IMU SDG PROGRESS REPORT

on SDG-11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

2025

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

5 GENDER EQUALITY

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

SDG PROGRESS REPORT

ISTANBUL MEDENIYET UNIVERSITY

Istanbul Medeniyet University
Sustainability Office

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SDG Icons
https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/news/communications-material/
Sustainable Development Report Maps
https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/map/
SDG Statics
https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2025/
https://sdgs.un.org/goals

FOREWORD

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015 with the mission statement “a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all people and the world by 2030” have become guiding principles for all of us as countries, institutions, and individuals today. In this context, the new vision for universities has now shifted from the older scholastic concept of education solely oriented toward professional training to an understanding that prioritizes human and social responsibility. Therefore, universities are central to the achievement of sustainable development goals. Thus, as İstanbul Medeniyet University,

We always consider sustainable development goals in our university’s high-level strategies, organize our management and implementation processes in line with these principles, and follow up on our activities and process of sustainability through reports for continuous improvement. **(OPERATIONS)**

While we help our students gain professional and personal skills and qualifications, we are raising future leaders, decision-makers, entrepreneurs, teachers, and more importantly, individuals with the awareness of creating a better world through the sustainability trainings we include in our course contents. **(LEARNING)**

We carry out a wide range of activities and events to share our knowledge, experience, and best practices about the implementation of SDGs with our students, staff, and local community with the ultimate aim of building a more conscious society. **(EVENTS)**

In 2022, IMU Sustainability Office was established to assume the role to place “Sustainable Development Goals” in the center of our institutional practices, educational planning, and research activities and to lead toward the realization of these goals. IMU Sustainability Office plays a significant part in developing our institutional strategies for SDGs, planning and carrying out our related activities and reporting on our progress. In addition to its contribution to institutional development, the Office also organizes public training programs and workshops.

Our Sustainability Office has planned to create annual sustainability development goals progress reports that will include all the goals and all areas of activity of our university so that we can see our progress in achieving SDGs to create new and better strategies and the report you are reading has been issued for the year 2025 as a result of these efforts. I thank everyone who have contributed to the creation of the report and especially Res.Asst. Ayça ÇELİKBİLEK, Res.Asst. Furkan ERUÇAR and Lect. Zehra SAVAN who have edited and published all the content for our SDG website and our reports. I hope that our efforts will inspire new ideas, actions, and collaborations to take action for a more sustainable and livable future.

Prof. Dr. Yaşar BÜLBÜL
Vice-Rector and Sustainability Office Coordinator
Istanbul Medeniyet University

The Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which assesses the contribution of universities around the world to sustainable development goals, has been an important source of motivation for us to see our place in the world and measure our contribution with all the activities we carry out for sustainable development as a higher education institution. As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we were included in THE Impact Ranking for the first time in 2021 by applying with only 4 SDGs, while we applied with 11 SDGs for 2024, being ranked 601-800 in the global ranking. The table below shows IMU's continued rise on this ranking.

Sustainable Development Goals	THE Impact Rankings 2025	THE Impact Rankings 2024	THE Impact Rankings 2023	THE Impact Rankings 2022	THE Impact Ranking 2021
General Ranking	**401-600**	**601-800**	801-1000	1001+	1001+
SDG 1 No Poverty	**801-1000**	**601-800**	601-800	-	-
SDG 2 Zero Hunger	**301-400**	**301-400**	401-600	401+	301-400
SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being	**401-600**	**301-400**	301-400	401-600	401-600
SDG 4 Quality Education	**801-1000**	**1001-1500**	801-1000	801-1000	601-800
SDG 5 Gender Equality	**1001-1500**	**801-1000**	801-1000	-	-
SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	**601-800**	**401-600**	401-600	401-600	-
SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	**601-800**	**801-1000**	601-800	601+	-
SDG 10 Reduce Inequalities	**401-600**	**401-600**	401-600	401-600	-
SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	**401-600**	**601-800**	401-600	601+	-
SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production	**101-200**	**201-300**	201-300	-	-
SDG 15 Life on Land	**101-200**	**-**	-	-	-
SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals	**301-400**	**401-600**	601-800	1001+	601-800

