

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



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NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS & THESES

31



NUMBER OF PROJECTS

78



NUMBER OF EVENTS

48



NUMBER OF COURSES OFFERED

170



NUMBER OF COLLABORATION

5



NUMBER OF AWARDS

17

SDG 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Targets and Indicators

11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums

11.2 By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.3 By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries

11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage

11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

11.A Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning

11.B By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing

integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

11.C Support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilizing local materials

Courses, Theses, Publications

The goal of Sustainable cities and communities is a well-integrated theme in the educational program and many undergraduate and graduate courses in our university, especially those within the Faculty of Architecture and Design are highly grounded on this goal.

ARCH 401-402 Architectural Design V-VI courses focuses on integrating "**systems thinking**" as a methodology for architectural education, which encourages the study of multi-scalar relations between different parties for the design of contemporary urban conditions. Incorporating contextual, programmatic, and technical complexities, these courses aim to bring together architectural education, urban memory, and city culture.

In 2023, the theme of ARCH 501 Graduate Design and Research Studio I is defined as "**Architectures of care**", which is expected to be searched for from various perspectives by considering the term's political, social, and historical implications. Promoting situational, relational, and systemic design approaches, the studio explores how the ethics of care, a position cultivated by social justice activists and eco-feminists, can inspire alternative social, spatial, and environmental futures. The studio's critical stance advocates going against the grain with a vision of a future that prioritizes inclusive, participatory societies valuing equity, justice, creativity, and cooperation, respecting our interdependent living and nonliving ecosystems, and accepting different voices, behaviors, views, and cultural and gender expressions.

CITY 402 Planning Studio VI provides planning, design, and development approaches to the

challenging issues of urban transformation, linking transportation, land use, urban design, housing, and the environment together in framing sustainability policies. The students work on challenging issues of the city where the focus is on sustainable development of cities.

UD 501 Urban Design Studio I is a graduate course focusing on research methods to develop a theoretical, technical, and intellectual capacity in urban design at multiple scales. The course aims to make students explain social, political, economic, geographic, and professional contexts of urban design. Identifying an urbanistic perspective that can perceive and evaluate the past and the future in a continuous manner, students produced innovative design research and projects and strengthened the links between practice and the scientific field.

UD 502 Urban Design Studio II is the second studio, this time focusing on development of diverse design projects, explorations and assessments covering diverse set of skills, knowledge, and interests. At the end of the course, it is aimed to make students practice skills in conceptualization and visualization through consideration of contemporary urban design problems and assess the city and space together with its components at multiple scales in a multi-layered approach.

The course ARCH 423 Sustainability and the Built Environment focuses on architectural and urban design strategies driven by ecological and climatic inputs. The course aims to make students understand global environmental issues and sustainable development goals and relate these with contemporary building practices. Introducing sustainable design principles applicable to site planning, conceptual mass development, building envelope design, and material selection, the course explores architectural and urban design strategies that embrace ecological and climatic inputs to reduce the negative environmental impact of building production, operation, and demolition.

TINT 321 Culture and Theory 3 deals with the issues related to nature of environments, environmental psychology, environmental perception, and cognition. The course aims to provide an overview of the main terminology in environmental psychology and facilitate students' synthesis of knowledge in developing



conceptual ideas for interior design. At the end of the semester, students become capable of analyzing human behaviors in different environments, recalling different attitudes in design such as personal privacy and crowd and, relatedly, discussing human behavior in interior space and its influence on design.

