AGÜ

2022
Sustainability Report
SDG12

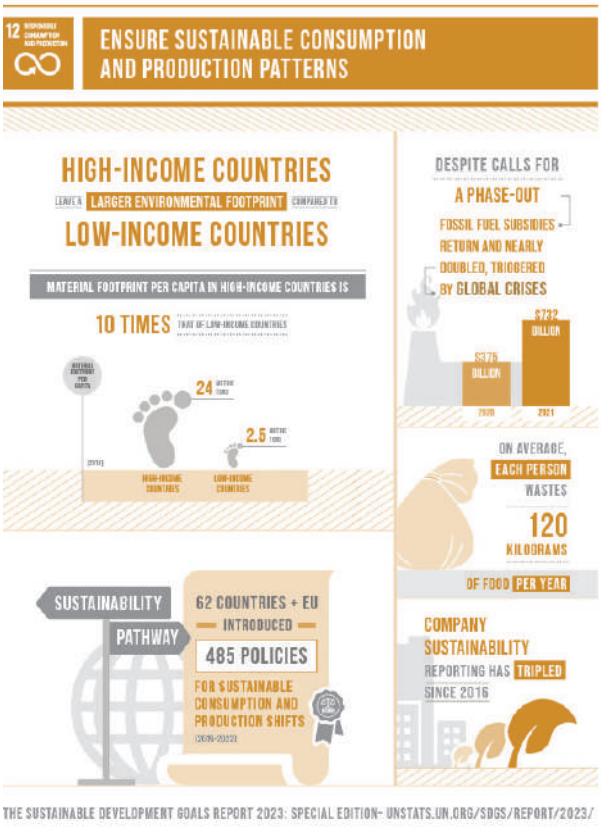
ABDULLAH GÜL
UNIVERSITY


SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS


12
RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION

SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production

SDG 12 aims to **ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**. The world is seriously off track in its effort to halve per-capita food waste and losses by 2030. The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts on consumption and production patterns, with disruptions to global supply chains and changes in consumer behaviour. Responsible consumption and production must be an integral part of the recovery from the pandemic. However, the global economy also needs to speed up the decoupling of economic growth from resource use by maximizing the socioeconomic benefits of resources while minimizing their negative impacts.



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Reporting on corporate sustainability has tripled since the beginning of the Sustainable Development Goals period, but the private sector will need to significantly improve reporting on activities that contribute to the Goals. To deliver Goal 12, it is crucial to implement policies that support the shift to sustainable practices and decouple economic growth from resource use.

- Target 12.1: Between 2019 and 2022, 485 policy instruments supporting the shift to sustainable consumption and production were reported by 62 countries and the European Union, with increasing linkages with global environmental commitments on climate, biodiversity, pollution and waste, as well as a particular attention to high-impact sectors. Yet, reporting has been decreasing by 30 per cent on average every year since 2019 and continues to reflect great regional imbalances, with more than 50 per cent of policy instruments reported from Europe and Central Asia.

[1] *https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/img/info/Goal-12.pdf*

- Target 12.2: In 2019, the total material footprint was 95.9 billion tonnes, close to the world's domestic material consumption of 95.1 billion tonnes. In Europe and North America, the material footprint was about 14 per cent higher than domestic material consumption, while in Latin America and the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa, the material footprint was lower than domestic material consumption by 17 per cent and 32 per cent, respectively.
- Target 12.3: The percentage of food lost globally after harvest at the farm, transport, storage, wholesale and processing levels, usually attributed to structural inadequacies in the countries, is estimated at 13.2 per cent in 2021, unchanged from 2016 and far from the target of halving post-harvest food losses by 2030.
- Target 12.6: A preliminary analysis shows that around 70 per cent of monitored companies published sustainability reports in 2022, triple the number in 2016. A/78/80 E/2023/64 20/43 23-07988 The sustainability indicators that are most widely disclosed by companies include policies on water and energy and carbon dioxide emissions, occupational health and safety, as well as board diversity. Companies continue to address their activities in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals; however, only 10 per cent report on all 17 Goals.
- Target 12.7: In 2022, 67 national Governments reported to the United Nations Environment Programme on the implementation of sustainable public procurement policies and action plans, up 50 per cent from 2020.
- Target 12.c: Global data showed a rise in fossil fuel subsidies in 2021, after a brief fall in 2020 that was largely caused by a drop in energy prices. In 2021, Governments spent an estimated $732 billion on subsidies to coal, oil and gas, against $375 billion in 2020. This brings the subsidies back to pre-2015 levels. High oil and gas prices in 2022 will likely bring a new increase, as subsidies are often linked to the price of energy.[2]

AGU'S POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Most of the world's economy is based around producing things for consumption. This drives the engine of industry. If we want the world to develop sustainably, we need to understand how to be more responsible at both ends of this cycle. This means promoting resource and energy efficiency, having a sustainable infrastructure, and providing access to basic services for all. In this regard, Abdullah Gül University (AGU) adapts policies on promoting resource and energy efficiency. In addition, the University gives importance to the sustainability of infrastructure.

