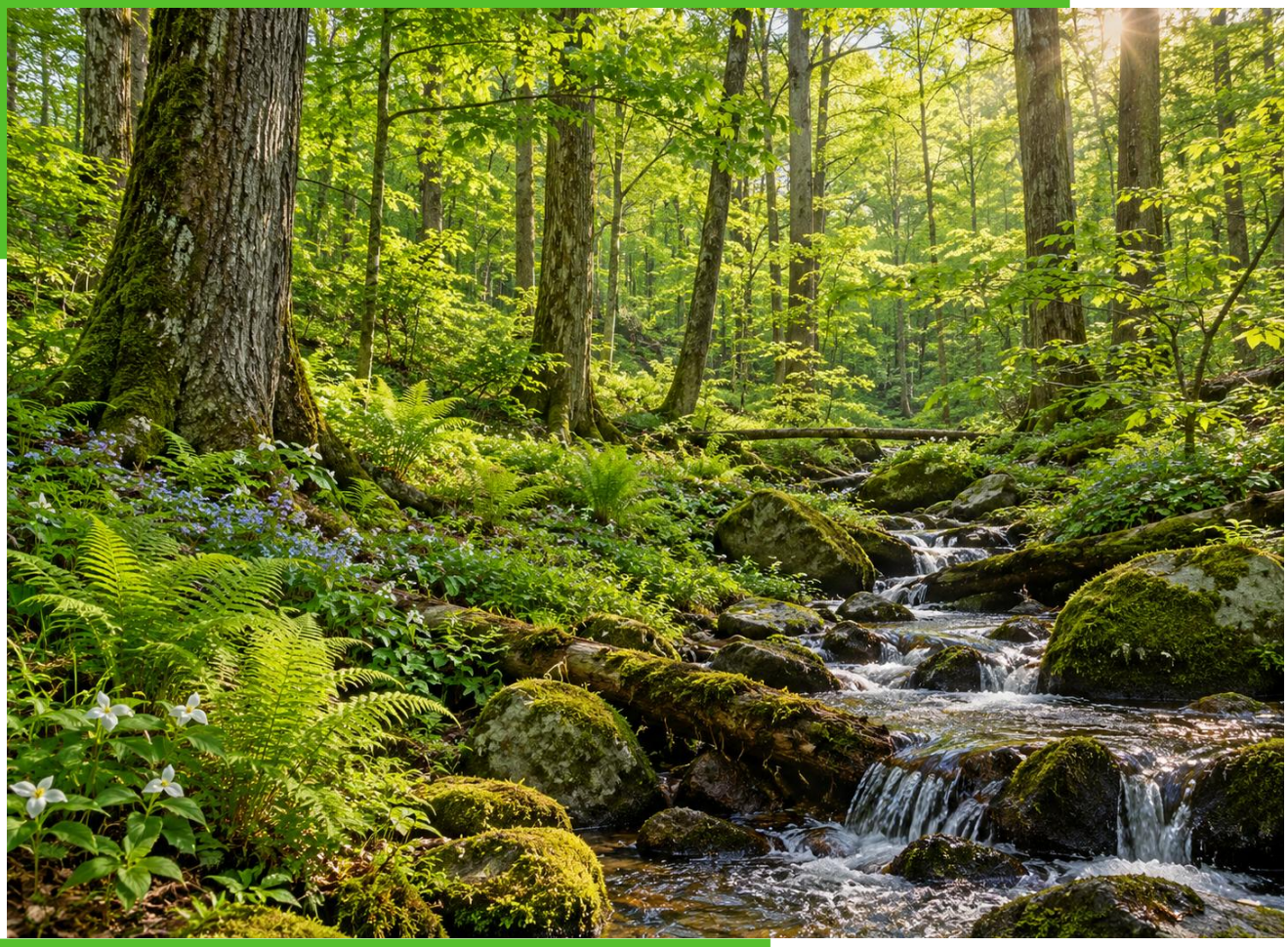


# 2024–2025 ACADEMIC YEAR
# LIFE ON LAND
# REPORT SDG 15

## ISTINYE UNIVERSITY

İSÜ İSTİNYE ÜNİVERSİTESİ İSTANBUL

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# ABOUT US

## Our Mission

Istinye University's mission is to provide innovative and sustainable education in a student centred institution working closely with industry; to conduct research based on advanced technology; to produce new knowledge and technologies; and to contribute to society by developing solutions to local and global problems.