In 2023, significant academic contributions related to urban spaces and their transformations were made through four impactful theses. The first, titled "**Monograph of Emek İşhanı**," explores the socio-spatial dynamics of Emek İşhanı, Türkiye's first skyscraper, which symbolizes the transformative urban landscape of Ankara and Kızılay in the 1950s. This thesis highlights how the building's existence reflects broader social power relations and political processes, asserting its significance as not just a physical structure but a dynamic entity intertwined with the city's development. The second thesis, "**Amenities of Gençlik Parkı and Their Transformations**," examines Gençlik Parkı as a crucial urban park that has served as a communal space for recreation and social interaction since its construction during the Republican Period. This research analyzes the park's evolving amenities, reflecting changes in cultural needs and urban living standards over time. The third thesis, "**From Gardens to Parks and Back to Nation's Gardens: Ideological Transformation of Greenscapes in Turkey from the 19th Century to Today**," investigates the ideological landscape of public green spaces in Turkey, tracing the historical shifts from Nation's Gardens in the Ottoman Empire to modern parks and the recent revival of Nation's Gardens projects. This study critiques the ideological implications of these transformations, highlighting how greenscapes have been employed as ideological tools throughout different political eras. Lastly, the thesis "**A Data-Driven Approach for Understanding Human Behavior in Urban Studies**" emphasizes the importance of Big Data in urban research, proposing innovative methods for analyzing urbanites' behaviors and the impact of digital tools on urban design. Collectively, these theses contribute valuable insights into the role of urban spaces in enhancing the quality of life and fostering community resilience, aligning with the objectives of SDG 11 to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

In 2023, TED University academics contributed to the discourse on urban sustainability and housing through several noteworthy publications. The first paper, titled "**Housing Affordability Crisis and Vulnerable Social Groups in Turkey**," explores the housing affordability crisis affecting vulnerable social groups (VSG) in Türkiye's megacities—namely Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir—between 2010 and 2019. The study identifies that housing is largely unaffordable, attributing this to income disparities and socio-economic inequalities, and emphasizes the need for targeted housing policies aimed at the most affected demographics. The second publication, "**Handbook of Research on Promoting Sustainable Public Transportation Strategies in Urban Environments**," discusses the transition from traditional urban transportation systems to greener alternatives, emphasizing the role of technology and sustainability in enhancing public transportation systems. This research aligns with the goal of increasing urban wellbeing while reducing carbon emissions. Lastly, the chapter "**Humanitarian Logistics Under Uncertainty: Planning for Sheltering and Evacuation**" addresses emergency evacuation planning, focusing on shelter site selection and traffic management amidst uncertainty. By analyzing the challenges faced during humanitarian crises, this work underscores the importance of strategic planning in enhancing urban resilience and safety in emergency situations. Collectively, these studies highlight the intersection of housing, transportation, and emergency preparedness as critical components of sustainable urban development, resonating with the objectives of SDG 11.

Events - Activities

At TEDU, access to arts and cultural heritage is made available to the public, supporting engagement with art and history. The campus is open to stakeholders, while certain facilities, such as sports centers, may require membership or specific conditions for access. Furthermore, public access to libraries, where books and publications are available free of charge, is seen as essential for equitable information access, though our libraries may require an application or specific conditions in certain cases. (<https://www.tedu.edu.tr/en/administrative-utilities>) and (<https://gym.tedu.edu.tr/en/uyelik>)



In addition to these resources, TEDU offers free public access to various facilities, including its buildings, libraries, museum exhibition spaces, galleries, and green areas. These spaces are designed to welcome community members, providing comfortable environments for learning, relaxation, and social interaction, supporting the university's commitment to accessible public resources and inclusive urban life. (<https://library.tedu.edu.tr/en/external-user-library-membership-form>)

In line with SDG 11, TEDU has hosted various activities led by academic and administrative staff and student organizations aimed at fostering sustainable urban development and engaging with local communities. These events not only raise awareness but also actively contribute to sustainable city initiatives by promoting inclusive, safe, and resilient community practices.

In 2023, TEDU celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye with activities aimed at deepening understanding of Türkiye's historical and ecological heritage. These events, organized with the participation of academic and administrative staff, exemplified our commitment to preserving cultural heritage while promoting sustainable and resilient community practices.