In its Strategic Plan 2018–2022, AGU set forth the need to create a Waste Management Committee.

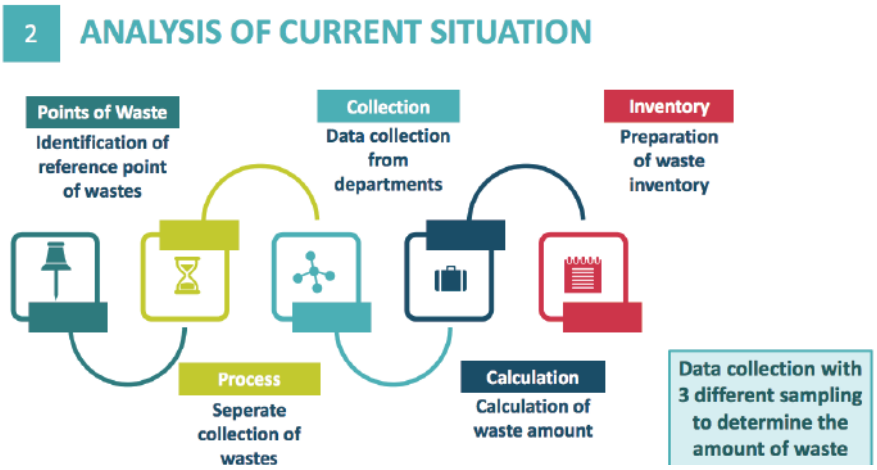
In this context, Zero Waste Committe was established to follow the waste disposal process and especially the most hazardous ones.

The committee carries out regular studies within the scope of zero waste and also responsible for the activities.

[2] *https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2023/secretary-general-sdg-report-2023--EN.pdf*

The committee is also responsible for the collection, measurement, disposal, and recycling of waste and the implementation of the Waste Management Directive and Implementation Principles.

Accordingly, all waste created by AGU is measured constantly and they are being reported annually. (2019 Report, 2020 Report, 2021 Report, 2022 Report).



Waste Data Collection Stages

At AGU; all products, including food, are procured according to Public Procurement Law No. 4734. In addition, environmental regulations such as Zero Waste Regulation No. 30829 and Packaging Waste Control Regulation No. 30283 are taken into account (See our Open Declaration on Sustainability and Technical Specifications for Procurement). AGU follows its Technical Specifications for Catering Tender with contracted partners for the supply of food and materials. These specifications include additional requirements for policies such as the Ethical Sourcing Policy, Sustainable Procurement Policy, Waste Policy, Reducing of Plastic Use and Disposable Items Policy, Disposal Policy and Waste Disposal- Landfill Policy. As an example, ISO 50001 Energy Management and ISO 14001 Environmental Management Certificates were demanded from furniture suppliers as part of our policies. (See the Technical Specifications for Furniture Material Procure-ment). We organize a supplier survey of our suppliers each year and publish a survey report. Substances and materials to be used in food preparation and presentation must comply with the Turkish Food Codex Regulation. Moreover, supplies and services must be purchased from local producers/ tenderers. According to AGU's Policies on Equality and Freedom, Article V. Policy on Employment and Pay Scale Equity "AGU guarantees equivalent rights of workers when outsourcing activities to third parties."

According to AGU's technical specifications regarding suppliers and contractors, all contractors are obliged to comply with the legal regulations on waste, the University's Waste Management Directive and Implementation Principles, and the decisions taken by its Waste Management Committee. On top of internal regulations, AGU and all its suppliers also comply with the Turkish law on the Control of Packaging Wastes, which limits the use of plastic and disposable items.

The Zero Waste Regulation was introduced by the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Urbanization on July 12, 2019, regarding waste minimization in our country. According to this Regulation, the collected wastes can only be given to licensed waste treatment facilities with a zero waste certificate. Additionally, a "Zero Waste" project has been started with the coordination of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization. "Zero Waste" is a goal defined as a waste management philosophy that involves preventing wastage, using the resources more efficiently, reviewing the reasons for waste formation, preventing or minimizing waste formation, and collecting and recovering waste at the source separately. AGU Technology Transfer Office (TTO) and Waste Management Committee publish Carbon Footprint and Waste Management Reports annually. AGU was included in the project through its Waste Management Committee; and by adapting zero waste procedures at the University in 2019, AGU was awarded a Zero Waste Certificate in 2020. As of the date of the certificate, AGU is the first university in Kayseri to receive a Zero Waste Certificate. Also, The inventory of Greenhouse Gas emissions of AGU has been verified in accordance with ISO 14064-3:2019 as meeting the requirements of ISO 14064-1:2018.

