



2024
Sustainability Report
SDG16

16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



ABDULLAH GÜL
UNIVERSITY



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

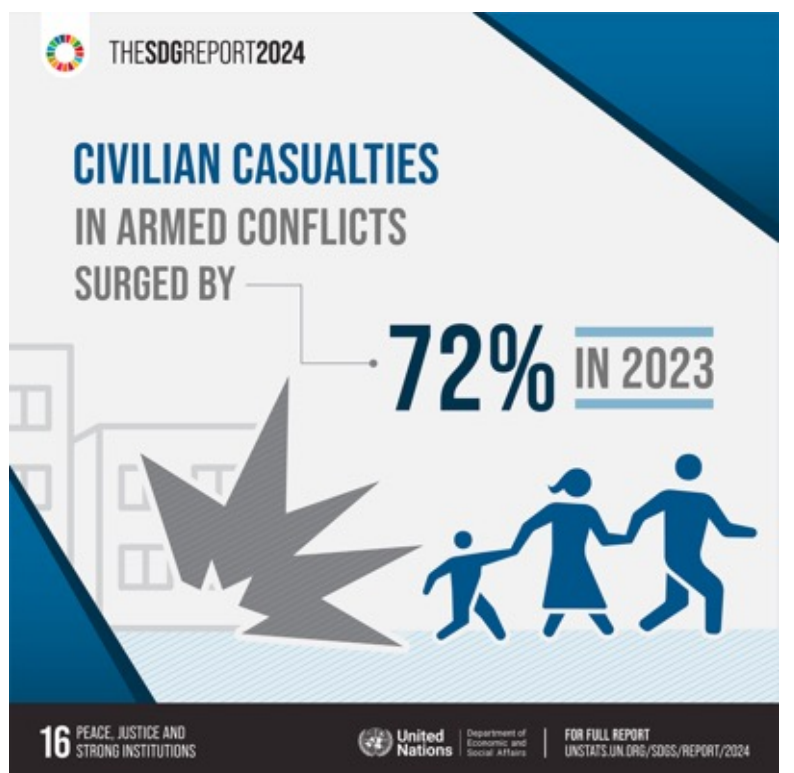
16 PEACE, JUSTICE
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■ SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG 16 aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. However, rising conflicts and violent organized crime continue to cause immense human suffering and hinder sustainable development. By May 2024, the number of forcibly displaced people reached an unprecedented 120 million, while civilian casualties in armed conflicts surged by 72 per cent in 2023 — the steepest rise since 2015. Corruption continues to divert essential resources from development, with one in five people reporting having paid or being asked to pay a bribe to a public official in the past year. One third of prisoners remain unsentenced, highlighting ongoing challenges to achieving fair judicial processes and humane detention conditions. Governments worldwide also struggle to restore budget reliability to pre-pandemic levels amid global instability, inflation and rising social demands.

All SDGs depend on lasting peace and the prevention of violent conflict. Urgent and coordinated action is needed to combat corruption and organized crime, strengthen the rule of law and access to justice, build effective and inclusive institutions, and safeguard fundamental freedoms and human rights for all.



¹ <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal16>

Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

Civilian deaths in armed conflicts surged by 72 per cent in 2023 — the sharpest increase since 2015. Seven out of ten civilian deaths occurred in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory. Civilian casualties exceeded 33,400, nearing the 2015 peak. Women and children were increasingly affected: by 2023, four in ten victims were women and three in ten were children, compared to two and one, respectively, in 2022.

The global homicide rate has seen only slow progress in reduction. After declining from 5.9 victims per 100,000 in 2015 to 5.5 in 2020, it spiked to 5.8 in 2021, then slightly decreased to 5.6 in 2022 — a modest 5 per cent decline since 2015. If current trends persist, the global rate may reach only 5.1 per 100,000 by 2030. Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa remain the regions with the highest rates, driven by organized crime, inequality and socioeconomic instability. In 2022, 88,000 women and 360,000 men were homicide victims worldwide.

- **Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children**

Although global monitoring continues, many children remain exposed to violence, exploitation and conflict-related harm. Civilian tolls that disproportionately include children, combined with slow progress in addressing violent discipline and trafficking, highlight ongoing vulnerabilities. Urgent protection frameworks are needed to ensure children's rights and safety in both domestic and conflict settings.

