



**CAPPADOCIA
UNIVERSITY**

— Logic - Wisdom - Equality - Tradition —



**GREEN
CAPPADOCIA
POLICY PAPER**

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FOREWORD

As Cappadocia University (KÜN), we prioritize the environment and sustainability in our educational and social activities, as well as in our research projects. We use every means available to ensure that our students, faculty members and alumni contribute to the sustainability of natural life with an environmental understanding and awareness. In matters related to the environment, the KÜN Family acts sensibly, responsibly and respectfully in all of its activities, particularly those related to education.

The KÜN Green Cappadocia Policy Paper has been prepared to underline the importance our university gives to natural life, ecological balance and cultural sustainability, and to share these principles with the public. As KÜN, we carry out works aimed at making a difference, setting an example in natural and cultural sustainability, beginning with the University and its surroundings and the Cappadocia region, working together with our internal and external stakeholders.

The Rectorate and the Board of Trustees of Cappadocia University support and promote the natural and cultural sustainability policies of our University. Our academic and administrative units, students and alumni all have important roles to play. As the KÜN Family, we trust our internal and external stakeholders to be there to support the efforts of our University.

Prof. Dr. Hasan Ali Karasar

Rector

Funda Aktan

Coordinator of the Board of Trustees

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1. MISSION AND VISION OF CAPPADOCIA UNIVERSITY

Our Mission

Cappadocia University's mission is to raise new-generation public opinion leaders that will give a voice to Turkey in the 21st century.

KÜN is a university that was established in line with the Regional Development Objectives, and its programs have been designed in the same direction, strategically aiming to support the development of the Cappadocia Region in every field. The protection of the natural and cultural resources of our region, our country and our world is of paramount importance for sustainable development, allowing them to be passed down to the next generations.

Our Vision

Cappadocia University strives to identify scientific solutions to regional, national and global problems, and to transform Cappadocia into an international center of attraction for academic studies.

To this end, we aim to develop policies, programs and activities that serve as an example to our stakeholders, and that make a difference in environmental and sustainability issues, as leading concerns regionally, nationally and globally.

2. STRATEGIC PLANS, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF CAPPADOCIA UNIVERSITY REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY

The following objectives related to sustainability within the Cappadocia University Strategic Plan have been determined based on measurable parameters:

Supporting the social and cultural development of our region. Contributing to the social life of the region with artistic and cultural activities. Supporting sustainable economic development with projects conducted by the research centers. Organizing trainings oriented towards the needs of society. Protecting natural and cultural assets. Ensuring the maintenance, repair and protection of the historical buildings used by the University. Participating in planting works in the region. Increasing the number of young TEMA volunteers. Increasing the number of activities related to environmental awareness and protection. Cooperating with national and international stakeholders working with renewable energy sources, and organizing trainings to ensure that our students understand and internalize the importance

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of renewable energy. Contributing to the protection of the ecosystem through the efficient use of renewable energy solutions, and setting an example in the region. Implementing the signboard project in Mustafapaşa.

3. SUSTAINABILITY POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF CAPPADOCIA UNIVERSITY

Cappadocia University (KÜN) aims to develop effective applications and approaches for the environmental and cultural heritage of the region, mainly Cappadocia, in which our University is located, supported by natural and cultural sustainability policies, aided by its internal and external stakeholders. KÜN sustainability policies are designed in accordance with the KÜN Contribution to Society Objectives and Principles Policy Paper, as well as our mission, vision and fundamental values.

KÜN prioritizes two main subjects in its sustainability policies. The first is the support of natural and cultural sustainability through educational and research activities. Educational programs at all levels include classes on environmental and cultural issues. The KÜN Scientific Research Projects Commission and the KÜN Scientific Research and Publication Ethics Commission provide additional support to the projects prioritizing sustainability.

Another field in which KÜN prioritizes in the context of sustainability relates to the protection and utilization of natural resources. KÜN follows broad and comprehensive policies in energy, water, environment and food, with an understanding of the connections between them, and works with its internal and external stakeholders in activities aimed at minimizing any negative effects on natural and cultural life. To this end, KÜN takes the necessary measures and provides its internal and external stakeholders with the opportunity to contribute to and take an active part in sustainability efforts and initiatives.

