vital guide throughout life, promotes societal development starting from the individual, enhances well-being, and supports the building of a life grounded in tolerance and peace. Therefore, efforts toward achieving the goal of quality education can be considered a key factor for the success of sustainable development.

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University aims to provide candidates with professional knowledge and skills through higher education programs at the associate and undergraduate levels. Based on the principle of lifelong learning, the university also addresses the wider community through its educational centers, offering courses, seminars, and similar programs not only in professional knowledge but also in general culture, skills development, and various hobby areas.

Within our university; Eğitim Fakültesi, Fen Fakültesi, İnsan ve Toplum Bilimleri Fakültesi, İktisadi ve İdari Bilimler Fakültesi, Mühendislik Fakültesi, Mimarlık Fakültesi, İletişim Fakültesi, Tarım Bilimleri ve Teknolojileri Fakültesi, İslami İlimler Fakültesi, Tıp Fakültesi, Güzel Sanatlar Fakültesi, Bor Sağlık Bilimleri Fakültesi, Diş Hekimliği Fakültesi, Spor Bilimleri Fakültesi, Zübeyde Hanım Sağlık Bilimleri Fakültesi, Bilgisayar ve Bilişim Bilimleri Fakültesi undergraduate education is provided across 16 faculties. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/).

Graduate education is offered through four institutes: the Institute of Science, the Institute of Social Sciences, the Institute of Educational Sciences, and the Institute of Health Sciences. Additionally, academic programs continue at one vocational school, six vocational colleges, and the State Conservatory of Turkish Music (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/).

#### Supporting Education at All Levels Through an Interdisciplinary Approach

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University demonstrates a sustainability-focused approach by offering interdisciplinary graduate programs under the Institute of Science, including Interdisciplinary Disaster Management, Interdisciplinary Digital Agriculture, Interdisciplinary Energy Science and Technologies, and Interdisciplinary Occupational Health and Safety at the master's level, as well as Interdisciplinary Energy Science and Technologies at the doctoral level. This approach brings together diverse disciplines to support research and development activities. In the coming years, efforts will continue to expand the number of interdisciplinary programs across all levels of education, supported by training for academic and administrative staff, as well as guidance and encouragement for students.

#### **Research and Application Centers**

The research centers at Nigde Ömer Halisdemir University are categorized into three main areas: education, culture, and technology. In the education category, there are five centers, including the Atatürk Principles and History of Turkish Revolution Research and Application Center, Kazakh Culture and Education Research and Application Center, Lifelong Learning Research and Application Center, Turkish Language Teaching Research and Application Center, and Distance Education Research and Application Center (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sayfa/egitim). Under the culture category, there are four centers, such as the Turkish World Studies Research and Application Center, Women, Family, and Social Policies Research and Application Center, Kazakh Culture and Education Research and Application Center, and Nigde Region History and Culture Research and Application Center (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sayfa/kultur). In the technology category, there are six centers, including the Ayhan Şahenk Agricultural Research and Application Center, Environmental Issues Research and Application Center, Industrial Raw Materials and Building Materials Research and Application Center, Nanotechnology Research and Application









Center, Prof. Dr. Turhan Nejat Veziroğlu Clean Energy Research and Application Center, and Computer Science Research and Application Center (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sayfa/teknoloji).

Within the scope of the Lifelong Learning Center, certificate programs (https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/sertifika-programlari), course programs (https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/kurs-programlari), and seminars (https://ohu.edu.tr/nusem/sayfa/ seminerler) are offered. In addition, at our Distance Education Research and Application Center, planning, programming, coordination, and implementation activities are conducted for distance education across all educational programs, including associate, undergraduate, undergraduate completion, graduate, and lifelong learning programs. The center also carries out infrastructure, research, and development activities related to distance education (https://ohu.edu.tr/uzem/sayfa/amac-vefaaliyet-alanlari).

#### **Lifelong Learning and Adult Education**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University provides training within the scope of "Lifelong Learning and Adult Education," aiming to contribute to the academic development of lifelong learning and adult education, support the link between practice and academia for the professionalization of the adult education field, and conduct research that contributes to the theoretical foundations of adult education (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/egitimfakultesi/hayatboyuogrenme/sayfa/genel-bilgi).

#### Library

Our university's Sabiha Şahenk Central Library occupies 5,561 square meters of indoor space. It is a well-equipped and modern library featuring an exhibition hall, cafeteria, multimedia room, conference hall, group study rooms, individual study carrels, internet access areas, and spacious reading rooms. The library has a seating capacity to accommodate 900 people simultaneously.

The collection is organized according to the Dewey Decimal Classification system and is accessible through an Open Shelf System. Bibliographic records of materials are managed via the Yordam Library Automation system, allowing users to access resources online. Currently, the library holds 56,432 books, 15,954 e-books, 13,550 periodicals, 5,074 serial publications, and 3,733 theses (https://kutuphane.ohu.edu.tr/yordam/). The collection is continuously enriched based on the university's informational needs, with new resources regularly purchased to keep it up-to-date (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/kutuphanedb/ sayfa/genel-bilgi).

The library also provides electronic publication services, including access to "Subscribed Databases, Turnitin & iThenticate, Trial Databases, Open Access Databases, Off-Campus Access System (VETIS), Instructions for Off-Campus Access (VETIS), E-Books, E-Journals, E-Theses, Search in Printed Publications, Search in All Resources, and My Library Account." These features create a comprehensive information network for the students and staff of our university (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/ kutuphanedb/sayfa/ohu-yayinlar).

#### **Exchange Programs**

Our university offers Erasmus+, Farabi, Mevlana, and Orhun exchange programs. Through the Career Development Center, career planning and development activities are conducted in a comprehensive manner that covers pre-university entry, the student period, and post-graduation. This approach includes candidates, students, alumni, staff, their families, and other stakeholders, with activities carried out in line with the university's established vision and objectives (https://www.ohu.edu. tr/kagem/sayfa/merkezin-faaliyet-alanlari).











#### Bologna

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, through the "Bologna Process," has aimed not only to enhance the quality of education in alignment with the expectations of the business world and civil society but also to ensure the sharing of experiences, collaboration, and the recognition of acquired competencies. Building on this approach, the university began its experience in student mobility in 2005 and has progressively expanded it. Today, it has established 54 bilateral agreements with 17 European Union member countries. Student and faculty mobility are among the top priorities within the university's internationalization goals.

Additionally, the university has diligently completed its work on the European Credit Transfer System and has been awarded the "Diploma Supplement Label." Creating double-degree programs is also a priority for Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, and the related initiatives have been successfully implemented, enabling students to enroll in double-degree programs. The Bologna Coordination Committee at the university oversees the Bologna Process, ensuring close monitoring and the organization of its main components within the institution (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/bologna/sayfa/bologna).

#### **Quality Coordination**

At our university, within the scope of self-assessment and strategic planning activities, "quality management" practices are implemented by examining inter-unit relationships and process interactions in detail, ensuring that all academic units participate in academic evaluation and quality improvement activities. In this context, at the University Quality Coordination Office, the following are carried out: Quality Policy, R&D Policy, Education and Training Policy, Institutional Operations and Infrastructure Policy, Community Service Policy, Distance Education Policy, Quality Assurance System, Quality Assurance Matrix, Quality Process Improvement Cycles, and Accreditation practices (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/kalitekoordinatorlugu).

#### **Education and Training Policy**

Within the scope of our University's Quality Coordination, there is an Education and Training Quality Commission. This commission aims to cultivate individuals who are inquisitive, questioning, participatory, capable of thinking globally, and possess ethical and cultural values; it also contributes to the development of science, technology, and arts while fostering an awareness of environmental responsibility, thereby supporting the growth of the country and region. In this context, education and training are conducted in accordance with international standards, adopting a student-centered approach based on continuous improvement, creating an educational environment that supports both personal and societal development (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/kalitekoordinatorlugu/sayfa/egitim-ogretim-politikasi).

#### **Academic Achievements:**

Our Ulukışla Vocational School Forestry Department Lecturer Hatice Nur Kılıç's project received funding under the TÜBİTAK ARDEB 1002-A Rapid Support Program (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ogretim-elemanimiza-tubitak-ardeb-1002-adestegi/32253).

Prof. Dr. Mustafa Boğa from Bor Vocational School received approval for his TOVAG 2230188 numbered project under the TÜBİTAK 1001 Scientific and Technological Research Projects Support Program (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizinbir-projesine-daha-tubitaktan-destek/32254).











Assoc. Prof. Dr. Cem Baltacioğlu from the Faculty of Engineering, Department of Food Engineering, earned support for the project "Excel for Science and Engineering Applications" under TÜBİTAK 2237-A Scientific Education Activities Support Program (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-bir-tubitak-proje-destegi-daha/32258).

Projects led by Assoc. Dr. Ece Ümmü Deveci (Environmental Engineering) and Assoc. Dr. Emre Yavuzer (Food Engineering) received funding through TÜBİTAK ARDEB 1002-A Rapid Support Module (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizetubitak-destekleri-devam-ediyor/32264).

Prof. Dr. Yüksel Kaplan from the Department of Mechanical Engineering received 8 million TL funding from the Presidency Strategy and Budget Office for his project on "Hydrogen and Fuel Cells" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizinhidrojen-ve-yakit-pilleri-projesine-tc-cumhurbaskanligindan-onemli-destek/32265).

Prof. Dr. Gazi Görür from the Department of Biotechnology received TÜBİTAK 1001 support for the project "Determination" of the Afit Fauna in Turkey's Thrace Region" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ogretim-uyemizin-projesine-tubitak-1001destegi/32273).

Under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Sedat Serce, Ars. Gör. Orkun Gencer from the Department of Agricultural Genetic Engineering executed the project "Molecular Marker Determination of Local Nigde Apples' Resistance to Fire Blight and Black Spot and Self-Incompatibility Features," receiving TÜBİTAK 1002 Rapid Support Program funding (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ universitemize-bir-tubitak-destegi-daha/32278).

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University was selected among five universities to open an undergraduate program in "Artificial Intelligence and Data Science" at the "Artificial Intelligence, Digitalization, Big Data - New Programs Workshop" hosted by Yıldız Technical University (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-yapay-zeka-ve-veri-bilimi-alaninda-lisans-bolumuacabilecek-bes-universite-arasinda/32284).