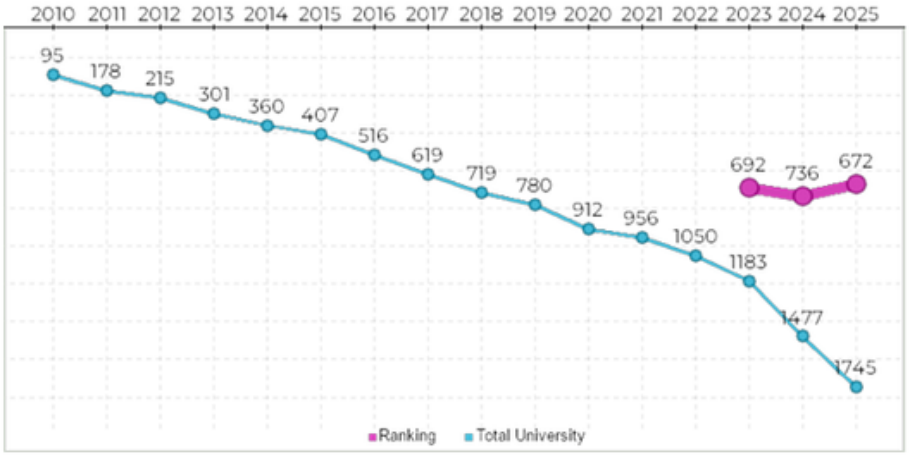
Another international index that assesses universities' performance in the field of sustainability is UI GreenMetric, which was launched by the University of Indonesia in 2010 and has since become the world's leading ranking for green campuses and environmental sustainability.

Participating in the UI GreenMetric World University Rankings for the third time in 2025, Istanbul Medeniyet University ranked 672nd out of 1,547 universities worldwide and 72nd out of 142 universities nationally.

IMU achieved full marks in the "Waste" category – one of the six categories assessing universities' environmental initiatives – and was among the 33 universities worldwide to achieve first place in this category.

Following the Waste category, in which we ranked first both globally and in Turkey, our University achieved its second-best result in the "Water" category, scoring 737.5 out of 1,000 to rank 477th globally and 43rd in Turkey.

In the Education and Research category, our University scored 1,362.5 out of a possible 1,800, placing 501st globally and 50th in Turkey.



UI GreenMetric World University Rankings History Diagram

World Ranking	SI Ranking	EC Ranking	WS Ranking	WR Ranking	TR Ranking	ED Ranking
672	1464	1002	33	478	1231	501

Country Ranking	SI Ranking	EC Ranking	WS Ranking	WR Ranking	TR Ranking	ED Ranking
72	129	89	5	43	113	53

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

More than half of the world's population now live in urban areas. By 2050, that figure will have risen to 6.5 billion people – two-thirds of all humanity. Sustainable development cannot be achieved without significantly transforming the way we build and manage our urban spaces.

The rapid growth of cities in the developing world, coupled with increasing rural to urban migration, has led to a boom in mega-cities. In 1990, there were ten mega-cities with 10 million inhabitants or more. In 2014, there were 28 mega-cities, home to a total 453 million people. Extreme poverty is often concentrated in urban spaces, and national and city governments struggle to accommodate the rising population in these areas. Making cities safe and sustainable means ensuring access to safe and affordable housing, and upgrading slum settlements. It also involves investment in public transport, creating green public spaces, and improving urban planning and management in a way that is both participatory and inclusive.

UN SDG

WORLD

1 in 4 urban residents lived in slums or infomal settlements in 2024

61.5%

convenient access to public transport increased from 53.2% to 61.5%.

22%

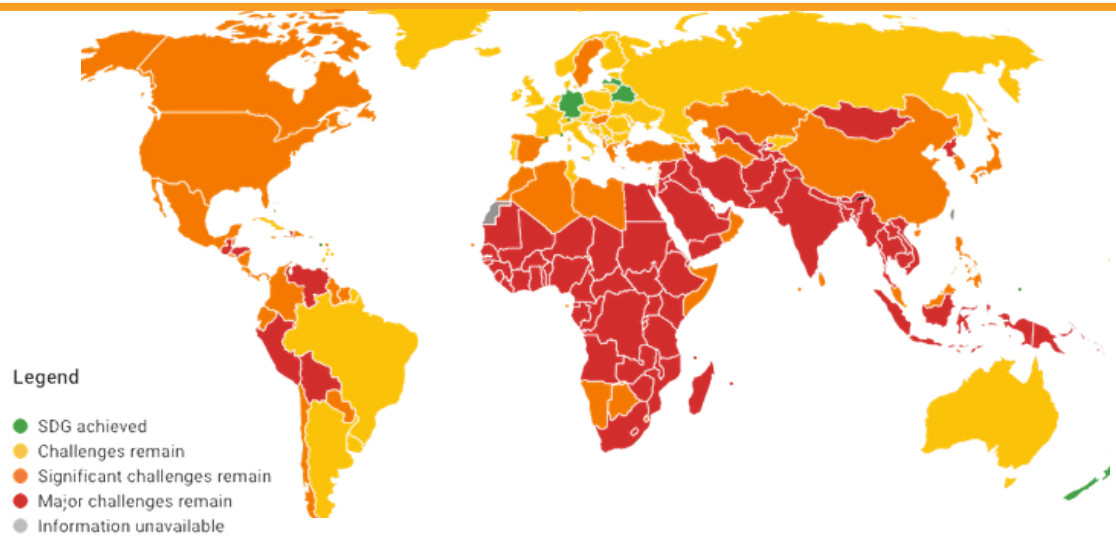
of Access to public transport lean on higher-capacity systems such as rail-based transit

