DOKUZ EYLÜL UNIVERSITY · SUSTAINABILITY OFFICE & ZERO WASTE AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COORDINATION OFFICE

SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION — ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2025

15 Zero-Waste Certified Campuses (Valid to 2031), Whole-University EÇBS & MOTAT Waste Tracking (98.7% Diverted from Landfill), Plastic & Disposable Minimisation, Ethical Sourcing, Circular Economy Research (301 AVESİS Records), and THE 2027 Evidence (Metrics 12.1–12.4)

Document Attribute	Institutional Specification & Verification Reference
Reporting Institution	Dokuz Eylül University (DEÜ) — Public Research University, İzmir, Türkiye (https://www.deu.edu.tr/)
Target SDG & Alignment	UN Sustainable Development Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production · THE Sustainability Impact Ratings 2027 (Version 1.2)
Reporting Period	1 January – 31 December 2025 (EÇBS Annual Waste Declaration) & May 2025 – April 2026 (UI GreenMetric Cycle), with 2022–2026 continuity
Lead Coordinating Units	DEÜ Sustainability Office, Zero Waste and Environmental Management Coordination Office (Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Tolga Elbir), Department of Health, Culture and Sports (SKS Nutrition Services), Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs (İMİ), Department of Construction and Technical Works (Technical Workshops Branch), Social Contribution Coordination Office
Binding Governance & Policy Acts	Environmental Management Policy (in force since Aug 2024); Sustainable Procurement Policy (in force since Jan 2023) & Consolidated Ethical Sourcing Policy (Jul 2026); Nutrition Services Operating Directive (Senate Decision No. 633/05, 10 Mar 2023); Occupational Health and Safety Directive (Senate Decision, Aug 2025, Arts. 2, 26(1)(ğ) & 32); National Zero Waste Regulation (No. 30829), Waste Management Regulation (No. 29314) & Medical Waste Regulation (No. 29959)
Headline Institutional Metrics	15 Campuses certified under the National Zero Waste System (renewed 2025–2026, valid until 2031); 1,247.5 tonnes total waste generated in 2025 (1,369.5 tonnes in May 2025–Apr 2026), with only 16.0 tonnes (1.3%) sent to landfill and 98.7% recycled, composted, recovered, or treated by licensed facilities; 374.9 tonnes (2025) / 410.9 tonnes (2025–2026) recyclable inorganic waste; 8.0–8.3 tonnes composted organic waste; 5.1 tonnes waste cooking oil converted to biodiesel; 4 consecutive annual Sustainability Reports (2022–2026)
Companion Evidence Files	10 Standalone THE 2027 Indicator Dossiers (DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.1 through 12.4.1_rev1-2910.docx) & SDG 12 Master Matrix

1. Executive Summary and Circular Campus Overview (2025–2026)

Dokuz Eylül University (DEÜ) embeds responsible consumption, source-separated waste management, ethical procurement, and circular material recovery across all 15 of its campuses and the DEÜ Research and Application

Hospital. Coordinated jointly by the Zero Waste and Environmental Management Coordination Office (Sıfır Atık ve Çevre Yönetimi Koordinatörlüğü, led by Prof. Dr. Tolga Elbir) and the DEÜ Sustainability Office within an Integrated Management System certified to ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 50001:2018, and ISO 22000:2018, the University operates a legally traceable circular campus ecosystem governed by the Environmental Management Policy, the Sustainable Procurement Policy (in force since January 2023), the Senate-approved Nutrition Services Operating Directive (Decision No. 633/05 of 10 March 2023), and the Senate-approved Occupational Health and Safety Directive (August 2025).

During the 2025–2026 reporting cycle, all 15 DEÜ campuses successfully completed their five-year audit and renewal procedures under the Turkish National Zero Waste Regulation (Official Gazette No. 30829), securing renewed Zero Waste Certificates valid until May 2031. Across the whole university—covering all academic and administrative units, student dormitories, dining halls, laboratories, and the Hospital—total waste generation in calendar year 2025 was 1,247.5 tonnes (and 1,369.5 tonnes in the May 2025–April 2026 GreenMetric reporting window), of which only 16.0 tonnes (14.2 tonnes in 2025–2026) of residual uncomposted waste were sent to municipal landfill, achieving a 98.7% diversion/recycling and licensed treatment rate (Companion Dossiers 12.3.1 and 12.3.2). Concurrently, DEÜ published its fourth consecutive standalone annual Sustainability Report in English on the Green Campus portal (covering 2022–2023, 2023–2024, 2024–2025, and 2025–2026; Indicator 12.4.1).

Key SDG 12 Institutional Performance Highlights (2025 Calendar Year & 2025–2026 Reporting Cycle)

• 15 Zero-Waste Certified Campuses Valid Until 2031: All 15 DEÜ campuses hold official Zero Waste Certificates (Sıfır Atık Belgesi) issued by the Provincial Directorate of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, renewed in 2025–2026 through 36 hospital inspections and 22 campus inspections and valid until 2031.

• Whole-University Waste Tracking & 98.7% Diversion from Landfill (Metrics 12.3.1 & 12.3.2): In calendar year 2025, DEÜ generated 1,247.5 tonnes of total waste (2025–2026: 1,369.5 tonnes): 374.9 tonnes (2025–2026: 410.9 tonnes = 410,915 kg) of recyclable paper/cardboard (254.9 t / 280.6 t), plastics (60.0 t / 66.5 t = 66,493 kg), glass, and metal transferred to a single tendered licensed contractor; 8.0 tonnes (2025–2026: 8.3 tonnes) of kitchen organic waste converted into soil conditioner in DEÜ's on-campus composting unit; 5.1 tonnes of waste vegetable cooking oil converted into biodiesel; 34.4 tonnes (2025–2026: 44.1 tonnes = 44,064 kg) of non-medical hazardous waste and 809.1 tonnes (2025–2026: 886.9 tonnes = 886,914 kg) of sterilized medical waste tracked via MOTAT and EÇBS; and just 16.0 tonnes (1.3%) sent to landfill.

• Complete Operational Policy Suite Extended to Outsourced Services & Suppliers (Metric 12.2 — 12.2.1 to 12.2.8): Binding policies and Senate directives covering ethical sourcing of food and supplies (ISO 22000:2018 Central Kitchen, 2 production kitchens, 17 dining halls, ~9,500 Energy Star computers), hazardous & medical waste disposal (MOTAT/EÇBS), landfill reduction, plastic & disposable item minimisation (DOA Reverse Vending Machines on 3 campuses, mains drinking water dispensers, 'Bring Your Own Cup/Thermos — Save 10 TL' cafeteria discount, Belgenet EBYS & electronic theses saving ~3 million A4 pages [15 tonnes of paper], Technical Workshops furniture refurbishment for village schools, IT e-waste component reuse + MKE recycling), mandatory extension to cafeteria/cleaning/waste subcontractors (OHS Directive Arts. 2 & 32; Nutrition Directive Arts. 12, 17, 20), and extension to equipment, stationery, and construction suppliers.