In the 2023 second term TÜBİTAK 2209-A University Student Research Projects Support Program, our university ranked 4th among 208 Turkish universities (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-tubitak-2209-a-ogrenci-projeleri-destegindeturkiyede-4-sirada/32295).

Prof. Dr. Ufuk Demirel and his team developed frost-resistant seedlings with TÜBİTAK and KOSGEB support at Niğde TEKNOPARK A.S., ensuring year-round production of stone fruit seedlings (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/tarim-calismalarinda-oncu-olanuniversitemizde-dona-dayanikli-fidan-gelistirildi/32326).

Dr. Hakan Aktaş from the Department of Computer Engineering patented a "High-Accuracy Object Counting System Using Multi-View Method" under TÜBİTAK support (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-yilin-ikinci-patenti/32331).

Micro-tube hydrogen fuel cells were developed at our university, specialized in hydrogen and fuel cells, to extend UAV flight times (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-ihalarin-ucus-suresini-iki-kat-artiracak-mikrotup-hidrojen-yakit-piligelistirildi/32338).

Our university ranked in the 2024 Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, evaluated on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in eight SDG categories (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-ilk-kez-the-2024-impact-rankings-siralamasinda/32346).









Lecturer Gül Pehlivan Tekin from the Department of Therapy and Rehabilitation received TÜBİTAK 1002-A funding for her project on exercise programs' effects on prediabetic individuals (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-bir-tubitak-proje-destegi-daha/32351).

Niğde Teknopark A.Ş. facilitated a 900,000 TL investment grant for an entrepreneur under the Entrepreneur Ramp Program (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-nigde-teknopark-girisimcisine-tubitaktan-yatirim-destegi-/32361).

Engineering faculty staff secured TÜBİTAK 1507 funding for the "Development of Indoor Navigation and Virtual Business Card System Based on Augmented Reality Technology" project (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-yapay-zeka-ve-artirilmis-gerceklik-teknolojisi-projesine-tubitak-destegi/32363).

Dr. Hilal Kurt Sezer from the Department of Pediatric Nursing received TÜSEB funding for a randomized controlled study on Kinesio Tape effects in mothers (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ogretim-uyemizin-projesine-tuseb-destegi/32367).

Arş. Gör. Dr. Caner Yavuz led a TÜBİTAK 1001 project on CRISPR/Cas13a genome editing for ToBRFV-resistant tomatoes (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-tubitak-1001-destekleri-artarak-devam-ediyor/32368).

Prof. Dr. Semiha Akçaözoğlu and graduate students received a patent for "Light-Transmitting Waste PET Aggregate Lightweight Concrete" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-patent-basvurulari-tescillenmeye-devam-ediyor/32373).

Dr. Tefide Kızıldeniz Gürbüz participated in an international research project on avocado production in Peru (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ogretim-uyemizin-yer-aldigi-projeye-uluslararasi-destek/32376).

Our university led initiatives promoting local solar panel production in line with national renewable energy policies (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/gunes-enerjisinde-yerli-uretimi-destekleyen-universitemiz-ulkemizin-yenilenebilir-enerji-hedeflerine-onculuk-ediyor/32378).

Lecturer Yasemin Uğurlu received TÜBİTAK 1002-B support for a burn wound study in rats (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-tubitak-proje-destekleri-artarak-devam-ediyor/32380).

Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Uslu and 11 academics were listed among the world's most influential scientists by Stanford University and Elsevier (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/11-akademisyenimiz-dunyanin-en-etkili-bilim-insanlari-arasinda/32382).

Our university won first place in the Inter-University Energy Efficiency Competition (ÜNVER-2) and received the "Outstanding Achievement Certificate" from the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-enerji-verimliliginde-ulkemizin-oncu-ve-onemli-kurumlarindan-oldu/32384).

In the 2024 Round University Ranking (RUR), our university ranked 7th in Health Sciences and 10th in Social Sciences among Turkish universities eligible for global assessment, placing in the global top 500 (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-iki-alanda-turkiyede-ilk-10a-dunyada-ilk-500e-girdi/32387).

Dr. Mehtap Vural Aytekin received TÜBİTAK 2218 support for her postdoctoral project on carrot stress tolerance (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-tarimda-kurakligin-olumsuz-etkisini-onleyecek-projesine-tubitak-destegi/32392).











The Faculty of Medicine ranked 9th among 106 state universities in the 2024 TUS Clinical Medicine score and 19th in Basic Medicine (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-tip-106-devlet-universitesi-tip-fakultesi-arasinda-9uncu-sirada/32395).

Our university maintained its position in the THE 2025 World University Rankings among approximately 2,900 universities worldwide(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-the-2025-siralamalarinda-turk-universiteleri-arasinda-yukseliste/32396).

Doctoral students Emre Kartal and Furkan Güçlüer received TÜBİTAK BİDEB-2250 support for the project "Development of Double-Sided Heteroepitaxial Type Cells" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/yerli-gunes-hucrelerinin-verimliligini-artiran-projemizdeki-ogrencilerimize-tubitak-destegi/32397).

Dr. Filiz Keleş's project on "CIGS/Perovskite Monolithic Tandem Flexible Solar Cells" received TÜBİTAK 3501 Career Development Program support for graduate students (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-esnek-gunes-hucrelerini-gelistirme-projesine-tubitak-destegi/32403).

Prof. Dr. Burcu Berke and doctoral student Melike Saraç received TÜBİTAK 1002-B support for the project "Robots, Automation, and Inequality" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-tubitak-destekleri-devam-ediyor/32406).

Technology Transfer Office achievements in intellectual property include patents and utility models, such as the national patent granted for "Micropropagation Method for Hypericum Species" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-projesine-ulusal-patent-tescili/32411).

Prof. Dr. Bora Timurkutluk and Arş. Gör. Furkan Toruntay received TÜBİTAK 1812 support for the "Development of AEM Electrolyzer" project (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/cevre-dostu-enerji-teknolojilerine-katki-sunacak-projemize-tubitaktan-mukemmeliyet-muhru/32419).

Graduate students Kemal Karadağ and Nuri Yeşilyurt received the "Excellence Seal" for their project on bioplastic synthesis from lignocellulosic waste (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/tubitak-bigg-2024-2-cagrisi-kapsaminda-universitemize-ikinci-mukemmeliyet-muhru/32420).

Our university ranked 401-500 in the Times Higher Education Interdisciplinary Science Rankings (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-the-disiplinler-arasi-bilim-siralamasinda-dunyada-ilk-500de/32422).

Prof. Dr. Yüksel Kaplan and his team received a national patent and positive report for an international patent application on the "Automatic Controlled Metal Hydride Reactor Development" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-bir-ulusal-patent-tescili-daha/32437).

Arş. Gör. Nida Nur Urgancı received TÜBİTAK 2250 support for the project "Phages and Endolysins Against Foodborne Pathogens" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-ogretim-elmanina-tubitaktan-burs-destegi/32452).

Technology Transfer Office continues to achieve successes in patents and utility models (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/akademisyenimize-ulusal-patent-tescili-ve-uluslararasi-patente-iliskin-olumlu-rapor/32441).











#### **Activities:**

The 2024 University Quality Bulletin has been prepared (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/kalitekoordinatorlugu/sayfa/kalite-bulteni). The project titled "Enhancing dsRNA Effectiveness in Potato Beetle (Leptinotarsa Decemlineata Say.) Control Using Mineral-Based Nanocomposites" led by Prof. Dr. Ayhan Gökçe from the Department of Plant Production and Technologies, Faculty of Agriculture and Technologies, was awarded support under the TÜBİTAK ARDEB 1001-Scientific and Technological Research Projects Funding Program (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-patates-bocegi-ile-mucadele-projesine-tubitak-destegi/32255).

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Muhammed Zeynel Öztürk, faculty member of the Department of Geography, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, was honored with the TÜBA (Turkish Academy of Sciences) - GEBİP (Outstanding Young Scientist) award (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/akademisyenimize-ustun-basarili-genc-bilim-insani-odulu-/32257).

Our university's "Energy Efficiency" projects applied in its physical environments in line with national energy policies won first place in the Inter-University Energy Efficiency Competition (ÜNVER-2), organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Higher Education Council (YÖK) (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizden-birgurur-verici-basari-daha-enerji-verimliligi-birincilik-odulu/32256).

The panel titled "Energy Efficiency, Hydrogen Technologies and Regional Development: Future Energy Paradigms" was held at the Şehit Ömer Halisdemir Congress and Culture Center (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-gelecegin-enerji-paradigmalari-paneli-duzenlendi/32261).

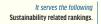
The "Local Climate Change Adaptation Workshop" was carried out at our university, where studies focused on regional development continue uninterrupted (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-yerelde-iklim-degisikligine-uyum-sureci-calistayi/32269).

A "Zero Waste and Energy Efficiency Workshop" was organized at our university with the participation of Ankara University Rector Prof. Dr. Necdet Ünüvar, Middle East Technical University Rector Prof. Dr. Mustafa Verşan Kök, Gazi University Rector Prof. Dr. Musa Yıldız, and their accompanying delegations (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-odtu-ankara-vegazi-universitelerinin-rektorlerinin-katilimiyla-sifir-atik-ve-enerji-verimliligi-calistayi-duzenlendi/32263).

In collaboration with the Niğde Cattle Breeders' Association, a panel on "Efficient Livestock" was held to inform local farmers and sector representatives (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-verimli-hayvancilik-paneli-duzenlendi/32270).

A "Student and Academic Meeting" program was organized at our university with the participation of Niğde MP, former KOSGEB President, and TÜBİTAK Board Member Prof. Dr. Cevahir Uzkurt and TÜBİTAK President Prof. Dr. Hasan Mandal, and it was attended intensively by students (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-ogrenci-ve-akademisyen-bulusmasi-programi-gerceklestirildi/32272).

Protection and security personnel and administrators serving within our university received training as part of first aid education (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizdeki-ilk-yardim-egitimleri-kapsaminda-guvenlik-personeli-deegitim-aldi-/32276).











With the decision of the Higher Education Council (YÖK), the New Media and Communication Department was opened in the Faculty of Communication. The departments of Public Relations and Advertising, Radio, Television and Cinema, and Journalism actively provide education in the Faculty of Communication, which now also includes the New Media and Communication Department (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-yeni-medya-ve-iletisim-bolumu-acildi/32280). The conference titled "Treatment Methods in Lymphedema and Complex Decongestive Physiotherapy" was held at our university with the presentation of Fevzi Yekta Dikduran, physiotherapist at Bor Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Hospital (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-lenfodemde-tedavi-yontemleri-konferansi-/32282).