141 COUNTRIES

have adopted and are implementing national disaster risk reduction strategies by 2025

91,847 UNITS

number of critical infrastructure units destroyed or damaged by disasters annually betwen 2015-2024

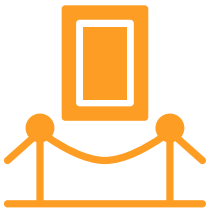


TURKEY

401-600

"Sustainable Cities and Communities" category 2025 ranking

THE IMPACT RANKINGS



public access to exhibition spaces or galleries



sustainable practices in campus transportation - electric scooters

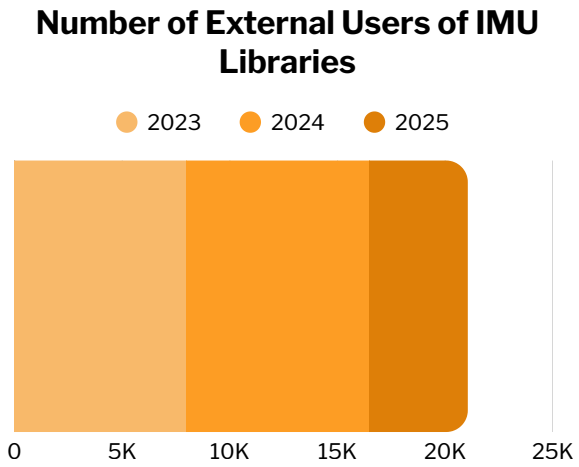




3
BROWNFIELDS
used with different functions after renovation



4,550
EXTERNAL USERS
were allowed to use our libraries



Between 2023 and 2025, the IMU Main Library welcomed a total of **21,050 external users**, with 8,000 visitors in 2023, 8,500 in 2024, and 4,550 in 2025. This cumulative figure highlights the library's continued role in providing accessible educational resources and promoting knowledge sharing and community engagement beyond the University.

Support of Arts and Heritage

Public Access to University Buildings, Green Spaces, and Libraries

Our university buildings and green spaces are open to **public access for visitors** who must first register at the security gates, after which they can freely go around the campus areas, attend our free public events, spend quality time in our cafeterias and green spaces, and enjoy access to the resources in our libraries.

Our libraries and library resources are open to the use of the students of local schools through institutional protocols.

4,550
EXTERNAL USERS
were
allowed to use our libraries

As our central library opened in our Göztepe North Campus in 2020, **İstanbul Medeniyet University Ziraat Bank Library** is the largest university library in Turkey which was designed to serve 7/24 with all the amenities required by modern librarianship and when it reaches its full capacity, it can house 3000 simultaneous users. IMU Ziraat Bank Central Library was opened to the use of **external researchers and students** in 2022. With this opportunity, 11,864,170 resources in our library have become accessible to the public in 2025.

In addition to the resources in our libraries, students of local schools can also use our campus facilities, as well as our educational facilities such as laboratories and conference halls thanks to our collaboration protocols. In this context, our University signed protocols for collaboration in education with Kadıköy Ahmet Sani Gezici Girls' Anatolian Imam Hatip High School and Private Samandıra Safa Anatolian High School.



IMU Ziraat Bank Library

Arts and Heritage Contribution and Public Access to Museums, Galleries or Works of Art

As a public university in the heart of one of the largest metropolises in the world, Istanbul Medeniyet University is fully aware of our pivotal role in strengthening the ties of our urban community to arts and heritage through various channels: by including artistic designs in our building designs by teaching arts and offering a free and creative environment for artists, by organizing and hosting art events and exhibiting works of art, and by providing free public access to our art events and exhibition spaces. We have the Departments of Turkish Music, Visual Communication Design, Performing Arts and Art History that offer training in arts.