• Circular Economy Research, Patents & Upcycling Innovation (Metric 12.1): 301 AVESİS academic outputs tagged directly to SDG 12 in 2025–2026 (163 peer-reviewed publications, 16 funded projects, 8 organised events, 32 conference papers, 27 graduate theses, 43 courses), plus a dedicated SDG 12 green-chemistry patent cluster (glass foam from waste laminates, phosphorus and active carbon from biochar), TÜBİTAK 1005 Eco-Industrial Park & Industrial Symbiosis project, COST Action Mic2Food (2025–2029), and the 'Atık Ada' (Waste Island) textile upcycling exhibition.

• Four Consecutive Annual Sustainability Reports (Metric 12.4.1): Standalone English annual Sustainability Reports published in October 2023 (2022–2023), October 2024 (2023–2024), October 2025 (2024–2025, 141 pages), and June 2026 (2025–2026, 163 pages), complemented by the 2025 SDG Progress Report Series across all 17 SDGs.

1.1 THE Sustainability Impact Ratings 2027 — SDG 12 Master Performance Scorecard

THE Code & Weight	Metric / Indicator Title	DEÜ 2024 Baseline	DEÜ 2025 / 2025–2026 Realization	Companion Dossier & Verification Source
12.1 (27.0 %) 12.1.1–12.1.3	Research on responsible consumption and production	WoS / Scopus / SciVal SDG 12 corpus; emerging green-chemistry patent cluster	301 AVESİS SDG 12 records in 2025–2026 (163 publications, 16 funded projects, 8 organised events, 32 conference papers, 27 theses, 43 courses); SDG 12 circular-economy patents (glass foam, biochar phosphorus & active carbon)	AVESİS SDG 12 Portal (https://avesis.deu.edu.tr/surdurulebilirlik); GreenMetric 2025–2026 Sec. 6.9 & 6.20 (p. 145)
12.2.1 (3.3 %)	Ethical sourcing policy (food and supplies)	Sustainable Procurement Policy (Jan 2023); Nutrition Services Directive (10 Mar 2023, No. 633/05)	Consolidated Ethical Sourcing Policy (in force 2025, updated Jul 2026); ISO 22000:2018 Central Kitchen + Medical Kitchen serving 17 dining halls; ~9,500 Energy Star PCs; Law No. 5996 & Law No. 4734 compliance	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.1_Ethical_sourcing_policy_rev1-2910.docx
12.2.3 (3.3 %)	Policy on waste disposal — hazardous materials	Environmental Management Policy (Aug 2024); 669.0 t hazardous & medical waste (2024)	OHS Directive (Aug 2025, Art. 26(1)(ğ)) & Hazardous Waste Policy; 34.4 t (2025) / 44.1 t (2025–2026) hazardous waste + 809.1 t (2025) / 886.9 t (2025–2026) sterilized medical waste; 100% MOTAT & EÇBS tracked; 58 site inspections	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.3_Policy_waste_disposal_hazardous_materials_rev1-2910.docx

THE Code & Weight	Metric / Indicator Title	DEÜ 2024 Baseline	DEÜ 2025 / 2025–2026 Realization	Companion Dossier & Verification Source
12.2.4 (3.3 %)	Policy on waste disposal — landfill measurement & reduction	15 Zero-Waste certified campuses (2021); 181.9 t recycled, 9.2 t composted, 16.9 t landfill (2024)	15 Zero-Waste certificates renewed until 2031; single tendered recycling contractor; 374.9 t (2025) / 410.9 t (2025–2026) recycled; 8.0 t / 8.3 t composted; landfill cut to 16.0 t in 2025 (14.2 t in 2025–2026)	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.4_Policy_waste_disposal_landfill_policy_rev1-2910.docx
12.2.5 (3.3 %)	Policy for minimisation of plastic use	Environmental Management Policy (2024); 89.5 t plastic collected separately (2024)	Plastic Minimisation Policy; mains water dispensers on all dining floors; DOA Reverse Vending Machines on 3 campuses; 10 TL thermos discount; 6th Environment Days 'End Plastic Pollution'; plastic waste cut to 60.0 t (2025) / 66.5 t (2025–2026)	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.5_Policy_for_minimisation_of_plastic_use_rev1-2910.docx
12.2.6 (3.3 %)	Policy for minimisation of disposable items	Belgenet EBYS (since 2020); e-theses (since 2023); DESAY Swap Festival	Ceramic/glass cups in offices; ~3 million A4 pages (~15 t paper) saved via e-theses + SAKAI LMS + 10-poster cap; Technical Workshops furniture refurbishment; IT component reuse (since 2018) + MKE recycling; DESAY Swap Day	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.6_Policy_for_minimisation_of_disposable_items_rev1-2910.docx
12.2.7 (3.4 %)	Disposable policy extensions to outsourced services	Nutrition Directive (633/05 Arts. 12, 17, 20); cafeteria & cleaning operator checks	OHS Directive (Aug 2025, Arts. 2 & 32) binding all subcontractors; mandatory cafeteria source separation, thermos discount & waste vegetable oil biodiesel delivery (5.1 t/yr); single licensed recycling contractor	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.7_Disposable_policy_extensions_to_services_rev1-2910.docx

THE Code & Weight	Metric / Indicator Title	DEÜ 2024 Baseline	DEÜ 2025 / 2025–2026 Realization	Companion Dossier & Verification Source
12.2.8 (3.4 %)	Minimisation policies extended to suppliers	Sustainable Procurement Policy (Jan 2023); Law No. 4734 & 4735 tender specs	Mandatory supplier packaging minimisation, refillable/high-capacity cartridges, Energy Star/A+ equipment specs, and construction/demolition waste separation clauses across all goods and works tenders	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.8_Minimisation_policies_extended_to_suppliers_rev1-2910.docx
12.3.1 (13.5 %)	Waste tracking (Whole university measurement)	Whole-university tracking across 15 campuses & DEÜ Hospital (881.1 t total in 2024)	Whole-university measurement via EÇBS, Zero Waste Information System, MOTAT, contractor weigh-bills & weekly compost logs: 1,247.5 t in 2025 (1,369.5 t in May 2025–Apr 2026) across all streams	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.3.1_Waste_tracking_rev1-2910.docx
12.3.2 (13.5 %)	Proportion of waste recycled	864.2 t recycled/treated vs. 16.9 t landfill out of 881.1 t (98.1% diverted in 2024)	1,231.5 t recycled/composted/recovered/treated vs. 16.0 t sent to landfill out of 1,247.5 t total waste in 2025 = 98.7% diversion rate (388.0 t material & biodiesel recovery vs. 16.0 t landfill = 96.0% non-hazardous recycling rate)	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.3.2_Proportion_of_waste_recycled_rev1-2910.docx
12.4 (22.7 %) 12.4.1	Publication of a sustainability report	Annual reports published Oct 2023 (2022–2023), Oct 2024 (2023–2024) & Oct 2025 (2024–2025)	4th consecutive annual Sustainability Report published June 2026 (2025–2026, 163 pages, 7 sections) + 17-report SDG Progress Report Series 2025	DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.4.1_Publication_of_a_sustainability_report_rev1-2910.docx



Figure 1. Renewed Official Zero Waste Certificates ('Sıfır Atık Belgesi') Issued to Dokuz Eylül University Campuses by the İzmir Provincial Directorate of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change (Indicators 12.2.4 & 12.3.1). Originally obtained in 2021, certificates across all 15 DEÜ campuses were audited and renewed in 2025–2026 with validity extending until May 2031 (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.9, p. 69).