Our university organized the "New Approaches in Beekeeping Training Course" in collaboration with the Ayhan Sahenk Agricultural Application and Research Center, Ahiler Development Agency, Niğde Provincial Directorate of Agriculture and Forestry, and Niğde Beekeepers' Association (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-aricilikta-yeni-uygulamalaregitimleri-basladi/32285).

A panel titled "Lessons to Be Learned from the February 6 Kahramanmaras-Centered Earthquakes" was held (https://www. ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-6-subat-depremlerinden-cikartilacak-dersler-ele-alindi/32287).

With the participation of TÜBİTAK President Prof. Dr. Hasan Mandal, the "Academic Meeting - TÜBİTAK Project Support Programs Information Session" was carried out (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/tubitak-baskani-akademisyenlerimizlebulustu/32292).

Thanks to the expanded academic staff of our Faculty of Medicine, the number of main branches in which clinical training can be provided at our Education and Research Hospital increased to six (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/hastanemizdeklinik-egitimi-verilen-ana-bilim-dali-sayisi-altiya-yukseldi/32293).

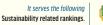
"Information Security and Cybersecurity Awareness Training" was conducted for our academic and administrative staff within the scope of the Information Communication Security Policy and the 5th Human Resources Information Security Policy (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-bilgi-guvenligi-ve-siber-guvenlik-farkindalik-egitimi/32296).

With the renewed Scientific Research Projects (BAP) Directive, an orientation program on project supports was organized (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-bap-yonergesi-bilgilendirme-etkinligi-duzenlendi/32298).

As a result of successful studies in quality assurance and accreditation, our university obtained the Institutional Accreditation Certificate from YÖKAK, joining the 53 universities in Turkey with accreditation. Our Rector Prof. Dr. Hasan Uslu received the two-year valid Institutional Accreditation Certificate from YÖK President Prof. Dr. Erol Özvar at a ceremony held at Hacıbayram Veli University (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-yokak-tarafindan-akredite-edildi/32305).

The second "NÖHÜ Career Days" was held at the Sehit Ömer Halisdemir Congress and Culture Center. During the two-day event, our students met with experts from science, culture, bureaucracy, and the private sector. Nearly 20 public and private sector representatives participated as speakers, and 15 exhibition stands were set up in the foyer (https://www.ohu. edu.tr/haber/nohu-kariyer-gunlerinin-ikincisi-gerceklestirildi/32306).

The Niğde Vocational School of Social Sciences Transportation Services Department organized a "Sector-Student Meeting" for students of the Civil Aviation Management Program (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/sivil-hava-ulastirma-isletmeciligiogrencilerimiz-icin-sektor-ogrenci-bulusmasi-duzenlendi/32307).









Following the second meeting chaired by YÖK President Prof. Dr. Erol Özvar and hosted by Istanbul Technical University on new programs and departments in Artificial Intelligence, Digitalization, and Big Data, the establishment of our Faculty of Computer and Information Technologies was deemed appropriate (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/yok-universitemizdebilgisayar-ve-bilisim-teknolojileri-fakultesi-kurulmasini-uygun-buldu/32309).

The 19th talk in the series organized by our Faculty of Arts and Sciences, titled "A Beginning with DNA in the Century of Biotechnology," explored the relationship between biotechnology and DNA studies (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ universitemizde-biyoteknoloji-yuzyilina-dna-ile-bir-baslangic-soylesisi/32310).

For the first time, our university entered the 2024 Times Higher Education (THE) Asia University Rankings, placing in the 601+ band among higher education institutions across Asia (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-ilk-kez-the-asyauniversite-siralamasina-girdi/32313).

As part of Education, Culture, and Art Activities, the Turkish Education Department of the Turkish and Social Sciences Education Department, Faculty of Education, held several talks (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/egitim-fakultemizde-egitimkultur-ve-sanat-soylesileri/32314).

Within the scope of TÜBİTAK 1812/2024-2 BİGG, Niğde TEKNOPARK A.Ş., as one of the implementing institutions, provided 900,000 TL of investment support for academics' and students' entrepreneurial ideas (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ akademisyen-ve-ogrencilerin-girisim-fikirlerine-900-bin-tl-yatirim-destegi-firsati/32321).

In collaboration with the Disaster Education and Management Application and Research Center, a "Disaster Awareness Training and AFAD Volunteer Support Program" was provided for students (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizdeafet-farkindalik-egitimi-ve-destek-programi-duzenlendi/32324).

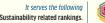
Continuing regional development-focused studies in agriculture, the Ayhan Şahenk Agricultural Application and Research Center, together with Ahiler Development Agency, organized "Practical Queen Bee Breeding Training" for local farmers (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-uygulamali-ana-ari-yetistiriciligi-egitimi/32334).

With a vision of being a "regionally focused, specialized in priority areas, pioneering, and innovative university serving society," coding and software education was provided for middle and high school students in our city (https://www.ohu.edu. tr/haber/universitemizden-bir-ilk-ortaokul-ve-lise-ogrencileri-icin-kodlama-egitimi/32336).

By Presidential Decree No. 8528, published in the Official Gazette on May 25, 2024, our Faculty of Arts and Sciences was closed and replaced by the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, increasing the total number of faculties to 15 (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemize-iki-yeni-fakulte/32337).

Graduate students received theoretical and practical training in SEM, EDS, XRD, XRF, DSC, TGA, FTIR, Raman Spectroscopy, Gas Chromatography, and Particle Size Analysis at our Central Research Laboratory (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ universitemiz-merkezi-arastirma-laboratuvarinda-lisansustu-ogrencilere-yonelik-egitim-verildi/32340).

In collaboration with the Ayhan Şahenk Agricultural Application and Research Center and Ahiler Development Agency, 50 high-quality queen bees suitable for local conditions were distributed to 10 producers in our province as part of the "Queen Bee Distribution Program" (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-ana-ari-dagitim-programi-duzenlendi/32354).









In the field of internationalization, our university, whose accreditation process was accepted by the National Agency, earned the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) Quality Certificate, providing students with opportunities for volunteering and internships in Europe (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-ogrencilerine-avrupada-gonulluluk-ve-staj-hareketliligiimkani/32381).

Panels on TÜBİTAK ARDEB, TEYDEB, and NÖHÜ-BAP projects were organized by the Research Deanery to inform academic staff, students, and sector representatives about funding opportunities (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizdetubitak-ve-nohu-bap-projeleri-bilgilendirme-paneli/32383, https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-tubitak-teydebdestek-programlari-tanitildi/32408).

Online training on "Determining and Writing Program and Course Learning Outcomes" was delivered to academic staff by the Teaching and Learning Center (NÖMER) (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-akademisyenlere-yonelik-programve-ders-ogrenim-ciktilarinin-yazilmasi-egitimi/32412).

The Economics Department's International Joint Thesis Master's Program with Baku Eurasia University was opened following (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/cift-diplomali-iktisat-ana-bilim-dali-uluslararasi-tezli-yuksek-lisansby YÖK programimiz-acildi/32414). The Oral and Dental Health Hospital of our Dentistry Faculty, which began service in 2022 and obtained a permanent license last year, scored 88.12 points in the Turkish Health Quality System (SKS) inspections by the Ministry of Health, meeting quality standards and demonstrating eligibility for health tourism (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/ haber/dis-hastanemiz-ust-duzeyde-karsiladigi-kalite-standartlariyla-saglik-turizmine-yeterli-goruldu/32415).

The Sports Sciences Faculty Coaching Education Programs (Regular and Second Education) were reaccredited for three years by the Sports Sciences Education Programs Evaluation and Accreditation Board (SPORAK) under the Sports Sciences Association (SBD) (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/antrenorluk-egitimi-bolumumuz-yeniden-akredite-oldu/32450).











#### **5. GENDER EQUALITY**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University implemented numerous activities throughout 2025 in line with the Gender Equality Action Plan, aligning with sustainability principles such as health, cultural inclusivity, disaster awareness, environmental consciousness, and social solidarity. These activities were designed based on the principle of equal participation of women and men and were executed in harmony with the university's institutional culture. The initiatives conducted throughout the year aimed not only to embed equality and inclusiveness in theoretical documents but also to extend them to all areas of social life.

On January 7, 2025, the Breast Cancer Awareness Training for Niğde Municipality personnel, conducted by Dr. Gökçe Aslan Tekten, brought together male and female employees in a seminar focused on the importance of early diagnosis in healthcare. This activity aimed to strengthen equal access to health services and integrate gender awareness into health policies. ohu.edu.tr/manset/25077

On March 12, 2025, the International Women's Day Panel was held under the theme "The Impact of Gender-Based Roles on Women's Participation in Business Life," bringing together university staff, students, and residents from diverse social backgrounds. The panel raised awareness on gender equality and highlighted structural challenges faced by women in the workforce. ohu.edu.tr/manset/25240

On March 14, 2025, a hygiene training and social support program for rural communities in Aktaş Town was conducted with a focus on social contribution and local engagement. Informative materials on hygiene were provided, hygiene products were distributed, and both men and women were included in an inclusive approach that contributed to rural development. ohu.edu.tr/kaspam/manset/25246

In May 2025, the Social Contribution and University-Society Collaboration Workshop brought together public institutions, private sector representatives, NGOs, and academics to discuss multidimensional topics including sustainable development, gender equality, social responsibility, and the university's societal impact. This workshop highlighted the university's active role as a stakeholder on both local and national scales. ohu.edu.tr/manset/25385

On April 23, 2025, the Intercultural Colorful Meeting event brought together the university's international students and preschool children, fostering intercultural interaction. The event introduced children to different languages, traditions, and social experiences, laying the foundation for an inclusive society and promoting respect for diversity from an early age. ohu.edu.tr/manset/25472

On February 22, the Snowman Event featured Sudanese and Palestinian students alongside the university community, promoting the integration of representatives from different cultures. This activity fostered intercultural understanding, tolerance, and a sense of belonging. ohu.edu.tr/manset/25458

On March 3, the Kitchen Workshop brought together individuals with special needs to engage in culinary practices, creating a meaningful interaction space centered around joint production, empathy development, and social inclusion. This workshop represented a tangible step toward increasing social participation of people with disabilities. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/











On March 24, 2025, the tree-planting event under the slogan "Breathing Life into a Big Future with Little Hearts" connected university students with preschool children. This intergenerational environmental activity instilled ecological awareness and love for nature from an early age, supporting a culture of sustainable living. ohu.edu.tr/manset/25464

From March 5, 2025, every Wednesday at the Provincial Directorate of Culture Conference Hall, the Family University Project offered public seminars led by expert academics on topics such as intra-family communication, parenting approaches, child development, and value education. Conducted in collaboration with KASPAM, the Social Contribution Coordination Office, and the Provincial Directorate of Culture, this program aimed to strengthen family structures and rebuild societal values, supporting sustainable social development. ohu.edu.tr/toplumsalkatki/manset/25460

All the activities detailed above directly supported the strategic objectives of the Gender Equality Action Plan, including equal representation of men and women, health equity, social inclusion, rural inclusivity, intercultural interaction, and environmental sustainability. In line with sustainable development principles, the university has conducted initiatives that create impact not only at the institutional level but also across society, contributing to an equitable and inclusive future.