Ulus Cultural Heritage Tour: On November 4, 2023, a group of 20 academic and administrative staff, guided by Dr. Fahri Dikkaya, embarked on a tour of Ulus, exploring the rich architectural heritage and visiting landmarks such as the Art and Sculpture Museum, Ethnography Museum, and Ziraat Bank Museum. This tour fostered appreciation for Ankara's historical and architectural significance, enhancing cultural awareness among university members. (https://www.instagram.com/p/CzTaKlAlhzJ/?img_index=3)



Symposium on Türkiye's 100+100 Years: Ecological Notes: Held on November 16-17, 2023, at the Ahmet Ersan Conference Hall, this symposium brought together researchers from various fields—including art, design, architecture, engineering, and environmental studies—to discuss Türkiye's ecological challenges and opportunities. Through interdisciplinary dialogue, participants reflected on past experiences and developed forward-looking insights into ecological sustainability for the next century. (<https://arch.tedu.edu.tr/gundemde-neler-var/turkiyenin-100100-yili-ekolojik-notlar>)



Photographic Representations in the City: Atatürk Forest Farm Photo Walk: Organized as part of Ankara Urbanism Biennial 2023, including TEDU academics as organizers and curators, this event aimed to create awareness in understanding and recording the modern history and heritage. Held in the form of a one-day photography workshop and urban walk tour in Atatürk Forest Farm, the outcomes of the workshop were later formed into a public exhibition. (<https://www.instagram.com/p/CzgmFelo5Yy/>)





“Architectural Photography as an act of caretaking” Photography Exhibition: The student works of ARCH 554 Architectures of the Photographic Environment, were exhibited in TSMD Architecture Center between May 26th and June 9th. Focused on the ecological implications of architectural photography, this exhibition delves into the role of architectural photography in fostering care for urban spaces, highlighting its potential as a tool for environmental awareness and social engagement.

(<https://arch.tedu.edu.tr/en/whats-happening-tedu/exhibition-arch-554-architectures-photographic-environment>)

TEDU students actively celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Türkiye through events that aimed to honor and reinterpret the values of the Republic from a modern perspective, fostering a sense of community and cultural appreciation.

Republic Centennial Commemorative Object Design Competition: This student competition invited participants to create a symbolic commemorative object that represents the values of the Republic through contemporary design. Students participated both individually and in teams, creating unique pieces that captured the spirit of Türkiye's first century and contributed to cultural continuity in the modern era.



Republic Photography Exhibition: Organized by the Photography Club and the Atatürkist Thought Club, this exhibition celebrated the Republic's centennial by encouraging participants to submit photographs that captured the Republic's values, achievements, and spirit. The exhibition theme, "Celebrating the Republic's Centennial," invited students to submit their work via Instagram, showcasing the pride and enthusiasm surrounding this historic milestone. The exhibition highlighted both the legacy and future of the Republic, recognizing Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's founding principles of freedom, equality, and justice.

On February 6, 2023, two devastating earthquakes impacted 11 provinces in Türkiye. In response, TEDU organized several initiatives to support psychological recovery and community resilience, emphasizing the importance of solidarity and mental well-being in the wake of such disasters.



“Memleketim” Photography Exhibition: TEDU's Department of Psychology and the COPeS – Psychosocial Support Unit, in collaboration with Ankara Metropolitan Municipality, held the “Memleketim” photography exhibition on June 21. This exhibit featured photographs by residents of the Araplar Family Life Center, capturing images of people, nature, streets, and daily life scenes from their hometowns. The exhibition provided a platform for these individuals to share cherished memories of home, offering a sense of comfort and connection for those affected by displacement.

“Coping After the Earthquake” Public Forum: On the same day, TEDU hosted an open forum titled “Coping After the Earthquake.” Moderated by TEDU Psychology Department faculty, this interactive session provided a safe space for community members to discuss coping strategies and share experiences related to overcoming the challenges following the disaster. This forum encouraged open

dialogue on resilience, mental health, and collective healing.