2. Research, Green-Chemistry Patents, and Curriculum on Circular Production

Dokuz Eylül University advances the science and engineering of circular production, industrial symbiosis, upcycled textiles, biodegradable packaging, biochar resource recovery, and sustainable food systems. In the University's Academic Data Management System (AVESİS), researchers tagged 301 academic outputs directly to SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) for the 2025–2026 reporting cycle: 163 peer-reviewed scholarly publications, 16 funded research projects, 8 organised symposia, exhibitions, and workshops, 32 national and international conference presentations, 27 completed MSc and PhD theses, and 43 dedicated SDG 12 courses across Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Textile Engineering, Fashion and Textile Design, Gastronomy and Culinary Arts, and Business Administration (within DEÜ's 2,492 university-wide sustainability courses; GreenMetric Report 2025–2026, Section 6.1 & 6.20, pp. 102–115, 144–146).

AVESİS / GreenMetric SDG 12 Academic Output Category	2025–2026 Verified Count	Representative Research Themes, Patents & Verification Source
Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Publications (SDG 12)	163 publications	Recycled cotton fabrics (Fibers and Polymers, 2025), fashion accessory upcycling (2026), biochar phosphorus/adsorbent recovery, life-cycle assessment (https://avesis.deu.edu.tr/surdurulebilirlik)
Funded Research & Industrial Symbiosis Projects (SDG 12)	16 active projects	TÜBİTAK 1005 Eco-Industrial Park & Industrial Symbiosis Project in OIZ, COST Action Mic2Food on Microbial Foods (2025–2029), TÜBİTAK 125N002 (NUYSC-PRIMA Green & Circular Urban Cultivation)
Organised Symposia, Exhibitions & Forums (SDG 12)	8 organised events	6th Environmental Days Symposium: 'End Plastic Pollution' (4 June 2025), 'Atık Ada' (Waste Island) Textile Exhibition (June 2025), International Zero Waste Forum (Istanbul, Oct 2025), Toward COP31 Panel 1: Zero Waste & Circular Economy

AVESİS / GreenMetric SDG 12 Academic Output Category	2025–2026 Verified Count	Representative Research Themes, Patents & Verification Source
Conference Presentations & Proceedings (SDG 12)	32 participations	Roll-end fabric waste garment collections at 1st National Symposium on Innovations in Textile and Leather Design (İzmir, Dec 2025), microplastics in soil/forests, biodegradable packaging
Completed Graduate Theses (MSc & PhD Tagged to SDG 12)	27 theses	Circular economy modelling, biodegradable waste management, sustainable supply chains, zero-waste water/material recovery
Dedicated SDG 12 Courses / Total Sustainability Courses	43 core SDG 12 courses / 2,492 total sustainability courses	Includes 'Nature and Environmental Awareness', 'Sustainability in Textile and Fashion Design', 'Management of Biodegradable Waste', 'Production of Green Chemicals and Biofuels from Biomass'
Total Direct AVESİS SDG 12 Records (2025–2026)	**301 records**	**Verified via AVESİS Sustainability Filter & SciVal SDG Analytics**

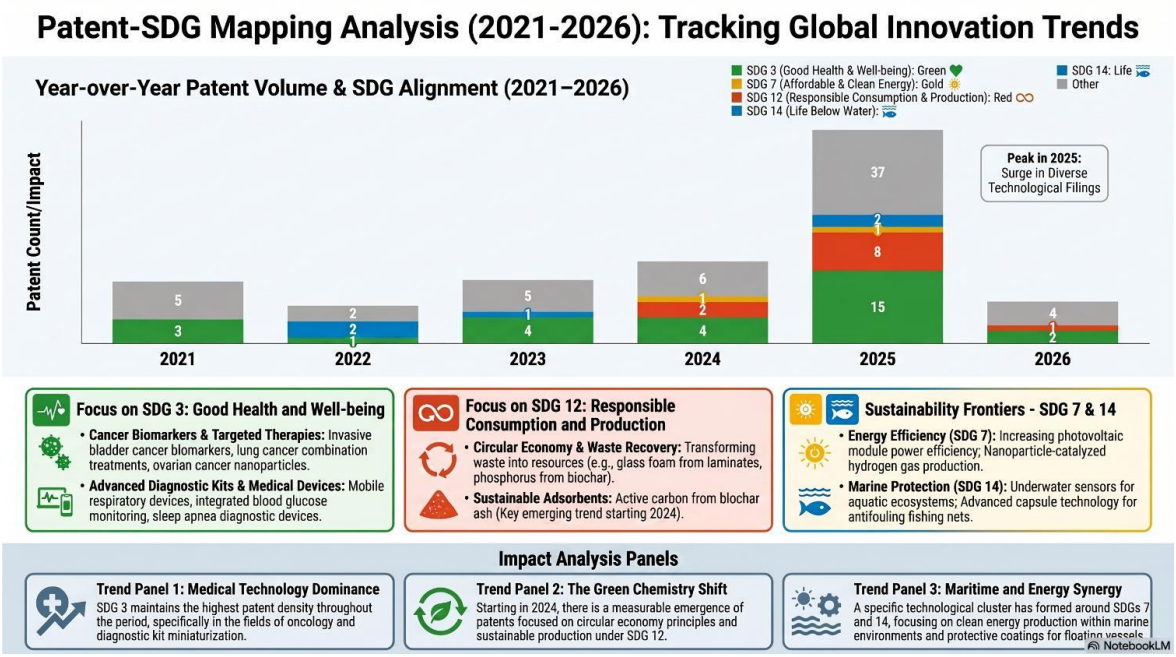

Figure 2. Patent-SDG Mapping Analysis (2021–2026): Focus on SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production). DEÜ's patent portfolio surged to 37 granted/published filings in 2025, featuring a dedicated 'Green Chemistry Shift' under SDG 12 centered on Circular Economy & Waste Recovery (transforming waste laminates into glass foam, recovering phosphorus from biochar) and Sustainable Adsorbents (active carbon derived from biochar ash) (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 6.20, p. 145).

2.1 Flagship Circular Economy Projects, Textile Upcycling Exhibitions, and Scientific Symposia (2025–2026)

- **TÜBİTAK 1005 National New Ideas and Products Project — Circular Economy and Industrial Symbiosis in an Organised Industrial Zone (Eko-Endüstriyel Park Dönüşümü):** Conducted by DEÜ researchers (including Assoc. Prof. İstemi Berk) in collaboration with Kadir Has University, İYTE, and the Adana Organised Industrial Zone (AOSB) Project Support Office under the European Green Deal framework, this applied project maps process-level material, water, steam, and waste-heat flows across industrial plants to establish profitable

industrial symbiosis exchanges and transform the industrial zone into a certified Eco-Industrial Park (Yeşil OSB) (AOSB–DEÜ TÜBİTAK 1005 Industrial Symbiosis Project).