# 6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



#### 6. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

At our university, it is aimed to ensure the continuous, sufficient, and environmentally compatible use of clean and hygienic water without waste. However, wastewater generated after use contains numerous macro and micro pollutants, which have significant negative impacts on both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. This situation makes it essential to take effective measures to protect natural resources and ensure environmental sustainability. In this context, integrated water and wastewater management systems have been established in line with sustainability principles to preserve and enhance water hygiene and quality.

#### **Clean and Hygienic Water**

Sustainable water management is of critical importance for the preservation of water, one of the most valuable natural resources. Factors such as the limited availability of water resources, the increasing demand for water, water pollution, and inefficient water use make it essential to develop effective water management systems and technologies. The main objective of a sustainable water management system is to ensure that not even a single drop of water is wasted, and that water is used efficiently in harmony with the environment. In this regard, it is necessary to reduce water consumption rates, identify methods for the efficient use and reuse of water, ensure the continuous and sufficient supply of clean and hygienic water, and develop and implement water conservation models aimed at sustainable water management.

#### **Agricultural Irrigation**

In order to reduce the water footprint of agricultural products, drought-tolerant landscaping practices are being promoted, and efficient irrigation techniques are being utilized. In this context, lawn areas have been reduced while the proportion of shrub species has increased; sprinkler irrigation areas have been decreased, and the use of drip irrigation systems has been expanded. In addition, efforts have been initiated to develop subsurface irrigation systems. Compared to other methods, drip and subsurface irrigation systems provide greater water savings, deliver higher yield and quality, and contribute to the conservation and sustainability of soil and water resources. These methods also allow for fertilization through irrigation water, require less energy, can be successfully applied even under conditions where other irrigation methods are not feasible, and ensure maximum compliance with production quality and standards. Furthermore, they stand out with advantages such as requiring less labor and agricultural control costs, ease of operation and monitoring, suitability for automation, and the use of advanced technology at the highest level.

#### Sanitation

Various initiatives are being carried out to reduce water pollution by minimizing the number of pollutants entering water resources. The university's wastewater treatment system has been operational since 2010, and the water treated, along with rainwater accumulated on certain roads, is discharged into the Akkaya Dam Lake. The treated water stored in Akkaya Dam Lake is then used for irrigation in the agricultural fields of Bor district in Nigde Province.

To further reduce water pollution, educational and awareness-raising activities have been organized for stakeholders. During cleaning processes, efforts have been made to minimize the use of chemical substances. Non-biodegradable waste has been prevented from reaching water sources, and necessary measures have been taken to avoid the mixing of medical waste with water. In agricultural activities, efforts have been made to reduce the use of pesticides and herbicides; natural farming methods have been adopted to minimize agricultural chemical use, and fertilizers have been applied in a controlled and conscious manner. Additionally, as part of biological control methods, beneficial insects have been utilized.









#### **Water Infrastructure**

The infrastructure works of our university campus began in 1994, and by 2008, a 1,000-ton water reservoir, a 50-ton secondary reservoir, 3,850 meters of water transmission lines, 3,515 meters of sewer lines, and 4,000 meters of primary and secondary heating galleries had been fully completed. Between 2011 and 2013, infrastructure works continued with the construction of sewer systems, drinking water networks, stormwater drainage, irrigation water pipelines, roads, outdoor lighting, landscaping, and artificial ponds. From 2013 to 2016, the sewer systems, drinking water networks, stormwater drainage, and irrigation pipelines were completed, and rainwater collected from all campus buildings and road grates has been directed into a stormwater collection basin. The collected water is then used for green areas and agricultural irrigation. Water Storage Facilities

Between 2016 and 2024, a total of 25 underground reinforced concrete water tanks were constructed on our campuses to store rainwater. In 2024, approximately 635,520 tons of rainwater were collected in these tanks and used for irrigation activities, resulting in equivalent water saving. Underground water storage facilities form a crucial part of our campuses' water management strategy. Additionally, our Water Collection Basin stores approximately 50,688 tons of water annually. The collection and storage of rainwater significantly contribute to the efficient use of water resources and support environmental sustainability. The stored rainwater is used to irrigate green areas within the campus, helping to conserve natural water resources and reduce water costs.

#### **Greywater Applications**

Within the scope of greywater applications, wastewater generated at our university-particularly from the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Technology and the Ayhan Şahenk Student Dormitory—is utilized in environmentally friendly irrigation systems. This practice reduces water consumption by properly treating and reusing wastewater. Through this system, water resources are used more efficiently, decreasing the amount of water required for agricultural fields and landscape irrigation, thereby achieving significant water savings.

#### **Use of High Water-Efficiency Equipment**

At Nigde Omer Halisdemir University, a comprehensive water-saving program is being implemented. Within this program, sensor-activated faucets and urinals are widely used in many buildings, significantly reducing water consumption. Sensor faucets automatically turn on and off when users place their hands beneath them, preventing unnecessary water wastage. Similarly, sensor urinals allow water to flow only when needed, contributing to further savings. Additionally, aerators are installed on most faucets; these mix air with water, ensuring the same level of cleanliness and hygiene while using less water. Furthermore, old and high-leakage equipment and fixtures have been replaced with new ones, supporting overall water consumption reduction.

#### **Automated Irrigation**

On our campuses, all landscape irrigation is carried out through automated systems, thereby increasing water efficiency. Automated sprinkler and drip irrigation systems contribute to the efficient and economical use of water. With automatic control, irrigation is applied only in the required amounts and for the necessary duration, preventing water wastage. While sprinkler systems allow for effective irrigation of large areas, drip irrigation delivers water directly to plant roots, minimizing losses due to evaporation and surface runoff.









### **Electricity Generation from Hydrogen Produced by Water Electrolysis**

Hydrogen gas is produced using a proton exchange membrane water electrolysis device. Hydrogen fuel cells then use this hydrogen gas to generate electricity.

At our university, the Green Energy House building has been established on the main campus to promote the use of renewable energy sources, raise awareness about energy efficiency in our region, and contribute to enhancing energy efficiency consciousness across the university. Hydrogen fuel cells at this facility produce 20 kWh of electricity per hour.









## 7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



### 7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

In line with its Green Campus and Sustainable Environment policies, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals. Specializing in fuel cells and hydrogen technologies, the university prioritizes environmentally focused investments, including infrastructure improvements, increasing water and energy efficiency, and activities aimed at preventing and reducing pollution. In this context, the university favors next-generation and eco-friendly energy sources. Additionally, through various environmental and sustainability-themed events, it continuously raises awareness, works to reduce environmental pollution, and promotes the use of clean energy.

To effectively manage sustainable energy at the university, the Energy Management Unit was established under the Rectorate in accordance with the 2022/61 decision taken during the University Senate meeting on 10 March 2022. This unit is responsible for setting and implementing energy efficiency targets during the renovation of existing buildings, ensuring the use of energy-efficient products, and monitoring compliance. Moreover, the Energy Management Unit continuously tracks and reports energy consumption across the campus, develops and implements strategies to reduce energy use, records all energy applications, and conducts regular evaluations. With this comprehensive approach, Nigde Ömer Halisdemir University aims to increase energy efficiency, reduce environmental impacts, and establish a sustainable campus.

As a result of these efforts, the university has received various awards, certificates, and support for its tangible outcomes in sustainability and energy efficiency practices. Additionally, ongoing infrastructure projects and technical arrangements have made concrete contributions toward achieving energy efficiency goals. In this regard, the university:

### Won First Place in the Interuniversity Energy Efficiency Competition (UNVER-2)

The "Energy Efficiency" projects implemented by our university across its physical campuses, in line with national energy policies, were awarded first place in the Interuniversity Energy Efficiency Competition (ÜNVER-2), organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). The energy efficiency practices submitted by participating universities were evaluated by a jury formed by the Energy Efficiency and Environment Department (EVÇED) of the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, based on criteria such as total savings, savings rate, cost-effectiveness, energy management practices, scalability, innovation, and leadership. As a result of this evaluation, the projects implemented in all campus buildings of Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University were deemed worthy of the first-(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizden-bir-gurur-verici-basari-daha-enerji-verimliligi-birincilikodulu/32256), (https://enerji.gov.tr/duyuru-detay?id=20424)

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Received the "Outstanding Achievement Certificate" as One of the Leading and Prominent Institutions in Energy Efficiency in Our Country

The "Outstanding Achievement Certificate" was awarded by the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources. https://www.ohu. edu.tr/haber/nohu-enerji-verimliliginde-ulkemizin-oncu-ve-onemli-kurumlarindan-oldu/32384

A Zero Waste and Energy Efficiency Workshop Was Held at Our University with the Participation of the Rectors of METU, Ankara, and Gazi Universities.