KÜN has established the Sustainability Commission under the Rectorate to formulate the sustainability policies with its internal and external stakeholders, to present them to the Board of Trustees and to coordinate the sustainability efforts of the University. The Commission creates, updates and inspects the sustainability programs of KÜN, and prepares reports on sustainability that are shared with the public via KÜN's website for sustainability policies and applications (Sustainable KÜN).

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Energy management program

KÜN develops applications and takes measures to ensure the efficient and effective use of energy. It carries out studies to reduce total energy consumption, and organizes and promotes activities to inform the academic and administrative personnel and the students about the subject.

KÜN pays close attention to reducing the carbon emissions resulting from transportation within and between its campuses. To this end, KÜN’s carbon emissions are followed regularly, and reported and shared with the public via the Sustainable KÜN website after evaluations. KÜN erects information boards and signs detailing the energy management program in various locations on the campus to ensure the students, administrative personnel and faculty members are kept informed.

KÜN takes measures to regulate the entry and exit of vehicles to and from its campuses to reduce carbon emissions. To this end, the use of cars by students on campus is limited, while the use of vehicles that do not cause carbon emissions, such as bicycles and electric bicycles, is promoted. KÜN creates parking spaces (i.e., bike racks) in its campuses and makes them available for students. KÜN also provides bicycles to students who require them, where resources permit, promoting their use as a viable transportation mode. KÜN helps increase the number of bicycle and pedestrian roads both on its campuses and in the region, and promotes the efforts of local administrations in this regard.

KÜN takes measures to reduce carbon emissions and to facilitate the access of faculty members and students to campus by supporting distance learning and digital and online conferencing. To this end, it utilizes educational technologies and facilities in various locations.

KÜN takes measures to reduce carbon emissions also from heating, ensuring that new buildings are designed keeping in mind natural heating and cooling potentials, while existing and historical buildings are heated using low-carbon energy sources, in addition to natural heating. The use of natural gas is prioritized on all campuses, unused indoor spaces are not heated and the use of air conditioning for cooling is limited.

KÜN takes initiatives in the generation of electricity from renewable energy sources (hydro, solar, wind and bio fuel), and carries out projects and supports existing projects in this field. For renewable energy generation, facilities and buildings that do no harm to the natural and cultural structure of the region are prioritized.

Energy-efficient appliances are used to reduce electricity consumption, particularly in lighting, while unnecessary and excess lighting is minimized. Photocells are used in indoor spaces that are not frequently used to economize electricity consumption. New buildings that are designed to take

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maximum advantage of natural lighting and daylight are prioritized. The lighting of historical buildings is minimized to protect the cultural texture and the environment.

Water management program

KÜN prioritizes the management of drinking, utility and waste water, developing applications and policies that are based on the saving and recycling of water. KÜN follows, reports, evaluates and shares campus water use data with the public via the Sustainable KÜN website. KÜN erects information boards and signs detailing the water management program in various locations on the campus to ensure the students, administrative personnel and faculty members are kept informed.

KÜN utilizes water collected naturally through rainwater harvesting applications, and designates areas and builds facilities in various locations to collect rainwater for this purpose. Permeable materials are used in construction and landscaping to allow the return of rainwater to the soil.

KÜN develops water saving applications to minimize water use on campus. Water-saving appliances and machinery are preferred on the campus. Photocells are used in restrooms to reduce water consumption. Personnel are provided with the necessary training to reduce water consumption in cleaning, and procedures are determined accordingly.

KÜN takes the necessary measures to reduce the production of waste water on the campus, and to treat and rehabilitate toxic, chemically or biologically polluted water. KÜN uses the water obtained from rainwater harvesting for the irrigation of the green areas, to support the growth of the trees and plants planted by the University. The necessary measures are taken to prevent evaporation and to ensure efficient irrigation, with methods such as drip irrigation being used.