- **COST Action 'Mic2Food' on Microbial Foods (2025–2029) & PRIMA / TÜBİTAK 125N002 'NUYSC-PRIMA' Circular Cultivation (2025):** DEÜ food and environmental scientists participate in the European COST Action Mic2Food (2025–2029) developing resource-efficient, low-footprint microbial protein and food production systems, alongside the TÜBİTAK 125N002 project 'Innovative Urban Cultivation Systems Enforcing Green and Circular Economy (NUYSC-PRIMA)' launched at DEÜ's Science and Technology Application and Research Centre (TEAM) in June 2025 (GreenMetric Report 2025–2026, p. 115).
- **Circular Textile & Fashion Upcycling Research and 'Atık Ada' (Waste Island) Exhibition (2025–2026):** As documented in Companion Dossier 12.2.6, DEÜ's Faculty of Fine Arts and Faculty of Engineering lead regional textile waste valorisation: (1) E. Kurtuldu Dönmez staged the solo textile art exhibition 'Atık Ada' (Waste Island) in June 2025; (2) DEÜ researchers (Ertuğrul, Kayacan & Birol) designed and presented sustainable garment collections upcycled from roll-end fabric waste of apparel manufacturers at the 1st National Symposium on Innovations in Textile and Leather Design in İzmir (December 2025); (3) DEÜ materials and textile engineers published empirical evaluations of fabrics containing recycled cotton in Fibers and Polymers (2025) and upcycled garment accessories in the Journal of Social Sciences (Yıldırım & Enes, 2026); and (4) the Faculty of Fine Arts runs the ongoing 'Zero Waste — Transforming for Sculpture' (Atıktan Sanat / Sıfır Atık Heykel İçin Dönüşüyor) studio workshops (DEÜ Zero Waste Portal).
- **6th DEÜ Environmental Days Symposium: 'End Plastic Pollution' (4 June 2025) & International Zero Waste Forum (October 2025):** On 4 June 2025, the Zero Waste and Environmental Management Coordination Office, DEÜ Sustainability Office, and TEAM hosted the 6th Environmental Days Symposium under the theme 'Plastik Kirliliğine Son — Çevrene İyi Bak!' (End Plastic Pollution), featuring technical papers by Prof. Dr. Görkem Akıncı (microplastics in agricultural soils), Assoc. Prof. Serpil Özmıhçı (biodegradable packaging alternatives to plastics), Env. Eng. Miyase Yumurtacı (university campus plastic waste management), Assoc. Prof. Elif Duyuşen Kokulu (reducing plastic packaging in food service operations), and the DESAY student society. In October 2025, Assoc. Prof. Elif Duyuşen Kokulu also served on the organising committee of the International Zero Waste Forum in Istanbul, followed by DEÜ's 'Toward COP31 Panel 1: Zero Waste and Circular Economy' (DEÜ COP31 Zero Waste & Circular Economy Panel).



Figure 3. Official Poster and Scientific Programme of the Dokuz Eylül University 6th Environmental Days Symposium: 'Plastik Kirliliğine Son — Çevrene İyi Bak!' (End Plastic Pollution), Held on 4 June 2025 at the TEAM Conference Hall (Indicators 12.1.1, 12.2.5 & 12.2.7). Sessions addressed microplastic contamination in agricultural soils and forest ecosystems, biodegradable packaging alternatives, campus plastic reduction, and food-service packaging minimisation (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2024–2025, Section 6.17, p. 127).



Figure 4. Zero Waste Personnel Training and Student Hands-On Upcycling Studios at Dokuz Eylül University (Indicators 12.2.4 & 12.2.6). Left: Institutional Zero Waste awareness training session conducted for academic and administrative staff during the 2025–2026 Zero Waste Certificate renewal cycle. Right: Students creating upcycled functional items from textile and packaging waste in the 'Nature and Environmental Awareness' course (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.1, pp. 58 & 60).



Figure 5. Waste materials transformed into sculpture through DEÜ Faculty of Fine Arts workshop activities. Top: artists working with discarded materials in the outdoor workshop. Bottom: examples of completed works displayed on campus and at an exhibition. Images from the University's official "Dokuz Eylül'de Atıktan Sanat" archive

For more projects on transformation with art please visit: https://transformationwithart.deu.edu.tr/yeni/

3. Operational Consumption & Waste Policies and Supply-Chain Extensions

As fully documented in the eight standalone THE 2027 policy dossiers (`DEU_THE2027_SDG12_12.2.1` through `12.2.8_rev1-2910.docx`), Dokuz Eylül University had a complete, legally binding policy and enforcement architecture in place by 2025 across all operational dimensions required by THE Metric 12.2:

3.1 Ethical Sourcing of Food and Supplies

Governed by the Sustainable Procurement Policy (published on greencampus.deu.edu.tr since January 2023), the Senate-approved Nutrition Services Operating Directive (Decision No. 633/05 of 10 March 2023, Arts. 15–17), Veterinary Services and Food Law No. 5996, and Public Procurement Law No. 4734, DEÜ sources all food and institutional supplies traceably, ethically, and with environmental efficiency (Companion Dossier 12.2.1). The University produces meals in-house across two central production kitchens—the Central Kitchen (certified to ISO 22000:2018 Food Safety Management System) and the Faculty of Medicine Kitchen—serving 17 student and staff dining halls across its campuses. Menus are planned around seasonal, local, and regional agricultural produce (Article 15); every food supplier must hold statutory food business approval and pass microbiological/chemical inspection by the acceptance committee and İzmir provincial reference laboratories. For equipment and supplies, environmental and energy efficiency criteria are mandatory: approximately 9,500 desktop and laptop computers

across DEÜ campuses carry Energy Star certification, and A+ rated appliances and eco-labelled cleaning products are prioritised.

3.2 Hazardous & Medical Waste Disposal and Landfill Reduction Policies

Under the Environmental Management Policy (public since August 2024), Article 26(1)(ğ) of the Senate-approved Occupational Health and Safety Directive (August 2025), the Waste Management Regulation (No. 29314), the Regulation on the Control of Medical Wastes (No. 29959), and the Zero Waste Regulation (No. 30829), DEÜ enforces strict source segregation, code classification, temporary storage (maximum 6 months in dedicated locked 'TEHLİKELİ ATIK' storage buildings on Central Campus, 15Temmuz Health and Art Campus, DEÜ Hospital, and outer campuses), and licensed disposal of all hazardous and medical waste (Companion Dossier 12.2.3). Every transfer of hazardous waste is logged in real time on the Ministry's Mobile Hazardous Waste Tracking System (MOTAT) and declared annually in the Integrated Environmental Information System (EÇBS). Between August 2024 and June 2025, the Zero Waste and Environmental Management Coordination Office conducted 36 on-site inspections in DEÜ Hospital units and 22 inspections across campus laboratories and facilities.

To measure and systematically reduce waste sent to landfill (Companion Dossier 12.2.4), all 15 DEÜ campuses operate certified Zero Waste Management Systems (renewed in 2025–2026 until 2031). Since 2025, all recyclable packaging/inorganic waste across every campus has been collected by a single licensed contractor selected via formal tender, ensuring 100% campus-by-campus monthly weigh-bill traceability, while kitchen organic waste is weighed and processed in the campus aerobic composting unit and residual landfill waste is quantified through periodic dining-hall and kitchen weighing campaigns.