OPERATIONS

IMU

IMU Sustainability Student Club organized the **"RE" Exhibition** as part of the Transformation Festival, supported by the Turkish Ministry of Youth and Sports. Held at the University's Göztepe North Campus from June 10 to 16, 2025, the exhibition featured 12 sustainable artworks, including eight polygonal portraits made from discarded paper bags and four collective pixel art paintings created using 2,396 recycled plastic bottle caps. Curated by Research Assistant Ayça Çelikbilek from the Sustainability Office, the exhibition showcased the creative potential of waste materials through sustainable art.

By transforming waste materials into artistic creations, the exhibition raised awareness of responsible consumption, resource efficiency, and the importance of reducing waste in urban environments. It also encouraged collaboration between university students and local communities, promoting public engagement in sustainable art and environmental responsibility. Through its creative approach, the exhibition contributed to fostering a more environmentally conscious and inclusive urban culture.









"RE" Exhibition

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

OPERATIONS

IMU

Istanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture organized the **"War and Migration"** Art Exhibition at the Atatürk Cultural Center in Istanbul on November 30, 2025. The exhibition featured artworks by academics and students from the Department of Visual Communication Design, alongside paintings depicting the forced displacement of Ahıska Turks. The exhibited works explored the experiences of communities affected by war and migration, highlighting themes of displacement, cultural identity, and belonging.

Through artistic expression, the exhibition highlighted the human, social, and cultural impacts of war and forced migration, drawing attention to the challenges faced by displaced communities. By bringing these experiences into a public cultural space, the event contributed to raising awareness of migration, fostering social inclusion and cultural understanding, and preserving the collective memory of communities affected by displacement.









War and Migration Art Exhibition

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

OPERATIONS

IMU

IMU Department of Health Management organized the **"Global Recycling Day and Sustainability Exhibition"** at its Cevizli Campus on March 17, 2025. Open to the public, the exhibition showcased creative upcycling projects developed by students, including soaps and candles made from waste oils, decorative pillows created from old shirts, kitchen aprons produced from reused trousers, and prayer rugs knitted from recycled sweater yarn. The exhibition demonstrated how discarded materials can be transformed into useful and creative products through sustainable practices.

By promoting the reuse of materials and encouraging environmentally responsible consumption, the exhibition raised awareness of waste reduction, resource conservation, and sustainable living. It also provided an opportunity for students and local community members to explore innovative approaches to recycling and appreciate the creative potential of waste materials. Through its emphasis on responsible production and consumption, the event contributed to fostering environmental awareness and promoting more sustainable practices within the wider community.









"Global Recycling Day and Sustainability Exhibition"

OPERATIONS

During 2024, the faculty members of IMU Visual Communication Design Department at IMU Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture created artimu, a digital platform for art exhibitions both to contribute to local art and the cultural heritage and to help people maintain their ties with art in the pandemic environment.

In the exhibitions open to international participation, artworks from various art and design areas from photography, painting, video, graphic design to illustration, animation, and ceramics have come together.

Artimu held 2 online exhibitions in 2025: **game** and **black**. These exhibitions can be visited online at artimu's website.



"Game" Exhibition

Also other exhibitions was organized at IMU in 2025. Some of these exhibitions were; **"Objects Read"**; **Photo Exhibition for Earthquake Awareness Week**; **"Illumination Exhibition"**; **"In the Footsteps of Civilization: Uzbekistan Photography and Culture Exhibition"**; **"From Basic Design to Illustration: Introduction—Development"**.







Exhibitions at IMU

OPERATIONS

IMU

Various performances in the form of concerts and theater performances are held in our university every year by our bands and music and theater clubs as open-to-public events. In 2025, more than 5 annual performances were organized. Below is a list of some of the annual performances held in our university in 2025:

Musical Performances/Concerts and Dance Shows

1. Kanun Orchestra & Solo Stage Concert on April 30, 2025.
2. Turkish Music Choir Year-End Concert on May 22, 2025.
4. Concert Commemorating the Conquest of Istanbul on May 29, 2025.
4. October 29 Martyrs' Memorial Concert on October 30, 2025.
5. Turkish Music Choir Concert on November 30, 2025.





Musical Performances at IMU in 2025

Theater/Drama Performances

1. "Civil Comedy" performance by IMU Theatre Club on February 26, 2025.
2. "Peace for Gaza" performance by IMU Theatre Club on May 08, 2025
3. "The Metamorphosis of Gregor Samsa: A Puppet Play" performance by Department of Performing Arts on May 20, 2025.
4. "Joke of Civilization" performance by IMU Theatre Club on May 21, 2025.
5. "Black Stain" performance by Department of Performing Arts on November 30, 2025.





Theater Performances at IMU in 2025

Sustainable Practices

Promotion of Sustainable Commuting

IMU promotes the use of shuttle buses and public transport for more sustainable commuting for the campus community, aiming to reduce transport-related carbon emissions.