Hosted by our university, the "Zero Waste and Energy Efficiency Workshop" was held with the participation of Ankara University Rector Prof. Dr. Necdet Ünüvar, Middle East Technical University Rector Prof. Dr. Mustafa Verşan Kök, Gazi University Rector Prof. Dr. Musa Yıldız, and their accompanying delegations.(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizdeodtu-ankara-ve-gazi-universitelerinin-rektorlerinin-katilimiyla-sifir-atik-ve-enerji-verimliligi-calistayi-duzenlendi/32263)









### The "Energy Paradigms of the Future" Panel Was Held at Our University.

The "Energy Efficiency, Hydrogen Technologies, and Regional Development: Energy Paradigms of the Future Panel" was held at our university's Şehit Ömer Halisdemir Congress and Culture Center. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizdegelecegin-enerji-paradigmalari-paneli-duzenlendi/32261)

### Our University Was Selected as a University Specializing in Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies

Our university has been selected as a "University Specializing in Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies" based on the activities carried out at the Prof. Dr. T. Nejat Veziroğlu Clean Energy Application and Research Center. In this context, the specialization certificate was presented to our Rector, Prof. Dr. Hasan Uslu, by the President of the Council of Higher Education (YÖK), Prof. Dr. Erol Özvar. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-hidrojen-ve-yakit-pili-teknolojileri-ihtisas-alaninda-uzmanlasan-universite-olarak-secildi/32126)

Significant Support from the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey for Our University's "Hydrogen and Fuel Cells" Project https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-hidrojen-ve-yakit-pilleri-projesine-tc-cumhurbaskanligindan-onemlidestek/32265)

### International Partnership and Cooperation Protocol for the New Research Center to Be Established at Our University

A protocol has been signed between our university and the international energy company CMB Solar Enerji A.Ş. to establish a research center focused on photovoltaic and silicon technologies. This center aims to achieve 100% domestic production in the field of renewable energy and contribute to Turkey's sustainable energy policies.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-kurulacak-yeni-arastirma-merkezi-icin-uluslararasi-ortakli-is-birligi-protokolu/32335)

### Our University's Practices Continue to Serve as a Model

A delegation from Ankara University visited our university to observe firsthand our practices. Our university, recognized as one of the 11 pilot universities in Turkey for Sustainable and Climate-Friendly Campus initiatives, was awarded first place in Energy Efficiency (ÜNVER-2) and received the Best Practice Award in Zero Waste.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-uygulamalari-ornek-olmaya-devam-ediyor/32267)

### The Efficiency of Solar Panels Was Increased by 40% at Our University

At our university, which prioritizes nanotechnology research and is a pioneer in solar cell technology in Turkey, the efficiency of thin-film solar cells has been increased by 40% with manganese, germanium, and silver elements. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-gunes-pillerinin-verimliligi-yuzde-40-artirildi/32286)

### At our University's Energy House, We Generate Energy from Solar Power and Hydrogen.

At our Solar Energy House, we have solar panels with an installed capacity of 70 kWp. The energy produced is stored in batteries with a total capacity of 400 kWh. Additionally, electricity is generated from the hydrogen unit using 8 kWh and 12 kWh fuel cells.

### Our University, Supporting Domestic Production in Solar Energy, Leads the Way for Turkey's Renewable Energy Goals

The new regulation by the Republic of Turkey's Ministry of Industry and Technology, which excludes solar panels that do not use domestically produced solar cells from state incentives, has once again highlighted our university's pioneering role in prioritizing domestic production in solar energy and supporting national renewable energy policies.

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/gunes-enerjisinde-yerli-uretimi-destekleyen-universitemiz-ulkemizin-yenilenebilir-enerji-hedeflerine-onculuk-ediyor/32378









### A Microtubular Hydrogen Fuel Cell That Doubles the Flight Time of UAVs Has Been Developed at Our University

At our university, which holds the title of a University Specializing in Hydrogen and Fuel Cells, a microtubular hydrogen fuel cell has been developed to extend the flight time of UAVs.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-ihalarin-ucus-suresini-iki-kat-artiracak-mikrotup-hidrojen-yakit-pili-gelistirildi/32338)

### Our Project Contributing to Environmentally Friendly Energy Technologies Receives the TÜBİTAK Seal of Excellence

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/cevre-dostu-enerji-teknolojilerine-katki-sunacak-projemize-tubitaktan-mukemmeliyet-muhru/32419)

### TÜBİTAK Support for Our Students in the Project Increasing the Efficiency of Domestic Solar Cells

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/yerli-gunes-hucrelerinin-verimliligini-artiran-projemizdeki-ogrencilerimize-tubitak-destegi/32397)

### TÜBİTAK Support for Our University's Flexible Solar Cell Development Project

https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-esnek-gunes-hucrelerini-gelistirme-projesine-tubitak-destegi/32403

### TS EN ISO 50001 Energy Management System Training at Our University

To implement the TS EN ISO 50001 Energy Management System in our university buildings, a training program titled "TS EN ISO 50001 Energy Management System" was held from September 26 to 29, 2022, in Hall 1071 of our Şehit Ömer Halisdemir Congress and Culture Center. Our TS EN ISO 50001 activities are ongoing.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-ts-en-iso-50001-enerji-yonetim-sistemi-egitimi/31970)

- A 400 kWp solar power plant has been installed at the Sports Sciences Faculty Campus and is currently in the acceptance phase by Medaş.
- At the Rectorate building, thermal insulation, energy performance certificate acquisition, A Block LED fixture installation, B and C Block LED tube conversion, occupancy sensor manufacturing, and remote meter reading system installation have been completed.
- In the Faculty of Education, Engineering Faculty Amphitheaters 1-2, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Amphitheater Block of Social Sciences Vocational School, Social Sciences Vocational School, Bor Halil Zöhre Ataman Vocational School, Bor Vocational School, Zübeyde Hanım Vocational School, Technical Sciences Vocational School, and Ulukışla Vocational School, all stairway lighting has been converted to LED fixtures.
- LED tube conversion has been applied to the Engineering Faculty Amphitheater, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Architecture, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Library building.
- Since 2013, newly constructed campus buildings have utilized thermostatic radiator valves in heating systems. These valves are adjusted to the appropriate temperature levels for efficient operation.
- Burner settings in all building boilers are checked annually. Additionally, combustion control and optimization are performed, thermal insulation is applied, and heat transfer surfaces are regularly cleaned.











- All campus units have received informational notices regarding indoor temperatures during the heating season, boiler settings, and electricity savings. Indoor temperatures are maintained at a maximum of 22 °C during the heating season and a minimum of 24 °C during the cooling season, with regular monitoring.
- Monthly inspections are conducted in all buildings, and corresponding forms are completed. Maintenance of heating-cooling systems and motors is carried out regularly. Inefficient or end-of-life pumps are prioritized for replacement with high-efficiency systems.
- Outdoor and perimeter lighting relays are adjusted, and faulty or main road light poles have been replaced with LED fixtures. These works were carried out at the Main Campus, Bor Campus, and Aşağı Kayabaşı Campus.
- To prevent reactive power penalties on electricity bills, continuous monitoring is performed using shunt reactors in the campus compensation systems.
- Roof insulation has been completed at the Faculty of Education Painting Department, Education Dean's Sports Sciences C Gym, Bor Vocational School, and Technical Sciences Vocational School buildings.
- Fire automation systems have been installed in all buildings and integrated with a remote monitoring system. Additionally, remote electric meter reading systems have been initiated, with installations completed in units such as the Conservatory, Cafeteria, Morphology Building, Family Health Center, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Education, Rectorate Building, and Waste Office. Installation and commissioning continue according to the planned program.
- All buildings have integrated automation for fire systems, door systems, elevators, ventilation, cameras, emergency lighting, main distribution panels, smoke extraction, gas shutoff systems, and public address systems. Fire systems are monitored via the GCU Supervisor program both on-site and from the Main Security Gate 24/7. In case of fire, the system identifies the priority building, floor, and area; if cameras are installed, images are simultaneously transmitted to the building and to the Main Security Gate computers.









## 8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



### 8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Among the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations (UN) under the "Transforming Our World" agenda for 2030, SDG 8 aims to promote "sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all." This goal seeks to drive economic growth through the concept of "decent work." Decent work encompasses a wide range of factors, including equal pay, employment security, safe working conditions, and the protection of social welfare measures. SDG 8 also emphasizes opportunities for workforce diversity, gender equality, and fair wages for all individuals, including persons with disabilities.

In 2019, the International Labour Organization (ILO) summarized the concept of decent work as a complex spectrum encompassing equal pay, employment security, safe working conditions, and the protection of social welfare measures. Meanwhile, the concept of decent growth is included as one of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and is referred to in English as "Decent Work; Economic Growth," corresponding to SDG 8.

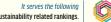
Universities are now expected to contribute not only through education and research but also by making a direct impact on society. In this context, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University (NÖHÜ) carried out activities in 2024 under the theme of decent work and economic growth, encompassing education, research, and direct societal contributions. The activities are listed under the following headings:

Knowledge Production and Critical Research: Universities are expected to "fill significant knowledge gaps" in the existing literature. To address these gaps, universities conduct fundamental and applied research, identifying deficiencies and inconsistencies in current approaches, thereby contributing to both theoretical and practical dimensions of sustainable development.

- In this context, the following activities were carried out at NÖHÜ in 2024:
- 33 Scientific Research Projects (BAP) were completed, with a total of 134 active projects ongoing.
- 1,174 academic publications were produced, including SSCI, SCI-Expanded, and AHCI-indexed works.
- 124 projects were conducted targeting TÜBİTAK, EU, and other international funding sources.
- 25 active research centers operated within the university, including centers focusing on areas such as the Turkish World, Women and Family Policies, and Nanotechnology.

**Development of New Models and Indicators:** Universities can take the lead in developing new indicators and methodologies that measure social and environmental well-being more holistically than GDP. This may include subjective and objective wellbeing metrics, indicators targeting a lifestyle compatible with the planet's carrying capacity, and new measures assessing the economy's dependency on growth. Such academic efforts provide concrete alternatives for policymakers.

- In this context, the following activities were carried out at NÖHÜ in 2024:
- The "Capacity Building for Women's Cooperatives Project" established a governance model for cooperative management and production processes.
- Gender-responsive budgeting initiatives conducted with local administrations were proposed as implementable
- Within the "Just Transition to Clean Energy" project, green transition indicators and recommendation sets were developed.









**Education and Skills Development**: Universities play a crucial role in equipping the future workforce with sustainable development principles. Resources emphasize the importance of investing in educational models that enhance employability and economic growth, developing digital skills, and promoting lifelong learning. A study conducted in Colombia demonstrates how combining academic and corporate learning environments strengthens intellectual capital, thereby supporting employability and economic growth. This underscores the need for universities to adapt curricula and teaching approaches accordingly.