- **Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all**

The global prison population rose from 11.1 million in 2015 to 11.5 million in 2022, though at a slower pace than global population growth. However, nearly one third — 3.5 million people — remain unsentenced, a proportion unchanged since 2015. Central and Southern Asia saw the most alarming increase in pretrial detention, where almost 60 per cent of prisoners were unsentenced.

Prison overcrowding remains a serious concern: half of countries with data operate prisons beyond 100 per cent capacity, and one in five exceeds 150 per cent. Overcrowding is most severe in Latin America and the Caribbean and in sub-Saharan Africa, where it affects more than three quarters of countries, raising severe health and human rights concerns.

- **Target 16.4: Reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen recovery of stolen assets and combat organized crime**

Organized criminal activity continues to destabilize societies, particularly in regions affected by drug trafficking, illegal arms trade and corruption. The spread of transnational networks, combined with limited institutional capacity for tracing and investigating illicit flows, underscores the urgent need for stronger global cooperation and law enforcement mechanisms.

- **Target 16.5: Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms**

Corruption remains pervasive. About 19 per cent of people worldwide — roughly one in five — reported being asked to pay or having paid a bribe to a public official within the past 12 months, based on data from 138 countries between 2015 and 2022. Regional disparities are stark: in Oceania and sub-Saharan Africa, nearly one third of citizens reported bribery, compared with 10 per cent in Europe and Northern America. The prevalence also varies by income level, from 9 per cent in high-income countries to 32 per cent in low-income countries. Men are more frequently involved in bribery, reflecting higher engagement with male-dominated sectors such as police or customs.

- **Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels**

Governments continue to struggle with budget credibility amid overlapping crises. Although some improvement was seen in 2021–2022, deviations between approved and actual expenditures remain higher than pre-COVID-19 levels. Global instability, inflation and volatile resource prices have forced governments to increase spending beyond original budgets. Northern Africa and Western Asia, Central and Southern Asia, and Europe and Northern America recorded the largest deviations, underscoring the need for resilient and transparent fiscal management systems.

- **Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making**

Representation gaps persist worldwide. Young people under 45 remain underrepresented in parliaments in most regions outside Europe, while women and marginalized groups continue to face barriers to participation. Strengthening inclusive governance remains critical to achieving peaceful and just societies.

- **Target 16.9: Provide legal identity for all, including birth registration**

Legal identity remains a foundation for access to rights and justice. Despite progress, one in four children under age five still lacks official birth registration, with the situation particularly acute in sub-Saharan Africa. Expanding universal civil registration systems is essential for equitable service delivery and protection of fundamental rights.

• **Target 16.10: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms**

In 2023, 320 human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists were killed across 40 countries, down from 448 in 2022. However, killings in conflict zones increased, with 40 journalists and media workers losing their lives — reversing a five-year downward trend. Latin America and the Caribbean remained the deadliest region, accounting for 70 per cent of all killings. Enforced disappearances nearly doubled for the second consecutive year, with at least 54 cases in 14 countries.

Despite Member States' commitment to protect freedom of expression, killings, harassment and legal persecution persist in at least 97 countries. Stronger protection frameworks and accountability mechanisms are urgently needed to safeguard human rights defenders and ensure access to information and justice.²

AGU'S POLICIES AND PRACTICES

At AGU, governance is guided by principles of participation, transparency, and accountability, ensuring that all stakeholders have a voice in institutional decision-making. In this context, AGU ensures diverse and **elected** representation on its highest governing bodies, including the **University Board and Senate**. In line with *Article 14 of the Higher Education Law No. 2547*, Senate members are elected and serve for a term of three years. **The President of the Student Council**, who **students elect**, is part of the University Senate and is invited to Senate meetings on topics relevant to the student body. The Student Council itself comprises both undergraduate and graduate students.

(see “University student council regulations” *Article 3. d.*)



AGÜ, yeni nesil üniversite olması için gereken şartları sağlamak üzere, servislerin kalitesini ve zenginliğini hedefleyen özgün bir yönetim modeliyle hizmet vermektedir.