IMU offers a free shuttle service for its administrative staff to assist with their transportation between campuses, promoting shared commuting. Also, in order to encourage public transport, IMU provides all administrative staff with a public transport card with 200 monthly public transport passes. Our academic staff members can use their institutional ID cards to buy discounted fares on the public transport services of the municipality. All our campus areas are centrally located and are close to public transport hubs and as an institution, we **promote using public transport services** as a responsible and sustainable choice of transport for all our students, staff, and visitors.

Istanbul Medeniyet University also encourages sustainable transportation options for on-campus transportation. In this context, within the scope of the "Zero Emission on Campus" project, 6 **electric scooters** were purchased in 2022 to reduce carbon emissions caused by the transportation of our administrative staff within the campus. Thus, a significant contribution was made to providing transportation that is more environmentally friendly and uses clean energy.



Electric Scooters for on-campus Transportation

Affordable Housing for Students

Medeniyet Female Student Dorm which is in close distance to IMU Cevizli Campus is owned by the University and run by a private enterprise. Our dormitory supports all university students in İstanbul to access to affordable housing and our students are given an extra discount of 15% in our dormitory. As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we attach importance to providing our students with affordable housing choices and in the near future, we are planning with KYK to build a large dormitory in our Göztepe campus area.

Building on Brownfield Sites

In our campus planning, IMU attaches importance to reusing older buildings within the campus area in order to reduce carbon emissions from transport and construction and the amount of demolition waste in addition to demolition and construction costs and to prevent environmental damage. After disaster risk assessments are conducted for the existing buildings inside the campus, initiatives are taken to reuse those buildings whose safety is ascertained and that are not past their economic life in accordance with the university's needs.

OPERATIONS

In this context, **Block K** located within our Göztepe North Campus area, which had previously been used by a firm and was later transferred to our university's ownership, was converted from a commercial unit into an educational building housing offices, classrooms, and laboratories in line with the needs of our university. As part of the renovation work carried out by our Department of Construction and Maintenance, the interior space of the building was re-partitioned to be used as classrooms, a library and conference hall was designed within the building, and a research laboratory was established on floor -1. Once all the installation works were completed for the refunctioning of the building, it was brought into service in 2017.



Block K Renovation

We also renovated **the older hangar building** in our Göztepe North Campus area, which was taken over from the State Supply Office (DMO). The building was used by our university as a warehouse in 2020 and was later renovated by our Department of Construction and Maintenance. The building was partially converted into our campus kitchen where the daily meals for our students, staff, and guests are cooked. To convert the building from a warehouse to a kitchen, partition-ing, wet floor, and installation arrangements were made and ventilation systems were installed. The arrangements were followed by inspections by the Ministry of Health to obtain approval for the building's reuse as a campus kitchen, which was brought into service in early 2021.



Hangar to Campus Kitchen Renovation

In addition, a building in Orhanlı Campus area which had previously been used for educational purposes was renovated following a tender made in 2017 and refunctioned as a dental hospital. The renovation work in the building involved spatial arrangements as needed by a dental hospital such as dentist's rooms, x-ray rooms, and operating rooms and the installations were made as required by the new functions of the building. Following the inspection and approval of the Ministry of Health, the building was put into service in 2021 as **Istanbul Medeniyet University Dental Hospital**.



Istanbul Medeniyet University Dental Hospital

Public Access

Our University signed protocols for collaboration in education with local schools to lead their education process and research. Thanks to these protocols, students of local schools can use our campus facilities and the resources in our library, as well as our educational facilities such as laboratories and conference halls.

In addition to local schools, we share our campus areas and classrooms with certain universities for their examinations. In this context, Atatürk University, Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli University Continuing Education Application and Research Center, and Istanbul University Faculty of Open and Distance Education have signed collaboration protocols with IMU on the planning and administering of their central exams to be held in the Anatolian side of Istanbul. In the context of these protocols, we share our classrooms with these partner institutions and offer them for students' use in the exams so that everyone can have access to affordable higher education services through open learning and distance education programs.

As IMU, we give public access to our research laboratories to lead research activities. In this context, our university's Science and Advanced Technologies Research Center (IMU BILTAM) houses 7 service laboratories that offer analysis, measurement, imaging, and equipment services for all researchers in addition to our own staff and students. Institutions or researchers can fill in a request form to have their analyses made; to perform their own analyses using the devices and 41 pieces of equipment provided or to attend the analyses performed as observers. In addition, Istanbul Medeniyet University Laboratory Animal Facility (DEHAL), which has been licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in the fields of research, breeding, use and procurement, provides high quality in vivo research infrastructure to academia and R&D institutions within the framework of legislation and ethical principles.