3.3 Minimisation of Plastic Use and Disposable Items

Dokuz Eylül University actively executes more than 10 institutional programmes to eliminate single-use plastics and disposable items across its campuses (Companion Dossiers 12.2.5 and 12.2.6; GreenMetric Report 2025–2026, Section 3.4, pp. 62–65):

- **Mains-Connected Treated Water Dispensers & DOA Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs on 3 Campuses):** Potable water treatment dispensers connected to the municipal water grid are installed on every floor of student dining halls, social facilities, and academic/administrative buildings so students and staff refill reusable bottles free of charge. In partnership with the Turkish Environment Agency (TÜÇA) under the national Deposit Management System (DBYS), automated DOA Reverse Vending Machines (İade Makineleri) operate on three DEÜ campuses to recover beverage containers at source (GreenMetric Report 2025–2026, pp. 62–65).
- **'Bring Your Own Cup or Thermos — Save 10 TL' Campaign & Ban on Disposables in Staff Offices:** Across campus cafeterias and canteens, the Zero Waste Office and cafeteria operators run the 'Bardak Sende, İndirim Bizde, Çevre Güvende! Kendi Bardağını veya Termosunu Getir 10 TL Kazan!' incentive campaign providing a 10 TL discount on tea and coffee served in personal thermoses or reusable cups. In all staff offices and floor kitchens, reusable glass and ceramic cups are standard and single-use plastic or paper cups, plates, and cutlery are not supplied (Companion Dossier 12.2.5 & 12.2.6).
- **Paperless Governance Saving ~3 Million A4 Pages (~15 Tonnes of Paper):** All internal and external official correspondence across 90+ units runs digitally on the Belgenet EBYS platform (since 2020); course materials and assignments are managed online via SAKAI LMS; event poster printing is capped at 10 copies per event by the Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs; double-sided printing is standard for exams; and mandatory electronic submission of undergraduate and graduate theses (since 2023) has saved nearly 3 million A4 pages (~15 tonnes of paper) over three years (GreenMetric Report 2025–2026, pp. 62–64).

- **Technical Workshops Furniture Refurbishment, IT E-Waste Component Reuse & DESAY Swap Festivals:** Under the Technical Workshops Branch Directorate (Teknik Atölyeler Şube Müdürlüğü) of the Department of Construction and Technical Works, zero office, classroom, dormitory, or dining-hall furniture is discarded as scrap: worn benches, desks, beds, and tables are welded, upholstered, and repainted for campus reuse or donated to rural village schools. Similarly, since 2018 the Directorate of Information Technologies harvests working components from decommissioned computers and servers for internal repairs and transfers remaining e-waste to the Machinery and Chemical Industry Corporation (MKE) for certified recycling. Among students, the Sustainable Waste Management Student Community (DESAY) organises the annual Swap Festival / Swap Day (Takas Şenliği) at Central Campus for peer-to-peer reuse of books, clothing, and household items (DEÜ Zero Waste Applications).



Figure 6. Single-Use Plastic Elimination Infrastructure on DEÜ Campuses (Indicator 12.2.5). Left: DOA Deposit Return Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) operated on three DEÜ campuses under the national Deposit Management System (Turkish Environment Agency). Right: Mains-connected treated drinking water dispenser installed on every floor of student dining halls and social facilities to eliminate bottled water waste (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.4, pp. 64–65).



Figure 7. Official Campus Cafeteria Posters for the 'Bring Your Own Cup or Thermos and Save 10 TL' ('Bardak Sende, İndirim Bizde, Çevre Güvende!') Campaign (Indicators 12.2.5, 12.2.6 & 12.2.7). Implemented jointly with outsourced cafeteria operators across DEÜ campuses to replace disposable cups with reusable thermoses (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.4, p. 65).

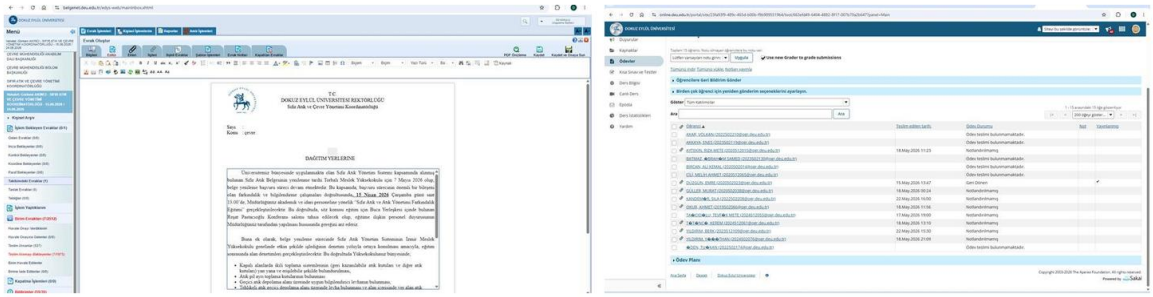

Figure 8. Paperless Administrative and Educational Systems Across 90+ DEÜ Units (Indicator 12.2.6). Left: Belgenet Electronic Document Management System (EBYS) interface showing an official 2026 Zero Waste Certificate renewal and site-audit directive. Right: SAKAI Learning Management System (OnlineDEU) electronic assignment grading interface, which together with electronic thesis submission saved nearly 3 million A4 pages (~15 tonnes of paper) over three years (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.4, pp. 63–64).

3.4 Extension of Policies to Outsourced Services and Supply-Chain Contractors (Indicators

Dokuz Eylül University enforces its waste, plastic, and disposable-item minimisation rules across both on-campus outsourced service operators (Indicator 12.2.7) and external suppliers of goods, equipment, stationery, and construction works (Indicator 12.2.8):

- **Binding Obligations on Cafeteria, Canteen, Cleaning & Waste Service Operators (Indicator 12.2.7):** Under Articles 2 and 32 of the Senate-approved Occupational Health and Safety Directive (August 2025) and Articles 12, 17, and 20 of the Nutrition Services Operating Directive (Senate Decision No. 633/05), all subcontractors and tenant operators on DEÜ premises must comply with the University's Zero Waste Management System. Cafeteria and canteen operators receive periodic zero-waste training, undergo scheduled and unannounced on-site/remote inspections, participate in the 10 TL reusable thermos discount scheme, and are legally

required to store used vegetable frying oil in sealed containers for delivery to licensed biodiesel recovery firms (5.1 tonnes recovered in 2025 and 2025–2026; Companion Dossier 12.2.7) (DEÜ OHS Directive PDF).

- **Supply-Chain Specifications for Equipment, Stationery & Building Contractors (Indicator 12.2.8):** Under the Sustainable Procurement Policy (in force since January 2023), the Environmental Management Policy, and Public Procurement Law No. 4734 technical specifications administered by the Department of Administrative and Financial Affairs and the Department of Construction and Technical Works, suppliers of IT equipment, office stationery, consumables, and building renovation contracts must minimise packaging, supply refillable/high-capacity toner cartridges and durable/repairable equipment (Energy Star / A+ rated), and segregate all construction, demolition, packaging, and hazardous waste at source without release into stormwater or sewer networks (Companion Dossier 12.2.8) (DEÜ Sustainable Procurement Policy).