## Our Vision

Istinye University's vision is to become one of the world's leading universities pursuing excellence in education, research, innovation and technology development, with artificial intelligence at its centre.

## Our Values

- Respect for people and differences
- Commitment to professional ethics and human values
- Social and community responsibility
- Justice and merit
- Environmental awareness and sustainability
- Lifelong learning
- Collective wisdom
- Participation
- Innovation
- Entrepreneurship
- Leadership

Source: [1] Mission and Vision

# INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

## International Sustainability Application and Research Centre

Istinye University International Sustainability Application and Research Centre (ISU-IRCOS) supports interdisciplinary education, research and applied work on sustainability. Environmental responsibility, natural capital and the circular economy are among its focus areas.

National and international partnerships, dialogue with stakeholders and recommendations for sustainability policies are central to the centre's work.

Source: [2] International Sustainability Application and Research Centre

## Environmental Policy

Istinye University aims to reduce its environmental impact from water, wastewater, natural resource use and waste, and to contribute to environmental protection through conservation and efficiency. This approach brings together education, research, operations, infrastructure and social responsibility.

Source: [3] Environmental Policy

## Natural Resource Use and Zero Waste Policy

Protecting natural resources, particularly water, using natural capital efficiently and reducing the environmental impact of waste are central to the university's approach to resource management. The impacts of domestic and hazardous waste are addressed within a circular economy approach.

Education that raises stakeholder awareness, together with research and applied work, is encouraged to reduce natural resource consumption and waste generation.

Source: [4] Natural Resource Use and Zero Waste Policy

# ACTIVITIES

## Bird Feeder Workshop

**13 March 2025 · Vadi Main Campus**

At the workshop organised by the Genç TEMA Club, students made bird feeders from recyclable materials. The feeders were then hung at various locations around the campus.



Students making bird feeders during the Bird Feeder Workshop.

The workshop addressed wildlife protection and the feeding needs of birds through a practical student activity. Reusing materials connected environmental awareness with everyday practices.

Source: [5] Bird Feeder Workshop news

## Nature and Environmental Awareness with Children

**Yeryüzüne D'OKU'N · 3 January 2025**

The Genç Yeryüzü Doktorları Club organised an environmental education activity for kindergarten and primary school pupils. Games, stories and educational activities addressed nature conservation and environmentally friendly habits.

The programme used environmentally friendly materials and aimed to nurture children's appreciation of nature and sense of environmental responsibility. University students worked with younger pupils to explore environmentally responsible behaviour through interactive activities.

Source: [6] Yeryüzüne D'OKU'N environmental education activity news

## Awareness for Forest Protection

Awareness activities on forest fire prevention continued through an event and a workshop under the title "Daha Yanmadan" (Before It Burns).

| Date | Activity |
|---|---|
| 29.04.2025 | "Daha Yanmadan" Awareness Event |
| 12.05.2025 | "Daha Yanmadan" Awareness Workshop |

Source: [7] Community Engagement Activities, 2025 — Daha Yanmadan activities

The TEMA Foundation's "Daha Yanmadan" approach focuses on the responsibilities of individuals and institutions before human-caused forest fires occur. Information and awareness activities aim to encourage preventive behaviour.