OPERATIONS

Collaborations on Sustainable Cities, Communities and Arts

In addition to our collaborations with local schools for public access, we have also signed protocols with the following institutions for social and cultural collaboration: **Istanbul Provincial Directorate for National Education** and local schools including **Kadıköy Ahmet Sani Gezici Anatolian Imam Hatip High School for Girls, Kandilli High School for Girls, Gebze Ülkem Primary School, İTO Marmara Anatolian Imam Hatip High School, Samandıra Safa Anatolian Highschool** and **Sultanbeyli Nilüfer Hatun Anatolian Imam Hatip High School for Girls.**



6
LOCAL SCHOOLS
were supported with cultural and social education and activities

IMU signed a sponsorship agreement with **Ziraat Bank** to build a university library that can house one million volumes to be used by all researchers. Our central library will serve 7/24 and can house 3000 simultaneous users.

IMU signed collaboration protocol in arts with **Gaziosmanpaşa Municipality**. Within the scope of the protocols, our University will contribute to artistic and academic studies, which will facilitate the social and cultural development of the people living in these districts of Istanbul. In addition, our university will organize preparatory exams for those students who would like to take aptitude tests in order to attend college.

IMU has signed collaboration protocols with the Gifted and Genius Children Education Foundation of Turkey (TÜZDEV), Istanbul Family Foundation, AYDOST Education, Culture, and Solidarity Association, Anatolia to the World Women's Civil Society Organizations Foundation (AYSİT), Süreyya Education, Culture, and Solidarity Association, International Youth Association, Lawyers Association, Ümraniye District National Education Directorate, Youth Assistance Fund, Dominican Study Institute Istanbul (Dost-1), Turkish Academy of Sciences(TÜBA), Universal Hafizs Association, IMU Alumni and Members Association, Humand and Civilization Movement, Association of Ahiska Volunteer Educators (AHGEB) and Happy Home Marriage and Family Counseling Education and Mutual Aid Association on carrying out cultural and social educational activities, events, symposia, projects, and internship programs and applications.

Istanbul Anatolian Chief Public Prosecutor's Office Probation Directorate signed a collaboration protocol with IMU in fields such as education, research, consultancy and project design and also concerning the performance of various activities like organizing educational, social, cultural, and sports activities aiming to increase the motivation and productivity among the institution's staff and to ensure that the convicts can make the best use of their time.

The Youth and Volunteering Cooperation Protocol was signed between IMU and the **Ministry of Youth and Sports of Turkey** and as part of the protocol, a **Youth Office** was created in 2020 to carry out social, cultural, artistic, sports, and educational activities in our university campuses.

Preserve Cultural Heritage

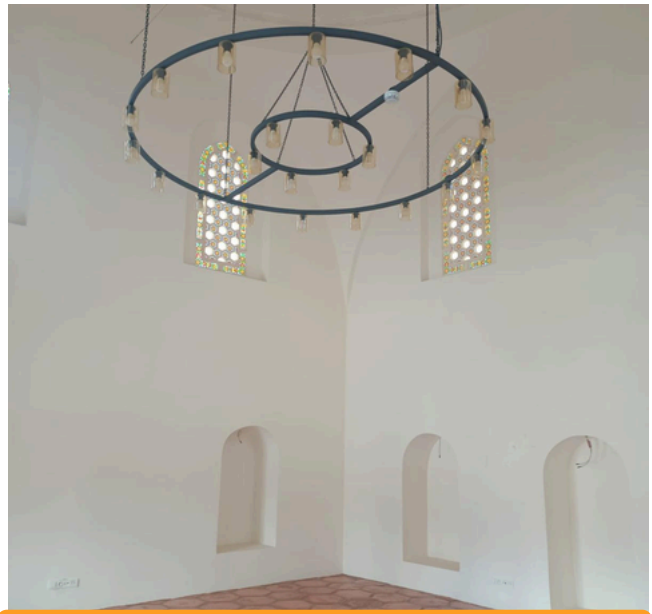
Istanbul Medeniyet University has brought academic life back to the historic Fatih-Semâniye Complex by launching graduate education and research activities within the University's **Institute for the History of Science**. The Semâniye Madrasas, built between 1463 and 1470 and regarded among the earliest higher education institutions established in Istanbul after the conquest, played a major role in Ottoman intellectual life for centuries.