Figure 9. DEÜ Technical Workshops at Tınaztepe Campus and furniture reuse activities. Top: the workshop complex. Bottom left: furniture frames and components in the workshop. Bottom right: classroom desks and chairs. The University's Zero Waste practices page describes repair and reuse of furniture in campus buildings and open spaces, with some refurbished items donated to village schools. Photographs from the official institutional archive.

Sources: DEÜ Zero Waste practices and technical workshop photographs



Figure 10. Recovered electronic parts and organised storage in DEÜ's Information Technology Department. Photographs reproduced from the institutional report "Bilgi İşlem Biriminde Kamu Kaynaklarının Etkin ve Verimli Kullanımı", p. 5. The report covers the 2018–2022 recovery programme and describes testing and reusing serviceable components before transferring the remaining electronic scrap to MKE. The images show component recovery and storage.



Figure 11. Official poster announcing the Central Campus Swap Festival for 29 May 2025 at DEÜ's Central Campus, in the parking area of the Science and Technology Research and Application Centre. The Zero Waste and Environmental Management Coordinatorship organised the initiative in cooperation with the Dokuz Eylül Sustainable Waste Management Student Society (DESAY), inviting students and staff to exchange unused belongings. Source: DEÜ Social Contribution Coordinatorship announcement dated 24 May 2025.

Sources: Official announcement and event poster

4. Whole-University Waste Measurement and 98.7% Landfill Diversion Performance

4.1 Multi-Stream Measurement Methodology Across All 15 Campuses and DEÜ Hospital

As documented in Companion Dossiers 12.3.1 and 12.3.2, Dokuz Eylül University tracks 100% of waste generated, recycled, composted, recovered for energy, treated, and sent to landfill across the entire institution (all 15 campuses plus the DEÜ Research and Application Hospital). Data are compiled continuously through four auditable channels: (1) monthly campus-by-campus weigh-bills from the single licensed recycling contractor selected by tender; (2) weekly batch logs of the campus aerobic composting unit together with periodic 10-day dining-hall food-waste weighing campaigns (such as the DESAY 'What's on My Plate?' audit across the four main kitchens);

(3) licensed biodiesel collector delivery receipts for waste vegetable cooking oil; and (4) real-time MOTAT transport manifests and annual EÇBS declarations for non-medical hazardous waste and sterilized medical waste.

Waste Stream (Whole University Scope: 15 Campuses + DEÜ Hospital)	THE 2027 Classification	2024 Calendar Year (Jan–Dec 2024, tonnes)	2025 Calendar Year (EÇBS Declaration, tonnes)	2025–2026 GreenMetric Cycle (May 2025–Apr 2026, tonnes)	Treatment / Circular Recovery Pathway & Verification
Recyclable Inorganic Waste Collected & Sent to Recycling (Total)	Recycled	181.9 t	374.9 t	410.9 t (410,915 kg)	100% transferred to single tendered licensed contractor; sorted by fraction and recycled (>85% recovery)
• of which Paper and Cardboard	Recycled	58.8 t	254.9 t	280.6 t (280,551 kg)	Includes Sep 2025 bulk recycling of expired-retention warehouse archives
• of which Plastic Packaging & Containers	Recycled	89.5 t	60.0 t	66.5 t (66,493 kg)	25.7%–32.9% reduction in plastic waste generation due to water dispensers, RVMs & reusable cup policy
• of which Glass, Metal & Other Recyclables	Recycled	33.6 t	60.0 t	63.8 t (63,871 kg)	Sorted at licensed material recovery facility; IT e-waste sent to MKE after component harvesting
Organic Kitchen Waste Composted On Campus	Recycled (Composted)	9.2 t (of 26.1 t generated)	8.0 t (of 24.0 t generated)	8.3 t (of 22.5 t generated = 36.9%)	Two-stage sorted kitchen prep waste processed in DEÜ aerobic composting machine (8–10 wks) for campus landscaping
Waste Vegetable Cooking Oil Converted to Biodiesel	Recycled / Energy Recovery	4.1 t	5.1 t	5.1 t (≈54,100 kWh eq.)	Collected in sealed dining-hall tanks under Nutrition Directive Art. 20; delivered to licensed biodiesel producer
Hazardous Waste (Non-Medical: Lab Chemicals, Batteries, Lamps, Toner, Oils)	Treated by Licensed Facilities (MOTAT)	6.0 t	34.4 t	44.1 t (44,064 kg)	Segregated by waste code in campus temporary storage (<6 mos); 100% treated/recovered via MOTAT & EÇBS

Waste Stream (Whole University Scope: 15 Campuses + DEÜ Hospital)	THE 2027 Classification	2024 Calendar Year (Jan–Dec 2024, tonnes)	2025 Calendar Year (EÇBS Declaration, tonnes)	2025–2026 GreenMetric Cycle (May 2025–Apr 2026, tonnes)	Treatment / Circular Recovery Pathway & Verification
Medical Waste (Predominantly DEÜ Research & Application Hospital)	Sterilised & Disposed by Licensed Firms	663.0 t	809.1 t	886.9 t (886,914 kg)	100% autoclaved/sterilised and transferred to licensed medical waste facilities under Regulation No. 29959
Residual Mixed / Uncomposted Organic Waste Sent to Landfill	Landfill	16.9 t	16.0 t	14.2 t	Reduced by smart-card meal pre-reservation, volunteer animal-feed redistribution & source separation
Total University Waste Generated (All Streams)	**Total Generated**	**881.1 tonnes**	**1,247.5 tonnes**	**1,369.5 tonnes**	**Whole-university EÇBS & Zero Waste Information System inventory**
Proportion Diverted from Landfill / Recycled & Treated (12.3.2)	**THE 12.3.2 Headline Rate**	**98.1% (864.2 t / 881.1 t)**	**98.7% (1,231.5 t / 1,247.5 t)**	**99.0% (1,355.3 t / 1,369.5 t)**	**Non-hazardous material recycling + composting + biodiesel rate vs. landfill: 96.0% in 2025 (388.0 t / 404.0 t)**

Monthly Trajectory of Recyclable Inorganic Waste Collected Across DEÜ Campuses (May 2025 – April 2026: 410,915 kg)

Following the transition to a single tendered licensed recycling contractor across all 15 campuses, monthly weigh-bill records documented 410,915 kg (410.915 tonnes) of source-separated inorganic recyclables between May 2025 and April 2026: May 2025 (40,010 kg), June 2025 (41,390 kg), July 2025 (24,220 kg), August 2025 (16,715 kg), September 2025 (78,910 kg — reflecting the scheduled bulk recycling of expired-retention warehouse archives), October 2025 (36,300 kg), November 2025 (29,120 kg), December 2025 (28,130 kg), January 2026 (16,120 kg), February 2026 (20,190 kg), March 2026 (33,360 kg), and April 2026 (46,450 kg; GreenMetric Report 2025–2026, Section 3.10, p. 70).



Figure 12. Source-Separated Recyclable Waste Collection Across DEÜ Campuses (Indicators 12.2.4 & 12.3.1). Left: Indoor recyclable collection station in an academic unit. Right: Licensed packaging-waste contractor vehicles (Babacanlar) collecting source-separated recyclables in front of the Faculty of Engineering at Central Campus (Source: DEÜ SDG 12 Draft Report & Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.1, p. 59).