Source: [8] TEMA Foundation Forest Fire Awareness Project

# CONSERVATION OF PLANT DIVERSITY

## Plant Tissue Culture Research

The Plant Tissue Culture R&D Laboratory develops tissue culture applications for plant species that are difficult to propagate using conventional methods. Culturing small plant fragments in suitable nutrient media under controlled light, temperature and humidity enables the rapid propagation of rare and valuable plants.



Prof. Elif Aylin Özüdoğru, whose work focuses on plant tissue culture.

Source: [9] Faculty news on plant tissue culture and conservation · [10] Istinye Post news on plant tissue culture

## Long-term Conservation of Genetic Resources

The laboratory designs cryopreservation methods for the long-term storage of priority plant species at risk of disappearing in nature. Tissue culture and conservation work aim to support the continuity of valuable plant diversity in the face of pressures on agricultural and forest land.

Source: [9] Faculty news on plant tissue culture and conservation

# ACADEMIC PROJECTS

Academic projects cover environmental sample analysis, olive cultivar development, plant propagation, environmental conditions in mountainous regions and agri-food research.

| Funder | Call / Programme | Project Title |
|---|---|---|
| TÜBİTAK | Scientific and Technological Research Projects Funding Programme | Highly Accurate and Sensitive Determination of Pharmaceutical Active Ingredients and Their Metabolites in Environmental and Biological Samples from Horseshoe Island Using LC-MS/MS Combined with Novel Enrichment Methods |
| TÜBİTAK | Priority Areas R&D Projects Funding Programme | Development of New Olive Cultivars with Superior Traits and DNA Markers for Advanced Breeding through Innovative Approaches |
| European Union | PRIMA2020 Section 1 Call 2020 — Agro-Food Value Chain | Development of New Wheat-derived Foods of the Mediterranean Diet with Improved Nutritional and Health Value |
| TÜBİTAK | Bilateral Cooperation Programme with the US National Science Foundation (NSF) | Measurement and Prediction of Cold Fog in Mountainous Regions |
| Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Türkiye | Agricultural Infrastructure Development Project | Production of Rootstocks and Saplings in Pistachio through Tissue Culture |

Source: [11] TTO Academic Projects List, TÜM sheet, SDG 15 records

# STUDENT PROJECTS

Student projects focus on agricultural technologies, biological research involving bee products and awareness design relating to threatened species.

## TÜBİTAK 2209 — 2024/1 Call Period

| Project Title | Funder |
|---|---|
| Agricultural Benefits through IoT | TÜBİTAK |
| Evaluation of the Effects of Bee Pollen and Bee Bread on Angiogenesis in the Chicken Chorioallantoic Membrane Model | TÜBİTAK |

## TÜBİTAK 2209 — 2025/1 Call Period

| Project Title | Funder |
|---|---|
| Save the Species, Watch over Them: The Effects of Digital Illustration-based Awareness Designs on Young People's Attitudes towards Endangered Species | TÜBİTAK |
| Infographic Design, a Digital Guide and Wayfinding Design for Caretta caretta in Türkiye within the Sustainable Development Goals: The Case of İztuzu Beach, Dalyan, Muğla | TÜBİTAK |

Source: [12] TÜBİTAK 2209 Student Projects List, 2024/1 and 2025/1, SDG 15 records

# SOURCES

## Institutional and Other Sources

[1] Mission and Vision

[2] International Sustainability Application and Research Centre

[3] Environmental Policy

[4] Natural Resource Use and Zero Waste Policy

[5] Bird Feeder Workshop news

[6] Yeryüzüne D'OKU'N environmental education activity news

[7] Community Engagement Activities, 2025 — Daha Yanmadan activities

[8] TEMA Foundation Forest Fire Awareness Project

[9] Faculty news on plant tissue culture and conservation

[10] Istinye Post news on plant tissue culture

## Project Records

[11] TTO Academic Projects List, TÜM sheet, SDG 15 records

[12] TÜBİTAK 2209 Student Projects List, 2024/1 and 2025/1, SDG 15 records