The Karadeniz Çifte Kurşunlu section of the complex, covering approximately 7,724 m² with 40 rooms and two courtyards, was allocated to İstanbul Medeniyet University for 30 years by the General Directorate of Foundations. Following restoration works initiated in 2022, the historic structure was adapted for contemporary academic use and transformed into a center for graduate education and research.

By reintroducing educational and research functions into this historic complex, IMU has helped ensure the continued use and transmission of an important part of Istanbul's architectural and academic heritage. The project demonstrates how historic buildings can be preserved not only as monuments, but also as active spaces that maintain their educational identity while serving present-day academic needs.







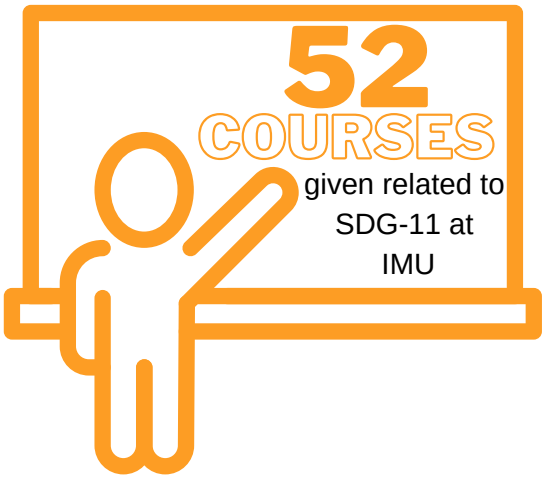
Fatih Semaniye Campus

LEARNING

IMU

Learning processes are key in achieving SDGs. Thus, universities play a critical role both by training professionals who will prioritize SDGs in their future practices and by increasing local, national, and global capacity to successfully achieve SDGs. As Istanbul Medeniyet University, we are aware of our critical role and therefore, we primarily inform our students, the leaders and decision-makers of the future, about the Sustainable Development Goals through course contents, co-curricular activities and student club activities and strengthen their awareness. For this purpose, each of our faculties and departments prepares SDG-related course contents, including courses that address the Sustainable Development Goals holistically, as well as specific contributions that can be made by the expertise of the relevant professional field in which they provide training. In 2025, 52 bachelor degree courses related to SDG-11 were given at IMU.

Some of these are listed below.



Faculty	Course
Art, Design and Architecture	TUR105 – History of Turkish Music
	SHN207 - Turkish Theater I
Arts and Humanities	SDG437 - Discussions on Urbanization in Turkey
Education Sciences	ECE007 – Environmental Education and Sustainability in Early Childhood
Health Sciences	SHB351 - Local Authorities and Social Work
Law	HUK342 – Environmental Law
Medicine	TFS213 - Public Health and Urban Design I
Political Science	SBK214 - Urbanization and Environmental Management
	SBK315 - Urban Sociology
	MLY411 - Environmental Protection and Taxation
All - Elective	IMU060 – Disaster Management
	IMU061 - Disasters - Causes and Consequences
Institute of Graduate Studies	Ottoman Urbanism and Architecture
	Urban Risk Management

Record and Preserve Cultural Heritage

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Istanbul Medeniyet University's Sustainability Student Club organized three **Mangala workshops** on April 15, 17 and 18, 2025 at the Sustainability Office. The workshops aimed to introduce students, staff, and members of the public to Mangala, a traditional Turkish intelligence and strategy game recognized by UNESCO as intangible cultural heritage, while also preparing participants for the Medeniyet Olympics Mangala Tournament. Res. Asst. Ayça Çelikbilek from the Sustainability Office gave a presentation on the history of Mangala, its cultural significance, and the distinctive features of the Turkish version of the game.

Turkish Mangala, which has been played for centuries across Anatolia, is more than a game—it is a living cultural tradition that reflects social values, strategic thinking, and communal interaction. The University emphasized its importance by creating a dedicated Mangala category in the Medeniyet Olympics, allowing students to directly engage with their cultural roots.

Following the presentation, participants learned the traditional rules of Turkish Mangala and practiced the game through hands-on sessions. By combining historical information with active participation, the workshops contributed to transmitting knowledge of this traditional game to younger generations, strengthening awareness of intangible cultural heritage, and supporting the continued practice of a cultural tradition with deep roots in Turkish history.





Mangala Workshop

Tangible Cultural Heritage

Prof.Dr. Kadir PEKTAŞ from the Department of Art History conducted excavation works in the **ancient city of Beçin** in the Milas district of Muğla, which once was the capital of the Menteşeoğlu Principality and one of the important centers in the settlement of the Turkish-Islamic period and is now on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List with the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Istanbul Medeniyet University, and the Turkish Historical Society. This region, which was called Caria in the ancient period, came under the rule of Menteşe Principality after 1261. In Beçin, the administrative center of the Menteşe Principality, there are about 20 historical buildings in partially intact condition. Beçin, which was included in the World Heritage Tentative List by UNESCO in 2012, is among the very few cities in Anatolia that were founded by the Turks and survived until today.