- In this context, the following activities were carried out at NÖHÜ in 2024: The Continuing Education Center conducted 77 certificate programs, reaching 3,370 participants.
- Training programs were provided for women on entrepreneurship, digital skills, and cooperative management.
- Workshops focused on professional development, career planning, and awareness were organized for students.

**Informing and Supporting Policy-Making**: Academic research plays a critical role in providing policymakers with "timely and relevant information," helping to guide ongoing discussions and adjustments regarding NGOs and societal issues. Universities contribute directly to achieving sustainable development goals by developing and disseminating evidence-based policy recommendations in areas such as gender equality, inequities in market economies, informal sector challenges, and the integration of environmental sustainability.

In this context, the following activities were carried out at NÖHÜ in 2024

- Strategic plans, performance indicators, and quality monitoring documents were prepared and updated at the university level.
- Gender-responsive service planning initiatives were developed through collaborations with local administrations.
- A policy recommendation booklet was prepared as part of the "Green Jobs for Women" project.

Community Engagement and Interaction: Universities can serve as role models by promoting sustainable practices on their campuses and within their communities, while collaborating with local stakeholders. Resources highlight the importance of stakeholder engagement, including empowering women through entrepreneurship and scaling social enterprises. By providing expertise and human resources in such projects, universities can strengthen communities and facilitate the dissemination of sustainable business models. In conclusion, universities play an indispensable role in achieving sustainable economic growth and decent work by providing intellectual leadership through critical thinking and innovative research, as well as practical contributions through education and community engagement.

In this context, the following activities were carried out at NÖHÜ in 2024:

- Approximately 200 activities were organized by 90 student clubs, supporting socially beneficial projects.
- Workshops, panels, and local meetings were organized to enhance women's participation in local decision-making processes.
- Multi-stakeholder dialogue environments were established through regional networks created with NGOs, municipalities, and women's cooperatives.











### 9. INDUSTRY. INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Among the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SDG 9: "Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure" holds a central position. Considering the general mission and actions of universities, their contributions under this goal can be examined in the following sections.

Knowledge and Innovation Production and Dissemination: Universities fulfill their social mission through the production and dissemination of socially relevant knowledge. This includes research which forms the foundation of innovation. Their capacity to respond to the demands of the knowledge society and their contributions associated with technological advancements directly support the innovative ecosystem. Research and outreach (community engagement) activities are key dimensions highlighted in universities' corporate social responsibility and sustainability plans. These activities can foster knowledge transfer and collaboration aimed at promoting industrial innovation and infrastructure development. Within this scope, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University (NÖHÜ) carried out the following activities in 2024:

- As of 2024, 233 Scientific Research Projects (BAP) have been completed, while 134 projects are ongoing.
- 124 externally funded projects are being conducted (TÜBİTAK, EU, Development Agencies, etc.).
- A total of 1,174 academic publications has been produced (indexed in SCI, SSCI, AHCI).
- The Technology Transfer Office supported innovation with 14 new patent applications and 1 international patent.

**Development of Qualified Human Resources**: Universities contribute to the development of human capital through quality education and by fostering responsible and engaged citizens. By focusing on strengthening intellectual capital and knowledge sharing with the aim of enhancing employability and promoting economic growth, universities provide the skilled workforce needed for the industry and innovation sectors. Within this scope, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University (NÖHÜ) carried out the following activities in 2024:

- Through the Continuing Education Center, a total of 3,370 participants were reached via 77 certificate programs.
- Within the scope of part-time student employment, 88 students were provided with work experience.
- Entrepreneurship, leadership, and awareness-based activities were organized for students.
- Digital skills and entrepreneurship training programs for women also contributed to human resource development.

Contribution to Industrial and Regional Development & Collaboration with Stakeholders: Universities aim to contribute to the economic and social development of the environment in which they operate. This can foster industrial development by supporting sustainable competitiveness. They establish relationships with external stakeholders, such as businesses and public institutions, and undertake the responsibility of sharing their knowledge with society. Such collaborations can support industrial projects and infrastructure initiatives. The inclusion of social responsibility commitments in universities' strategic plans and their efforts to contribute to sustainable development provide a foundation for the sustainable transformation of regional economies and industries. Within this scope, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University (NÖHÜ) carried out the following activities in 2024:

- Direct collaborations were established with production cooperatives through the "Enhancing the Capacity of Women's Cooperatives" project.
- Gender-sensitive budgeting and strategic planning studies were carried out with local governments.
- Within the framework of university-city cooperation, joint networks were established with NGOs, municipalities, and industry representatives.









• University-industry collaboration was supported through technopark activities and knowledge transfer to industry.

Sustainable Infrastructure Practices and Institutional Governance: Universities promote sustainable practices within their own infrastructure through internal goals such as creating climate-sensitive campuses. This can serve as a model for largerscale sustainable infrastructure projects. One of the dimensions of implementing the SDGs within universities is institutional governance, management policies, community engagement, and social leadership. This enables universities to assume a leadership role in the development and implementation of sustainable infrastructure policies. By acting responsibly and considering their environmental and social impacts, universities contribute to the adoption of ethical and environmental standards in sustainable infrastructure and industrial processes. Within this scope, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University (NÖHÜ) carried out the following activities in 2024:

- Green transition practices were developed through the "Just Transition to Clean Energy" project.
- The university's strategic plan, performance indicators, and Quality Commission activities support institutional governance.
- Institutional research infrastructure was strengthened with 25 research centers and their facilities.











### **10. REDUCING INEQUALITIES**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities, conducts various initiatives within the university to promote social justice, ensure equal access for disadvantaged groups, and create an inclusive campus environment.

### **Inclusive Practices for Individuals with Disabilities**

Within the framework of the Barrier-Free Life Policy, our university provides various infrastructure and support services to ensure the active participation of individuals with disabilities in both educational and social life.

- Dedicated staff positions are established for individuals with disabilities, and adapted examination procedures are implemented for these students.
- The Disabled Student Unit maintains continuous communication with registered students, directly conveying their requests and needs to the university administration.
- As part of physical infrastructure improvements;
  - -Accessible pedestrian pathways
  - -Elevators for individuals with disabilities
  - -Accessible restrooms for individuals with disabilities
  - -Building entrances and exits made accessible
- Processes are continuously improved based on student feedback.
- For more information: https://ohu.edu.tr/engelsizuniversite

### **Support Mechanisms Sensitive to Ethnic and Cultural Diversity**

Our university has developed various support mechanisms to address the adaptation challenges faced by students from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and to enhance their academic success.

- The International Relations Office supports the adaptation processes of international students and provides guidance on combating discrimination.
- Services for international students include the following:
  - -Academic guidance and counseling
  - -Social integration activities
  - -Monitoring and addressing cases of discrimination and exclusion
- Services are regularly evaluated and improved based on feedback.
- For more information: https://www.ohu.edu.tr/uluslararasiiliskiler

### **Support for Reducing Socioeconomic Inequalities**

Our university aims to ensure that students have equal opportunities in university life by expanding social support policies for students from low-income backgrounds.

- Through the Directorate of Health, Culture, and Sports (HCS):
  - -Housing and nutrition support
  - -Psychological counseling
  - -Social assistance and referral services
- These supports address not only the financial but also the psychosocial needs of students.
- The aim of these services is to enhance students' academic success, improve their adaptation to university life, and provide a more hopeful future perspective.











https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sksdb/sayfa/barinma https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sksdb/sayfa/beslenme-hizmetleri

### **Results and Continuous Improvement Approach**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University considers creating an equitable environment for students and staff as a corporate priority, and in this regard:

- · Physical and social accessibility
- Ethnic and cultural inclusivity
- Socioeconomic support policies

These policies, developed in line with sustainability principles, reinforce our university's goal of being an inclusive higher education institution and contribute to creating a fair educational and living environment where every individual can realize their potential.











## 11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



### 11. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Campus is an open-access campus for the public, with entrances and exits monitored by security personnel using license plate recognition systems, camera surveillance, turnstiles, and other security measures. To regulate vehicle traffic within the campus, vehicles are monitored through a tag-based system, and public buses as well as other private vehicles can enter the campus in a controlled manner.

Located approximately 7.32 kilometers from the city center of Niğde, the campus can be reached quickly via public buses that operate outside nighttime hours. Pedestrian pathways along both sides of the main artery connecting the city and campus facilitate access for both pedestrians and bicycle users.

Internal campus transportation is supported through various sustainable alternatives; in addition to shuttle buses, bicycle and electric scooter use has become widespread. Accordingly, bicycle parking areas have been established across the campus, with plans to expand this infrastructure further (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sporkoordinatorlugu/manset/25134).

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University offers a sustainable and high-quality working environment for all campus and off-campus users through its centrally located library, comfortable and functional study areas, and surrounding green spaces.

The university stands out as a student-centered higher education institution, featuring Olympic-standard sports facilities, adequate housing, and a campus integrated with nature. Environmentally friendly practices within the campus, including habitats that support flamingos, reflect the university's ecological sensitivity.

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has been recognized with various awards for its sustainable green campus initiatives and effective energy efficiency practices. In particular, through Energy Efficiency projects implemented in line with national energy policies, the university achieved first place in the Interuniversity Energy Efficiency Competition (ÜNVER-2) organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Council of Higher Education (YÖK) (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizden-bir-gurur-verici-basari-daha-enerji-verimliligi-birincilik-odulu/32256).

Additionally, due to its continued successful energy efficiency efforts in 2024, the university was awarded the "Certificate of Outstanding Achievement" by the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-enerji-verimliliginde-ulkemizin-oncu-ve-onemli-kurumlarindan-oldu/32384)

Our university, through its exemplary Zero Waste practices, was awarded the Best Zero Waste Practice Award in the "Universities" category at the 3rd Zero Waste Summit and Award Ceremony held under the auspices of Emine Erdoğan and led by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change, with the theme "Climate and Youth".

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-sifir-atik-en-iyi-uygulama-odulunun-sahibi-oldu/32059)

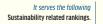
Various events, conferences, concerts, and panels organized by Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University are held open to the public to support community engagement.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-afet-sonrasi-paneli-ve-yangin-tatbikati-duzenlendi/32476),

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-meyve-agaci-budama-egitimi-gerceklestirildi/32469),

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/turkiye-cevre-haftasi-etkinlikleri/984),

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/15-temmuz-vesivil-toplum-konferansi/1004),(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlik/3-aralik-dunya-engelliler-gunu-farkindalik-etkinlikleri/830),











### (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/konservatuvar/etkinlik/616).

Announcements and updates regarding events organized within Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University are shared with the public through the university's official website and social media accounts. In this way, information and invitations reach not only campus stakeholders but also external stakeholders, creating opportunities for engagement and social interaction that bring together city and campus life on a common platform (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/etkinlikler/16).