Figure 13. Material Recovery and Fraction Sorting Facility of DEÜ's Contracted Recycling Company (Indicators 12.3.1 & 12.3.2). All 410,915 kg (410.9 tonnes in 2025–2026; 374.9 tonnes in calendar year 2025) of inorganic waste collected from DEÜ campuses are sorted into paper/cardboard, plastics, glass, and metal fractions and re-entered into industrial recycling loops (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.12, p. 72).



Figure 14. Food Waste Quantification and On-Campus Aerobic Composting Operations (Indicators 12.2.4, 12.3.1 & 12.3.2). Left: Weighing and sorting dining-hall food waste during the DESAY 'What's on My Plate?' audit across four campus kitchens. Right: DEÜ's covered aerobic composting unit processing 8.0–8.3 tonnes of kitchen vegetable/fruit preparation waste annually into stabilized compost within 8–10 weeks (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Sections 3.6–3.7, pp. 66–67).



Figure 15. Screening of Stabilized Compost Produced in DEÜ's Campus Composting Unit for Use as a Natural Soil Conditioner in Campus Landscaping and Agricultural Research (Indicator 12.3.2) (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.8, p. 68).



Figure 16. Dedicated Temporary Hazardous Waste Storage Facilities ('TEHLİKELİ ATIK') Across DEÜ Campuses (Indicators 12.2.3 & 12.3.1). Source-segregated chemical, laboratory, battery, lamp, toner, and oil wastes (34.4 tonnes in 2025; 44.1 tonnes in 2025–2026) are stored by waste code in secure, bunded storage buildings for less than six months prior to MOTAT-tracked transfer to licensed treatment facilities (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.13, p. 74).

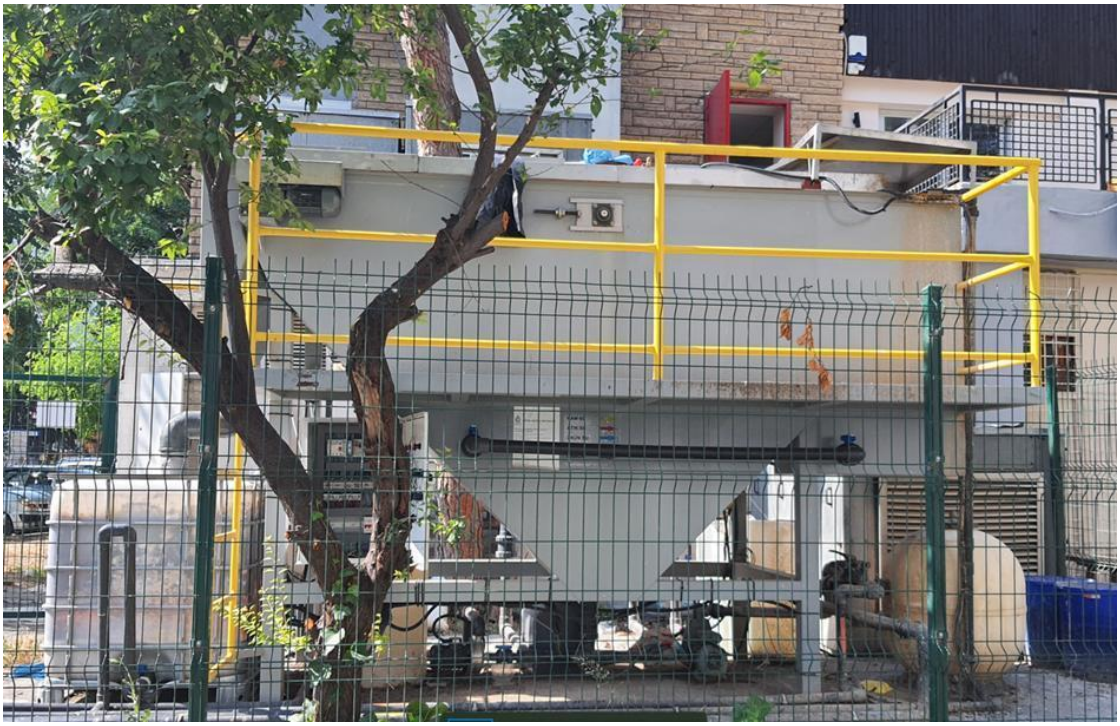

Figure 17. Closed Grit Chamber and Grease-Interceptor Pre-Treatment Facility at 15 Temmuz Health and Art Campus (GreenMetric Indicator 3.17). Dining-hall and campus wastewater undergoes pre-treatment and oil/grease interception to meet İZSU discharge standards before entering the municipal sewer network for advanced wastewater treatment (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2025–2026, Section 3.17, p. 78).

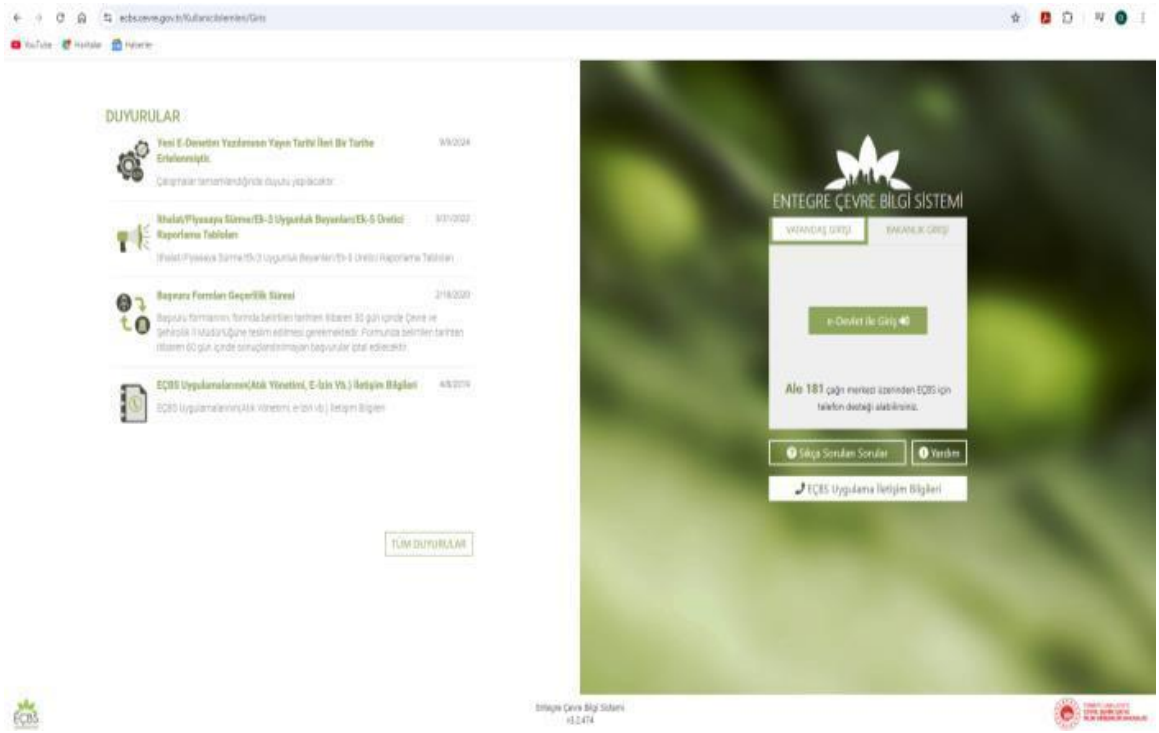

Figure 18. Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change Integrated Environmental Information System (EÇBS) Portal Used by DEÜ (Indicators 12.2.3, 12.3.1 & 3.18). All annual waste declarations, Zero Waste Information System campus logs, environmental permits, and MOTAT hazardous/medical waste manifests are submitted and audited digitally through EÇBS (Source: DEÜ Sustainability Report 2024–2025, Section 3.18, p. 77).