Gender and Disaster Awareness Initiatives

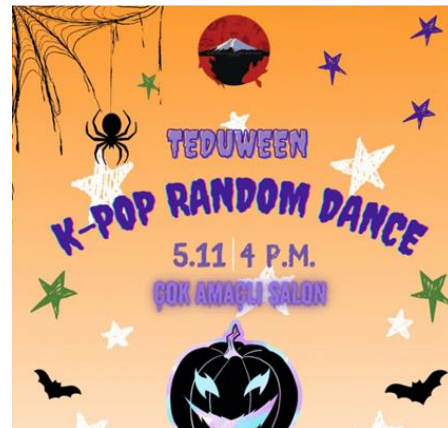
Two months after the February 6 Kahramanmaraş earthquakes, TEDU organized an online seminar addressing the intersections of disaster and gender issues. This seminar, attended by a broad audience, included two main discussion topics: “The Earthquake Through the Lens of Media and Gender” and “Disaster and Volunteerism.” Representatives from various non-governmental organizations contributed insights, facilitating a diverse dialogue on the ways media representations of disasters impact gender perceptions, and how gender-sensitive approaches are vital in volunteer and relief efforts.

Through such initiatives, TEDU aims to enhance understanding of gender-specific challenges in disaster contexts, aligning with SDG 11 by promoting inclusive, resilient communities that consider all aspects of social diversity in disaster preparedness and response efforts.

In addition to the mentioned events, student clubs have organized activities focused on artistic endeavors and promoting urban heritage. For example, The TEDU Theater Club added to the university’s cultural offerings, staging **7 Kocalı Hürmüz** on June 4, 2023. This production not only fostered community engagement but also highlighted the role of the arts in creating vibrant, sustainable communities.



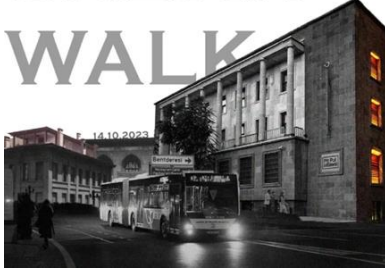
On November 5, 2023, students organized a vibrant **K-Pop Random Dance** event, highlighting their enthusiasm for cultural diversity and fostering community engagement through the power of music and dance.



In addition, the **Urban Walk** event on October 14, 2023, provided an engaging opportunity for students from outside the city to connect with their new environment by exploring significant cultural and historical landmarks in Ankara, thereby fostering a sense of belonging and community within the urban landscape.



URBAN WALK



Collaboration, Projects, Awards

The earthquakes that occurred in Türkiye on 6 February 2023 showed once again how fragile we are in the face of disasters and emergencies, and the need for all segments of society to assume serious responsibilities against such major disasters. Institutions that develop technologies, products, services, information and data, and train human resources (universities, technology centres, industrial zones, NGOs, and businesses) have important responsibilities. On 25 March 2023, A Search Conference was organised by some of Türkiye's important institutions and organisations under the coordination of TED University.



12 organizations founded (Akut Search and Rescue Association-AKUT, Ankara Chamber of Industry 1st Organised Industrial Zone, Başkent University, Başkent University Biotechnology Development Centre, Bilim Ağacı Foundation, İzmir University of Economics, Koç University, Organized Industrial Zone-OSTİM, OSTİM Medical Industry Cluster, Sabancı University, TED University, Economic Policy Research Foundation of Türkiye-TEPAV) Disaster and Emergency Technologies Platform on June 22, 2023. The thematic areas that the platform focuses on are information and communication technologies, built environment technologies, health (life sciences) technologies, climate-agriculture and environment technologies, and industrial ones. Additionally, the social and legislative dimension existing within the

intersection of these areas holds vital importance in its agenda. By the end of 2023, the Platform had grown to include 87 members from various sectors. These members came from a diverse range of institutions such as universities, research and technology centers, associations, federations, unions, clusters, cooperatives, foundations, and private sector companies. As of October 2024, the number of partners on the platform has increased to 130. Among these partners is the Higher Council of Organized Industrial Zones, which coordinates 400 organized industrial zones. These zones are comprised of thousands of companies of various sizes and scales.



All activities mentioned above were carried out under the coordination of TED University.