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University supports academic studies that contribute to the economic, ecological, and aesthetic development of both the university and the Nigde province through scientific research projects, TÜBİTAK-supported initiatives, and projects developed in collaboration with external stakeholders such as KOSGEB, thereby accelerating activities in this field.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/bor-halil-zohre-ataman-meslek-yuksekokulumuzdan-cevre-dostu-yenilikci-proje/32472), (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-12-utudas-ve-2-uluslararasi-ar-ge-proje-pazari-basladi/32525).

In line with the goal of minimizing energy consumption, various structural and technological improvements have been implemented on the Nigde Ömer Halisdemir University campus. Within this scope, traditional fluorescent bulbs used in indoor and outdoor lighting systems across campus buildings have been replaced with energy-efficient LED fixtures. Additionally, the heating and cooling systems of all campus buildings have undergone comprehensive maintenance and upgrades; the performance of high-efficiency equipment in existing systems has been optimized, and low-efficiency or outdated devices have been replaced with modern, energy-saving systems. (https://ohu.edu.tr/yesilkampus/sayfa/enerjiverimliligi-politikasi).

In line with its Strategic Plan, the university regularly monitors and evaluates sustainability practices at the unit level. This process aims to ensure the integration and continuous improvement of sustainability principles within the institutional structure. Maximizing social benefits and environmental sustainability is among the university's priority strategic objectives. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-2024-2028-stratejik-planini-yayimladi/32260)









# 12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



### 12. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

### **Operational Measures**

At Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, nutrition, cafeteria, and canteen services are managed under the responsibility of the Directorate of Administrative and Financial Affairs. Meals provided to students and university staff are prepared in accordance with hygiene and quality standards, following inspections by authorized institutions such as the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE). The meal production process is planned by expert dietitians considering seasonal requirements, and calorie calculations are performed accordingly. The updated menu is announced to the public monthly.

Within the university, in addition to 20 faculty canteens, a total of 5 canteens and restaurants operate in the campus center, providing services in line with established quality and budget standards. These service areas are regularly monitored by food engineers and dietitians. Furthermore, the procurement of food supplies is carried out according to ethical principles, adhering to regulations governing external service procurement in public institutions.

Nigde Omer Halisdemir University adopts an approach that prioritizes environmental sustainability, aiming to prevent environmental pollution, reduce waste production, leave a clean and livable environment for future generations, and simultaneously provide economic benefits. In this context, the university has participated in the Zero Waste project initiated by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change. Implemented in the spring semester of 2018, this project involved a six-week survey across 32 campus buildings, resulting in the identification of 483 collection points and the determination that a total of 2,900 waste bins were needed( https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sifiratik/sayfa/mevcut-durum-tespiticalismalari-).

In collaboration with the Zero Waste Coordination Unit and the Department of Environmental Engineering, various activities are organized to raise public awareness about waste classification and recycling. Within this scope, the initiatives include educational sessions in classes, awareness surveys conducted on campus, informative videos displayed on university screens, promotional events (such as organic waste and composting practices). Zero Waste-themed walks and activities. and outdoor waste bin design competitions (Classroom Trainings, Compost Production).

At the 3rd-Class Waste Collection Center established within the university, collected waste is sold through tenders to reintegrate Zero Waste materials into the circular economy. To date, 86 tons of paper/cardboard, 17 tons of plastic, 15 tons of glass, and 10 tons of metal have been put up for sale at this center. The waste is classified into 18 different categories. All revenue generated is transferred to the university budget and recorded for use in environmental protection activities (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-sifir-atik-projesinden-gelir-elde-etti/32216).

### **Publication of the Sustainability Report**

The university's environmental and institutional sustainability practices are regularly shared with the public through the Sustainability Report and published on the university's website. When deemed necessary, this report can be updated once a year.











### 13. CLIMATE ACTION

Since 2016, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has been regularly calculating and monitoring campus-based carbon emissions. Following the results of the initial measurements, the university developed a comprehensive roadmap to reduce emissions. In line with this roadmap, initiatives such as increasing the use of renewable energy and replacing energy-intensive devices with more energy-efficient alternatives have been implemented, resulting in a significant reduction in carbon emissions ( https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sifiratik/duyuru/62522 ).

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has made investments in solar energy and hydrogen-based energy systems as part of its energy sustainability initiatives and has implemented various energy efficiency projects to enhance the energy performance of campus-wide buildings. In this context, conventional fixtures in lighting systems have been replaced with low-energy LED fixtures, and the use of high energy-class (A++ and above) electrical devices in buildings has been encouraged. As a result of these implementations, significant reductions in annual energy consumption have been achieved across the university. These energy efficiency efforts have also been recognized at the national level. Our university was awarded first place in the Interuniversity Energy Efficiency Competition (ÜNVER-2), organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). The projects of participating universities were evaluated based on criteria such as total energy savings achieved (kWh/Toe), savings rate, return on investment (ROI), implemented energy management systems (e.g., ISO 50001), scalability, level of innovation, and sectoral leadership.

As a result of technical evaluations conducted under the coordination of the Energy Efficiency and Environment Department (EVÇED) of the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, the energy efficiency measures implemented across all campuses of our university received the highest evaluation score. In recognition of this achievement, the university was awarded the "Certificate of Outstanding Achievement."

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizden-bir-gurur-verici-basari-daha-enerji-verimliligi-birincilik-odulu/32256), (https://enerji.gov.tr/duyuru-detay?id=20424)

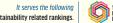
(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-enerji-verimliliginde-ulkemizin-oncu-ve-onemli-kurumlarindan-oldu/32384)

### **Waste Management**

The Waste Management Coordination Unit, established within Nigde Ömer Halisdemir University in 2018, operates in full compliance with all applicable environmental legislation, including the Environmental Law No. 2872, the Zero Waste Regulation, and the Waste Management Regulation. The Coordination Unit has successfully implemented the nationally applied Zero Waste Project across the university campuses in a systematic, measurable, and sustainable manner ( https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sifiratik/manset/2146 ).

Within this framework, a system based on the separate collection of waste at the source has been established across the university. Specialized collection systems and temporary storage areas have been set up for different categories of waste, including organic waste, packaging waste (paper, plastic, metal, glass), electronic waste, batteries, used vegetable oils, textile waste, and hazardous waste. In particular, for hazardous waste (such as laboratory waste, fluorescent lamps, and solvent-based waste), the university collaborates with licensed companies, ensuring that declaration, transportation, and disposal processes are carried out in accordance with legal procedures through the Integrated Environmental Information System (IEIS). ( https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sifiratik/duyuru/46814 )

Recycling bins have been placed across all academic, administrative, and social areas of the campus to ensure accessibility. Waste collection activities are regularly monitored and reported on a building-by-building basis. Thanks to this integrated









collection infrastructure established university-wide, waste classification, quantity tracking, and disposal/recovery data are analyzed digitally, allowing performance evaluations to be conducted in line with waste reduction targets.

Additionally, through composting systems, organic waste from the cafeteria and green areas is processed and returned to nature. This practice reduces the amount of biodegradable waste and significantly decreases the volume of waste sent to landfills (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/sifiratik/sayfa/kompost-uretimi).

The Waste Management Coordination Unit, recognizing that effective waste management is not limited to technical infrastructure alone, also conducts awareness-raising activities involving all stakeholders within the university. In this context, multiple environment-themed seminars, technical training programs, workshops, and field applications are organized annually in collaboration with student clubs, academic units, and support services. Through these activities, students and staff are educated on the principles of the zero-waste approach, recycling systems, hazardous waste management, and the circular economy. (Source 1, Source 2, Source 3)

As a result, significant gains have been achieved in the efficient use of resources, waste minimization, and reduction of environmental impacts. Our university, with its sustainable, legally compliant, and circular economy-supporting integrated waste management system, serves as a model at both regional and national levels while continuously improving its environmental performance. (Source)











### **14. LIFE IN WATER**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is located on the shores of Akkaya Dam. This region encompasses Akkaya Dam, an important wetland, as well as the extensive steppes along the Ereğli-Zengen route. These areas are significant for livestock grazing activities. Dominated by steppe vegetation, the area around Akkaya Dam features dense wetland plants such as reeds and bulrushes. The surrounding habitat hosts numerous animal species, including the Spotted Turtle and Flamingo, contributing to the ecological value of the region and providing habitats for a wide range of organisms.

In this context, academic staff from Nigde Ömer Halisdemir University have identified a total of 226 bird species in and around Akkaya Dam. For reference, 502 bird species have been observed across Turkey to date. Of these, 70-80 species are rare and only seen once every 40 years, and a few species are considered extinct globally. Remarkably, approximately half of Turkey's bird species can be observed at Akkaya. Among the species, the Flamingo (Phoenicopterus roseus) is the most sought-after by visitors. Although native to the region, due to water usage in agriculture, Flamingos remain in Akkaya only until the water levels recede at the end of summer.

In addition to Flamingos, Akkaya is home to species listed as Endangered (EN) on the IUCN Red List, to which Turkey is a signatory. The most important of these include the White-headed Duck (Oxyura leucocephala), Common Pochard (Aythya ferina)—the most common duck species in the pond—and the European Turtle Dove (Streptopelia turtur).

The university conducts various projects and research initiatives aimed at conserving these natural resources and promoting sustainable management. Academic studies and public awareness campaigns are carried out simultaneously to protect habitats, ensure biodiversity continuity, and maintain healthy ecosystem functioning. Water samples from the lake and discharged wastewater are regularly monitored, and any factors that may compromise water quality are reported. Furthermore, through protocols established in 2023, the university has taken steps to reduce wastewater discharge into the lake. These efforts contribute significantly to protecting the region's ecosystem.

Students and staff actively participate in these conservation efforts through educational programs. These initiatives strengthen sustainable environmental management practices at both academic and societal levels. (https://www.ohu. edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-destek-personelinesifir-atik-temali-egitim-verildi/32215)









### 15. LIFE ON LAND



### 15. LIFE ON LAND

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University organizes various activities to protect forests and natural habitats and to establish a sustainable ecosystem. In these activities and seminars, the importance of green spaces in environmental protection is particularly emphasized. The university's academic and administrative staff, along with student organizations, actively contribute to the process through sapling planting festivals, afforestation activities, and efforts to revitalize the vineyards and gardens of Niğde.