AGU'S PROGRESS

AGU tracks publications, projects, courses, theses, dissertations, congress and symposium participation for all SDGs through AVESIS (Academic Data Management System).

Waste Statistics

The AGU Waste Management Committee ensures that the amount of waste is measured, analyzed, and announced in annual reports.

Waste Amounts in tonnes

Amount Type	2022	2021	2020
Amount of waste generated	93	18	42
Amount of waste recycled	34	4	21
Amount of waste to sent landfill	59	14	21

Number of courses offered
41

Number of students enroll the course
2893

Number of publications
64

Number of dissertations
1

RESEARCH AND PROJECTS

AGU aims to increase responsible consumption and production by conducting a lot of research and projects. Projects conducted in 2022 are given below.

Contribution of Recyclable Mask Use to Waste Management and Economy Project

AGU students' project on the "Contribution of Recyclable Mask Use to Waste Management and Economy" was entitled to receive support within the scope of TÜBİTAK's 2209-A Funding Programme for University Students' Research Projects" for the 2020/2 term.

The students, who evaluated the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on urban life within the scope of the GLB 301 Sustainability course, where global problems are discussed and various solutions are proposed, aim to contribute to the economy by turning the masks, which are now regularly used, into recyclable products with their original project.

Learn-and-Transform Project from Kayseri Model Factory

Kayseri Model Factory's Learn-Transform Project was launched to provide hands-on training and consultancy services to industrialists on production efficiency and digital transformation.

The Model Factory was also launched for the first time in Turkey on a university campus and hosted by a university, and has achieved great success in a short period of time.

Kayseri Model Factories aim to guide businesses through the lean and digital transformation process.

As of 2022, the Model Factory has completed the 41st project and the 60th learn-turn project is ongoing.

Model factories have 2 important missions. The first of these is to contribute to increasing the production efficiency of our enterprises with lean transformation, and the second is to prepare our enterprises for digital transformation.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES

AGU offers many educational programmes and courses. AGU has an organization called Kayseri Model Factory, which provides training to many companies and the public, and a course titled GLB 207 – SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production. AGU's multiple educational programs and courses, such as executive education programs and/or vocational training programs, are also open to the general public.

Kayseri Model Factory

AGU has established a "Kayseri Model Factory" to help the start-up of promising sustainable small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) through consultancy, training, and financial support; to improve SMEs' processes by training them on lean manufacturing techniques, optimization of productivity, energy efficiency, and waste management; to enhance SMEs' competitiveness on the international arena by accessing Industry 4.0 technologies; and to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

GLB 207 – SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

The GLB 207 – SDG 12: Responsible Consumption & Production course introduces responsibility of consumption and aims to explain the concept of responsibility in various fields, such as management, business, marketing, economics, industrial engineering, bioengineering, civil engineering, environmental engineering etc. Within the scope of the course, components of responsibility towards shareholders, stakeholders, companies, employees, consumers, and society are discussed. Real-life examples are examined to increase awareness of the concept of responsible consumption and production.

COOPERATION AND EVENTS

AGU emphasizes the significance of the cooperation and events conducted in relation to the SDG 12. In this regard, some of the University's relevant cooperation and events are as follows.

AGU is an official knowledge partner of GSI, a globally collaborative enterprise to propose policy responses to major global problems addressed by the G20, the G7, and other global governance fora, and therefore tackles and supports the solution-finding process for the SDG 12. AGU also has partnerships with international NGOs, and some of those NGOs do work related to the SDG 12, such as the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), SDSN Youth, SDG Academy, SDG Accord, UN Academic Impact, and Erciyes Technopark.

AGU has joined the "Race to Zero" campaign, which is carried out jointly by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Second Nature organization, and the Alliance for Sustainability Leadership in Education (EAUC), an association aiming at sustainability in education. The campaign, which is a global initiative for zero carbon emissions and is open to universities from all over the world, includes 832 institutions from different regions of the world.

The campaign, in which universities are expected to create strategies and plans for "zero carbon emission" targets in the future, aims for a healthy and zero carbon emission recovery that prevents threats to the future, provides decent job opportunities and paves the way for inclusive sustainable development.

Academic Consultancy to University- Industry Cooperation Project

Professor Burak ASILISKENDER, Assoc. Prof. Vacide Betül KURTULUŞ and Lecturer Nihan MUŞ ÖZMEN have decided to serve as academic consultants within the framework of University-Industry cooperation signed between Mondi A.Ş. and Abdullah Gül University Technology Transfer Office A.Ş (AGU TTO) within the scope of the project consultancy agreement on "Projects Realization within the Design Center and University-Industry Cooperation".

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