In 2025, excavations revealed several important finds that further enriched the understanding of the site's long historical continuity. Among the discoveries were **12 ceramic cremation graves** dating back approximately 3,000 years, as well as **ceramic vessels** from the 5th–6th centuries BCE. Archaeologists also uncovered around 15 game dice and other gaming pieces, providing valuable evidence about everyday life, leisure practices, and material culture in the ancient settlement.

Another remarkable find was the discovery of thousands of **well-preserved millet seeds** estimated to be 600–700 years old inside a tower of the inner castle. Thought to date to the Menteşe period or the early Ottoman era, the seeds offer important information about historical food storage and consumption practices. Together, these discoveries contribute to the documentation, interpretation, and preservation of Beçin Castle's archaeological and cultural heritage.





Beçin Castle Excavation

Istanbul Medeniyet University is contributing to the **Islamic Inscriptions and Tombstones Inventory Project**, carried out under the auspices of the Presidency of Türkiye and coordinated by the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums. The Istanbul phase of the project is being led by Prof. Dr. Kadir Pektaş from IMU's Department of Art History, together with an approximately 10-member academic team from different universities. The pilot study began at the Şeyh Devati Mustafa Efendi Mosque cemetery in Üsküdar, where around 200 historical tombstones and inscriptions are planned to be photographed, transcribed, digitally recorded, and geolocated.

The project goes beyond documenting inscriptions by recording the physical dimensions, forms, decorative features, headgear types, and original grave structures of the tombstones. These details provide valuable information about Ottoman social life, artistic traditions, identity, and funerary culture. The inventory process also helps identify conservation problems affecting cemeteries and tombstones and creates a systematic digital record of these culturally significant objects.

Once completed, thousands of tombstones across Türkiye are expected to be registered in a format compatible with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism's museum inventory system. By creating a detailed and accessible record, the project aims to reduce the risk of loss or theft while ensuring that the historical, artistic, and sociocultural information contained in these monuments is preserved and transmitted to future generations.



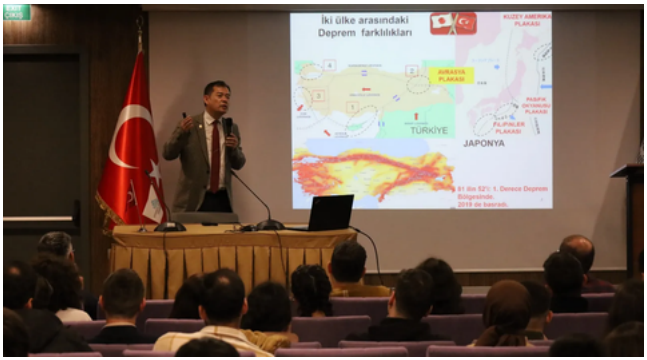




Islamic Inscriptions and Tombstones Inventory Project

İstanbul Medeniyet University Civil Engineers Student Club organized the seminar **"Two Countries, One Goal: Strategies to Prevent Earthquake Disasters"** on March 10, 2025. Earthquake expert Yoshinori Moriwaki compared disaster-prevention approaches in Japan and Türkiye and discussed technical and practical measures to reduce earthquake risks before and after disasters.

The seminar also addressed earthquake regulations, construction materials, new-generation building technologies, and differences in disaster management practices between the two countries. By raising awareness among students, staff, and external participants, the event contributed to strengthening knowledge on disaster preparedness, urban safety, and resilient communities.





10 March 2025

"Two Countries, One Goal: Strategies to Prevent Earthquake Disasters" Seminar

Istanbul Medeniyet University Faculty of Medicine, in cooperation with ATUDER, the Turkish Red Crescent, WACEM, and TOPCOM, organized the **"Disaster Simulation and Trauma Management"** Workshop on April 15-16, 2025. The program brought together 78 healthcare professionals and students, including doctors, nurses, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, and health sciences trainees, to strengthen practical skills in disaster and trauma response.

Participants took part in realistic simulation exercises focusing on case management, decision-making, teamwork, leadership, and effective use of limited resources during emergencies. Practical sessions also covered tent setup and basic post-disaster intervention methods. By improving the preparedness and coordination skills of healthcare professionals, the workshop contributed to strengthening disaster response capacity and community resilience



15-16 April 2025

"Disaster Simulation and Trauma Management" Workshop