Waste management program

KÜN takes the necessary measures to ensure the effective management of the waste produced on campus. To this end, it develops applications and policies to minimize waste, and supports projects in this direction. KÜN follows, reports and evaluates information on the waste produced on the campus, and shares this data with the public via the Sustainable KÜN website. KÜN erects information boards and signs detailing the waste management program in various locations on the campus to ensure the students, administrative personnel and faculty members are kept informed.

KÜN places recycle bins all over the campus to reutilize recyclable waste. Recycled paper is preferred, and both sides of the paper are always used for printed materials. KÜN supports the collection

and recycling of all kinds of waste, particularly paper. It takes the necessary measures to reduce paper consumption, and uses digital and e-signed documents and forms rather than printed and wet signed documents, preferring also e-mails and similar technological media for communications and correspondences.

It takes measures to reduce the use of plastic packaging and plastic bags to reduce plastic waste. Using bags made of organic, eco-friendly and recyclable materials is fundamental. It implements a Zero Waste Management System within the scope of the Zero Waste Project of the Directorate General of Environmental Management of the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization of the Republic of Turkey. KÜN prioritizes the use of recyclable and eco-friendly materials to reduce waste within the scope of the Zero Waste Project and its waste management program. Zero Waste and composting principles are applied in recently designed buildings.

KÜN develops various applications through which the organic waste generated by food production facilities are reutilized in agriculture and food production. Surplus food stocks are delivered to people in need, and the remaining waste is disposed of via various methods, particularly composting. The organic products obtained from composting are used on the trees and plants grown by KÜN, and distributed to local farmers free of charge, with a view to contributing to regional development.

Cultural sustainability program

KÜN pays attention to cultural sustainability in its educational, research and social contribution activities. Accordingly, it takes the necessary measures, and carries out and supports projects that support local traditions, contributing to their transfer to the next generations, protecting Turkey's cultural heritage, and particularly that of Cappadocia, as a unique example of cultural heritage in the world.

KÜN carries out its activities in new buildings, but also in historical buildings that are part of the cultural heritage of the region. KÜN utilizes the existing building stock in the region as much as possible. It pays attention to ensuring balance between the use and protection of these buildings, and carries out renovations in accordance with the original design after obtaining the necessary permits. It protects and highlights the historical and cultural texture in the infrastructure works of such buildings. It provides locally supplied, recyclable or used materials for the renovation of historical buildings.

KÜN designs and constructs its buildings and facilities in accordance with the natural and cultural features of the region. It ensures that new buildings do not contain elements that are in conflict

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with the natural and cultural texture of the region. It provides locally supplied, recyclable or used materials for the construction of new buildings.

Environmental and social impact evaluations are carried out for new buildings, and the buildings are designed accordingly. KÜN is involved in the restoration of buildings and structures in the region that are in need of protection and restoration, thus contributing to cultural heritage.

KÜN prioritizes and provides support to projects that support regional development in sectors such as tourism and agriculture. KÜN also takes measures to minimize the negative effects of campus life, educational activities, and research and development works on local and natural life.

4. SOURCES OF SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES

Cappadocia University allocates a budget for the accomplishment of the sustainability objectives defined in the KÜN Strategic Plan, *KÜN Contribution to Society Objectives and Principles Policy Paper*, and in this policy. KÜN also allocates a budget for the creation and regular updating of a website on sustainability.

KÜN sets an annual budget for sustainability activities. KÜN follows calls for sustainability projects made by especially the European Union and TÜBİTAK, and promotes the participation of faculty members in such sustainability projects.

5. COMMITTEE OF THE SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES

KÜN has established a Sustainability Committee composed of various academic and administrative units to manage sustainability activities. The Committee is responsible for coordinating the sustainability activities of the University, for creating and updating its sustainability policies, for making program suggestions, for updating the University's sustainability website and sharing the information with the public, and for collecting necessary information within the scope of the programs mentioned in this policy paper and sharing such information with the public, in line with a schedule determined by the Rectorate.