TED University Student Dormitories provide service to the students from both TED University and other universities with the agelong experience of TED by conveying the understanding of the student-centered education to the dormitories with the professional and cheerful personnels in two different premises which are The Dormitory for Male Students including the capacity of 93 beds in Maltepe opened in 2015-2016 Academic Year and The Dormitory for Female Students including the capacity of 392 beds and two blocks in Mustafa Kemal / Bilkent District opened in 2016-2017 Academic Year. Living in TED Dormitories whose purpose is to make the students feel themselves in their home and safe by considering the needs of the students is designed for supporting the academic and social lives of the students and is prepared for providing the primary necessities of the students. The Dormitories, in which all the rooms include desks, wardrobes, refrigerator, bathroom, and toilet, provide students with the

common areas to study, rest, and carry out social activities (<https://yurtlar.tedu.edu.tr/en/general-information>). In alignment with SDG 11, TED University has established collaborations in 2023 to provide student housing options that meet high standards of comfort and accessibility. Through the **TED University - Lokman Hekim University Dormitory Allocation Protocol**, dormitories owned by TED University Economic Enterprise have been made available to fully funded female students from Lokman Hekim University, offering essential residential services. Additionally, cooperation agreements with **Private Beşevler Higher Education Male Student Dormitories** and **Private Yurt Academy Higher Education Male Student Dormitories** ensure that TED University male students can access preferred housing options with essential amenities. These dormitories provide daily breakfast and dinner, room heating during the winter months, 24-hour hot water, regular cleaning of shared spaces, internet services in study rooms and dormitories, as well as round-the-clock security monitoring. These collaborations underscore TED University's commitment to fostering sustainable living conditions for its students while enhancing urban inclusivity.

Two significant TEDU Institutional Research Fund (IRF) projects in alignment with SDG 11, were completed in 2023 in the Department of Architecture. "Impact of Education Campuses on Kolej-Cebeci District" a multi-layered digital database of Kurtuluş and Cebeci was produced to provide first-hand visual resources and collected and visualized information while being a cumulative archival of all related documents. The database overlapped a wide range of urban data from different periods and defined a collective archive of the area. Being an open-access online platform, the database can accumulate various formats of data (audial, visual (such as maps, drawings, photographs) and written) and define a digital archive. Besides, providing a sustainable and trustworthy archive through digitalizing the sources, the project also made an important contribution to documentation of ongoing urban renewal projects throughout the selected site and, besides, sustainable use of already existing building stock.

"Reinstalling the Phanariot Houses in İstanbul: an Architectural and Urban History Research by Visualisation" is a digital humanities project that

reinstalls and visualizes the Phanariot Houses provided the basis for reinterpreting their contextual originality. In a condition that does not favor archaeological excavation, this digital method providing a sustainable way of research and production of knowledge was preferred and diachronic morphological analyses of lost layers could be achieved.



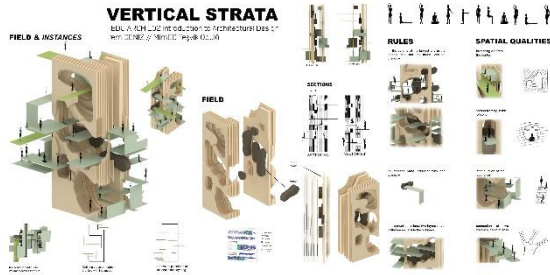
A TEDU Undergraduate Research Fund project "Comparing the Surface Temperatures and Water Retention Capacity of the Vegetated Roof and Gravel Roof Applications" was completed in 2023 as an interdisciplinary effort between Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering faculty and students. By providing valuable hands-on research experience to the students, the goal of the project is to experimentally determine the potential benefits of vegetated roofs through a demonstration project applied on campus.

In 2023, many awards towards making cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable have been won by academic staff and students.