5. Annual Sustainability Reporting Series (2022–2026) and Community Environmental Outreach (Metric 12.4)

As documented in Companion Dossier 12.4.1, Dokuz Eylül University publishes a comprehensive, standalone annual Sustainability Report in English every year on its public Green Campus portal (`https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/`). Following an initial 2021–2022 Sustainability Booklet, four consecutive full annual Sustainability Reports have been published: (1) GreenMetric Sustainability Report 2022–2023 (published October 2023); (2) GreenMetric Sustainability Report 2023–2024 (published October 2024); (3) Sustainability Report 2024–2025 (published October 2025, 141 pages across 6 sections); and (4) Sustainability Report 2025–2026 (published June 2026, 163 pages across 7 sections, adding a dedicated section on Governance and Digitalisation). Prepared by the DEÜ Sustainability Office in cooperation with the Zero Waste and Environmental Management Coordination Office and the Institutional Data Management Coordination Office, these reports are complemented by the 17-volume DEÜ SDG Progress Report Series 2025.

In the community outreach sphere, the Social Contribution Coordination Office recorded 125 public activities by 33 academic and administrative units under the 'Environment and Sustainability' domain in the 2025 Social Contribution Activity Report (within ~3,900 total social contribution activities across 8 domains), all tracked and evaluated via standard output forms in the KALBİS quality management system.

Annual Report Title (Indicator 12.4.1)	Reporting Period Covered	Publication Date & Length	Key SDG 12 & Institutional Highlights Reported	Public Verification URL
Sustainability Booklet 2021–2022 (Precursor)	2021–2022 Academic Year	2022	Initial 15-campus Zero Waste Certificate attainment & composting launch	https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/tr/
GreenMetric Sustainability Report 2022–2023	2022–2023 Cycle	October 2023 (English)	Baseline 6-section environmental, energy, waste, water, transit & education inventory	https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/SustainabilityReport2022-2023.pdf
GreenMetric Sustainability Report 2023–2024	2023–2024 Cycle	October 2024 (English)	194.1 t paper/plastic segregation (2023); dining-hall food waste pilot weighing	https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/SustainabilityReport-2023-2024.pdf
Sustainability Report 2024–2025	Jan–Dec 2024 (Waste); Sep 2024–Aug 2025 (Energy)	October 2025 (141 pages, English)	56.3% renewable energy ratio; 181.9 t recyclables; 9.2 t compost; 669 t toxic/medical waste; DESAY 'What's on My Plate?' study	https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/DEUSR24-25.pdf
Sustainability Report 2025–2026	May 2025–Apr 2026 (with 2024–2025 comparison)	June 2026 (163 pages, 7 sections, English)	15 renewed Zero Waste Certificates (to 2031); 410.9 t recyclables; 8.3 t compost; 44.1 t hazardous + 886.9 t medical waste; 2,492 sustainability courses & 17-SDG heatmaps	https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/DEU-SR-26.pdf
DEÜ SDG Progress Report Series 2025 (SDG 1–17)	Calendar Year 2025 & 2025–2026 Continuity	October–November 2026 (17 Reports + Indicator Dossiers)	Dedicated progress reports and THE 2027 evidence portfolios for each of the 17 UN SDGs	https://greencampus.deu.edu.tr/

6. UI GreenMetric – SDG 12 Crosswalk, 2026–2030 Targets, and References

UI GreenMetric Code	GreenMetric Indicator Title	SDG 12 Relation	DEÜ 2025 / 2025–2026 Verified Performance
3.1	3R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) Program for University Waste	Primary	>75% implementation across all 15 Zero-Waste certified campuses (valid until 2031); 58 inspections; thermos discount; DESAY Swap Day
3.2 & 3.3	Total Volume of Paper and Plastic Produced (This Year & Last Year)	Primary	2025–2026: 280.551 t paper/cardboard + 66.493 t plastic (2025 calendar year: 254.9 t paper + 60.0 t plastic; 2024: 58.8 t paper + 89.5 t plastic)
3.4	Program to Reduce the Use of Paper and Plastic on Campus	Primary	>10 active programmes: Belgenet EBYS, SAKAI LMS, e-theses (~3M pages / 15 t paper saved), 10-poster cap, water dispensers, 3 DOA RVMs, 10 TL thermos discount, ceramic office cups
3.5–3.8	Organic Waste Produced, Treated & Treatment Method	Primary	24.0 t generated / 8.0 t composted in 2025; 22.5 t generated / 8.3 t composted (36.9%) in 2025–2026 (2024: 26.1 t / 9.2 t); smart-card meal reservation & animal-feed redistribution
3.9–3.12	Inorganic Waste Produced, Treated & Treatment Method	Primary	374.9 t (2025) / 410.915 t (2025–2026) collected via single tendered licensed contractor (2024: 181.92 t); 100% sorted by fraction; IT component reuse + MKE e-waste recycling
3.13–3.16	Toxic / Hazardous & Medical Waste Produced and Treated	Primary	2025: 34.4 t hazardous + 809.1 t medical = 843.5 t; 2025–2026: 44.064 t hazardous + 886.914 t medical = 931.0 t (2024: 6.0 t + 663.0 t = 669.0 t); 100% treated via MOTAT & EÇBS
3.17	Sewage Disposal & Pre-Treatment	Secondary	Cafeteria grease interceptors & closed grit chamber pre-treatment systems at Central Campus & 15 Temmuz campuses meeting İZSU standards
3.18 & 5.18	Impact of Waste Management (EÇBS) & Transport (VTS) on SDGs	Primary	EÇBS digital waste governance supporting 10 SDGs; Arvento GPS VTS fleet optimization reducing fuel and maintenance waste
2.1, 2.13, 4.3, 4.4	Energy-Efficient Appliances, Biodiesel & Water Recycling	Secondary	>75% Energy Star (~9,500 PCs) & LED fixtures; 5.1 t waste cooking oil converted to biodiesel; 4,700 t/yr swimming pool water reused for irrigation
6.1, 6.9, 6.12, 7.6	Sustainability Courses, Publications, Student Activities & Reports	Secondary / Supporting	301 AVESİS SDG 12 outputs (163 papers, 43 courses); 125 Environment & Sustainability social contribution activities by 33 units; 4 consecutive annual Sustainability Reports

6.1 Consolidated References and Official Verification Links

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