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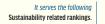
Additionally, the university undertakes agricultural initiatives to support local biodiversity and sustainable land use, including the cultivation of region-specific crops such as lettuce, potatoes, apples, corn, and wheat. These initiatives not only enhance local agricultural production but also promote ecosystem health and awareness of sustainable practices among students and staff.

- Sapling Planting Event at BOR Campus
- Revitalizing Niğde Vineyards
- Region-Specific Lettuce Production
- Potato Harvest Initiative
- 200-Ton Apple Harvest
- Corn Harvesting at NOHU
- Wheat Harvest on University Agricultural Lands

Our university prioritizes the principle of sustainability in agreements with food service providers operating on campus. For example, practices such as offering discounts to individuals who bring their own cups are implemented to achieve both environmental and socio-economic benefits. Through this approach, a holistic policy has been developed that includes service providers and other stakeholders, thereby supporting a sustainable campus life.

In addition, our university actively plays a role in protecting and enhancing existing ecosystems, particularly plant and animal biodiversity in sensitive habitats. In this regard, the Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University Plant and Tissue Laboratory carries out direct research and applied studies to contribute to biodiversity conservation. Sustainability-Oriented Campus Initiatives

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University offers ecology-based educational programs to both local and national groups. With diverse ecosystem-focused training content, the participation of individuals from all segments of society is actively encouraged. Furthermore, the concept of "sustainability" has been integrated into the course information packages of relevant departments and programs within the university, ensuring that curricula are updated accordingly. Through this approach, sustainability awareness is embedded into the education process. Environmental Engineering Course Plan Department of Interior Architecture









Through in-class "Zero Waste Trainings", Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University contributes to the protection of terrestrial ecosystems by fostering awareness through education. These trainings provide students with knowledge on waste management and emphasize that environmental protection is both an individual and collective responsibility.

- Zero Waste Classroom Trainings
- Zero Waste Sub-Commission Training
- Training for Canteens and Cafeterias

As part of these programs, the ecological significance of the Akkaya Dam, located within the central campus boundaries, is particularly emphasized. Positioned on a major bird migration route and hosting a variety of species, Akkaya Dam represents an irreplaceable ecosystem for both aquatic and terrestrial life.

Research conducted by Prof. Dr. Ahmet Karataş from the Department of Biology has identified a total of 226 bird species in the Akkaya region. Considering that Turkey has recorded 502 bird species overall—70–80 of which are extremely rare, seen only once in several decades—the fact that nearly half of these species can be observed in Akkaya underscores the area's remarkable biodiversity.

Among the most notable species observed is the Greater Flamingo (Phoenicopterus roseus), which is native to the region. However, due to water levels decreasing during late summer because of agricultural irrigation, flamingos are often forced to leave the area.

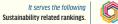
Moreover, Akkaya provides habitat for several bird species listed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, to which the Republic of Türkiye is a signatory. These include the White-headed Duck (Oxyura leucocephala), the Common Pochard (Aythya ferina)—the most widespread duck species in the area—and the European Turtle Dove (Streptopelia turtur). Of these, only the Turtle Dove continues its breeding activities in the orchards and wooded areas surrounding the dam.

These findings highlight the crucial importance of regulating human activities around the Akkaya Dam, raising awareness on nature conservation, and continuing educational efforts to protect and sustain biodiversity.

### **Action-Oriented Support for Terrestrial Ecosystems**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University's Responsible University Policy, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aims to: improve health conditions, support human development, promote quality education, reduce inequalities, encourage the use of renewable energy, foster human-centered social development, manage responsible consumption and production, and adhere to environmental protection principles. Within this framework, specific objectives and performance indicators are documented and monitored annually.

On campus, coniferous trees suited to the regional climate have been planted. These species are environmentally adaptive, require minimal water, and remain green throughout the year. The university also carries out initiatives to reduce harmful species and enhance agricultural productivity. Intensive efforts in arable lands aim to limit the spread of invasive species that threaten local farmers' crops.









In addition, training programs and incentive-based initiatives are organized to raise awareness in areas such as beekeeping, livestock farming, and crop production, thereby supporting rural development.

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizde-ana-ari-dagitim-programiduzenlendi/32354)

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/news/%20universitemizde-tarim-ogretiminin-178-yili-kutlandi/32259)

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/ureten-universite-nohu-tarim-faaliyetlerine-hiz-kesmeden-devam-ediyor/32540)

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizin-hayvansal-tarim-projesine-kop-desteginin-protokolu-imzalandi/32504)

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, in collaboration with the Continuing Education Center, the Ayhan Şahenk Agricultural Application and Research Center, and the Farmer Training Coordination Unit, carries out various educational activities. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/news/universitemizde-uygulamali-ana-ari-yetistiriciligi-egitimi/32334)

(https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/nohu-nigde-baglarini-yeniden-canlandiriyor/32529)

Our university also cooperates with recycling companies, waste disposal firms, and water and sewerage institutions. Furthermore, in an evaluation that considered total savings, saving rates, economic benefits, energy management practices, scalability, innovation, and pioneering qualities, our university was awarded first place in the "Energy Efficiency" category. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemizden-bir-gurur-verici-basari-daha-enerjiverimliligi-birincili%20k-odulu/32256)

At the same time, research and development activities in the field are actively continuing. As a result of the studies conducted at the Prof. Dr. T. Nejat Veziroğlu Clean Energy Application and Research Center, our university was granted the title of "Specialized University in Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies." In line with this mission, the aim is to foster scientific and technological advancement, contribute to regional and national development, and train highly qualified individuals. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/universitemiz-hidrojenve-yakit-pili-teknolojileri-ihtisas-alaninda-uzmanlasan-universiteolarak-secildi/32126)

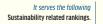
Another significant achievement in the field of R&D is the "Green Energy House" project. (https://www.ohu.edu.tr/haber/yesil-enerji-ile-ogrenci-odakli-calismalar-suruyor/31878)

The energy generated from this project is used efficiently across various units of the university, contributing both to the reduction of energy costs and the significant decrease of the carbon footprint. In addition, this sustainable energy practice strengthens the university's sense of environmental responsibility while enabling more effective management of economic resources. All these activities, as one of the cornerstones of the sustainable campus approach, allow for lasting and positive outcomes in social, economic, and environmental fields, significantly contributing to the university becoming a role model at both regional and national levels.

### **Soil-Friendly Waste Disposal**

**Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University** implements incentive practices aimed at minimizing the use of plastics and single-use products. Within the framework of the Zero Waste policy, awareness-raising presentations are conducted in cafeterias, dining halls, canteens, and tea houses to encourage the use of durable materials instead of disposable and plastic items, and these practices are actively supported.

In line with Zero Waste Management, the University diligently continues its efforts to separate, regularly collect, appropriately store, dispose of, and quantitatively monitor waste. A first-class Waste Collection Center operates on campus,









where staff are encouraged to bring their waste under proper conditions at regular intervals. In addition, technical tours and awareness-raising activities are organized for children and young people to instill environmental awareness in future generations. (link) (link) (link) (link) (link)

Hazardous waste generated in laboratories and administrative buildings is securely stored in compliance with the Waste Management Regulation and the Hazardous Waste Management Guideline and then transferred to licensed incineration and treatment companies. In accordance with legal requirements, a temporary storage facility has been constructed to enable hazardous waste to be stored safely for a maximum of 180 days.

Furthermore, hazardous waste such as batteries and printer cartridges is collected separately and recycled. Medical waste is collected and disposed of in full compliance with the Medical Waste Control Regulation. (link)









## 16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



### 16. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University has adopted, as one of its core principles, contributing to the construction of a peaceful and inclusive society in accordance with national legislation, international agreements, and universal ethical principles. In line with this principle, the University aims to establish strong institutions and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through its academic, scientific, and social activities.

Under the theme of "Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions", the University prioritizes the creation of fairer, more inclusive, and effective governance structures while ensuring accountability at all levels. To enable societies to achieve sustainable development in a lasting manner, systems are developed to guarantee equal access to justice for all individuals. Accordingly, participatory decision-making mechanisms have been established at the University, involving students, academic and administrative staff, and other relevant stakeholders. Through these structures, all stakeholders are encouraged to freely express their opinions and suggestions, reflecting a participatory and pluralistic approach to governance.

To raise social awareness and support inclusive policies, research and scientific studies conducted by the University are made publicly accessible, facilitating access to knowledge and promoting a transparent management culture. As a result, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University seeks to lead the formation of a conscientious and participatory society while strengthening more peaceful, just, inclusive, effective, and sustainable governance structures.

The University Ethics Committee operates actively, and complaint and suggestion systems are open and accessible. Additionally, the "Justice" short course (ADL2030) is included in the curriculum, providing students with knowledge of the fundamentals of law and the institutional applicability of justice. The University also implements a Social Equality Policy, prohibiting discrimination based on age, color, disability, ethnic origin, gender identity, marital status, religion, or citizenship.

https://ohu.edu.tr/engelsizuniversite

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### 17. PARTNERSHIP FOR GOALS

### **Goal-Supporting Partnerships**

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University is actively involved, both institutionally and through its academics, in the development of national Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) policies. A systematic approach is adopted to identify challenges, develop policies and strategies, monitor and report progress, and ensure effective management of these processes.

The University facilitates sectoral cooperation on the SDGs by initiating, providing platforms for, and participating in dialogues through its institutional structures and academic staff. It reviews comparative approaches within the SDG framework and develops international best practices. In this context, the University also collaborates with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

Through these partnerships, Nigde Ömer Halisdemir University engages in numerous initiatives, including workshops on Zero Waste and energy efficiency with other universities, regional development and climate adaptation projects, discussions with agricultural and forestry stakeholders, new practices in beekeeping, honey forest projects, and international cooperation agreements for research centers.(link1)(link2)(link3)(link4)(link5)(link6)(link7)(link8)

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University regularly monitors, reports, and publishes its SDG-related activities and compliance criteria on relevant web platforms.









NİĞDE ÖMER HALİSDEMİR UNIVERSITY

### SUSTAINABILITY DEVOLEPMENT GOALS

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