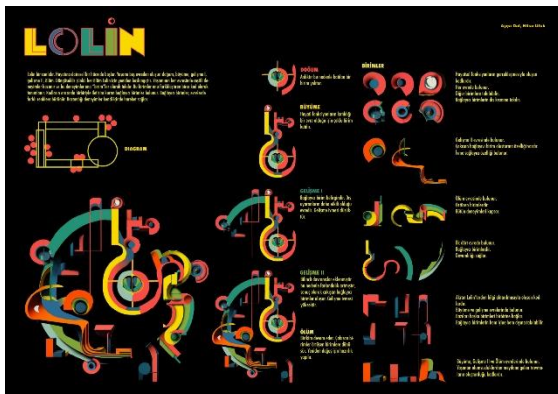
The design team, including our academic members, has been awarded with Purchase Prize in "İstanbul Metropolitan Municipality Art and Culture Center Architectural Design Competition". (<https://arch.tedu.edu.tr/en/whats-happening->

[tedu/competition-purchase-prize-istanbul-metropolitan-municipality-art-and-culture](https://arch.tedu.edu.tr/en/whats-happening-tedu/competition-purchase-prize-istanbul-metropolitan-municipality-art-and-culture)



Second year architecture student won the Encouragement Award in the First Year Category in the “Architecture Students Project Awards” organized by the Architectural Education Association (MimED) for the twenty-second time this year. (<https://arch.tedu.edu.tr/en/whats-happening-tedu/award-mimed2023-project-awards-architecture-students>)

and many people who were previously students at TED Ankara College during the academic year within the scope of various events. All of these visits are free of charge.



First year architecture students won the Architects' Association 1927 Special Award and the Honorable Mention at the Murat Artu and Passion for Architecture Student Competition. (<https://arch.tedu.edu.tr/en/whats-happening-tedu/award-murat-artu-and-passion-architecture-student-competition>)

During the academic year, many events are organized in many areas (conference hall, multipurpose hall, foyer area, etc.) on our campus. Some of these events are for internal stakeholders, while some are for external stakeholders. In events such as the College Painters Club Painting Exhibition, works of art are placed in our foyer areas. Access is also provided free of charge to external stakeholders (visitors, etc.) for the purpose of introducing, examining and touring these works of art.

Campus

Our campus consists of a total of 9 buildings located in İncesu and Aksu blocks. 4 of our buildings, the foundations of which were laid in 1937, have cultural heritage value and are registered as monumental buildings. Previously, TED Ankara College, affiliated with the Turkish Education Association, one of the leading civil society organizations leading the Turkish Education System, carried out its education and training activities in our university buildings. Our university buildings, the establishment of which was approved on 07.07.2009, host many guests



During the academic year, many events are organized in many open and closed areas (lawn area, garden area, conference hall, multipurpose hall, foyer area, etc.) on our campus.



Our internal stakeholders and guests also participate in these events. Most of the events are free of charge, but some events, albeit limited, require very limited fees.

Our university's philharmonic orchestra and choir played and sang the songs they had prepared for the ceremony immediately after the moment of silence at 09:05 on the public Ziya GÖKALP Street in front of our campus, as part of the November 10 Atatürk Commemoration program.



There are 3 pedestrian entrances, 2 vehicle entrances and 2 material entrances in our campus. Due to the limited land area of our campus, vehicle entrances are kept quite limited and pedestrian entrances are prioritized. Since there is a total of 52 indoor/outdoor parking space capacity in the campus, access is granted to certain people.

https://www.tedu.edu.tr/sites/default/files/content_files/kys-kl-02_idariuygulamalar_yerleskeyegiriscikisveotoparkkullanimi.pdf

The 2023 academic year has been a period in which zero waste practices and sustainability activities have been meticulously emphasized and detailed studies have been carried out. Some of these activities are as follows;

- Organizing waste bins on campus,
- Providing and using recycled cleaning products (paper group, etc.),
- Switching to secure print application on all printers to prevent paper waste,
- Planning and implementation of necessary studies for the use of recyclable materials for alternative purposes, (using tires that are no longer in use in landscaping, making seating areas from cut trees, etc.)



Our Full Scholarship students are provided with free breakfast and dinner support, as well as dormitory accommodation. Our affiliated and local partner Çankaya Municipality scholarship students are offered free dormitory accommodation. The number of these scholarships awarded increases every year.