Rektör: Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz

Kaliteden ve İdari Mali İşlerden Sorumlu Rektör Yardımcısı: Prof. Dr. İrfan Alan

Paydaşlarla İlişkilerden Sorumlu Rektör Yardımcısı: Prof. Dr. Erk Hachasanoglu

Araştırmadan Sorumlu Rektör Yardımcısı: Prof. Dr. Evren Mutlugün

Eğitim Süreçlerinden Sorumlu Rektör Danışmanı: Prof. Dr. Burak Asiliskender

Öğrencilerle İlişkilerden Sorumlu Rektör Danışmanı: Doç. Dr. I. Alper Işoğlu

Genel Sekreter: Osman Yıldırım

T.C.

ABDULLAH GÜL ÜNİVERSİTESİ

YÖNETİM KURULU ÜYELERİ

Prof. Dr. Cengiz YILMAZ, Rektör

Prof. Dr. Evren MUTLUGÜN, Mühendislik Fakültesi Dekanı (Uhde)

Prof. Dr. Burak ASILISKENDER, Mimarlık Fakültesi Dekanı

Prof. Dr. Engin ARIK, İnsan ve Toplum Bilimleri Fakültesi Dekan V.

Prof. Dr. Eyüp DOĞAN, Yönetim Bilimleri Fakültesi Dekan V.

Prof. Dr. Sevil DİNÇER İŞOĞLU, Yaşam ve Doğa Bilimleri Fakültesi Dekan V.

Prof. Dr. İrfan ALAN, Üye

Prof. Dr. Erk HACIHASANOĞLU, Üye

Prof. Dr. Hakan USTA, Üye

University Board

Additionally, **the University's General Secretary, a non-academic representative**, serves on the University Board, representing non-faculty employees. The remaining members of the University Board are **elected faculty members**, ensuring broad representation across different roles within the university.

Click [here](#) to see the University Board

Click [here](#) to see the members of the Senate

AGU Student Union and Its Duties

AGU acknowledges and supports the establishment of student unions. **Student Council elections** are conducted every November in a democratic manner under the guidance of the Dean of Students. Each department selects its own representative, and these representatives elect faculty representatives. The **Chairperson of the Student Council** is chosen from among the faculty representatives. As a public institution, AGU fully complies with the Turkish Constitution and national regulations, including **Article 51**, which guarantees the right to form and join unions without prior authorization. Consequently, AGU upholds students' rights to freely establish their own unions.

Governance Inputs

In accordance with **Article 17** of the AGU Student Council Directive, the Student Council actively **participates in governance** by conveying student concerns and suggestions to relevant administrative bodies, and by contributing to university decision-making. The Council also develops social awareness projects and promotes student involvement in national and international education and youth programs. The student council executive board and its duties are as follows:

- a) To **ensure the implementation of the decisions** taken by the general assembly of the student council,
- b) To **determine the problems** of Abdullah Gül University associate degree and undergraduate students and to **convey their opinions** and thoughts to the relevant administrative bodies of AGU
- c) To **develop social awareness projects** in cooperation with non-governmental organizations deemed appropriate by the Abdullah Gül University Student Activities Coordinatorship (Dean of Students) and to encourage student participation in these projects within the University,
- d) To conduct studies for student participation in national and international **"Education and Youth Programs"**
- e) To **develop relations with national and international student unions and organizations**,
- f) To **form working groups** in the fields of food, transportation, housing, cafeteria, clubs, scholarships, education, arts, culture, and sports and to ensure their functioning,

- g) **To inform the members of the general assembly** of the student council about their work,
- h) **To make division of labor and distribution of duties among its members** regarding its activities
- 1) To **announce and monitor the decisions** of the national student council at the University,
- i) To prepare reports of the work carried out and create an archive.

AGU has established a comprehensive **Stakeholder Engagement Policy** (see below) and developed procedures to **identify local stakeholders**. AGU's Strategic Plan 2023-2027 guidelines have emphasized that, during the stakeholder identification phase, internal stakeholders—such as the university's academic and administrative staff, students, and university management—were considered. External stakeholders included local, national, and international institutions, NGOs, businesses, public authorities, alumni, and the local community. Individuals and institutions directly or indirectly related to the university were categorized, and the list of internal and external stakeholders is regularly updated accordingly. As part of its Strategic Plan 2023-2027, AGU systematically identifies internal and external stakeholders in alignment with its **Quality Assurance System**. This process involves an annual review and analysis to ensure that stakeholder identification remains current, with updates made as needed. Therefore, AGU conducts yearly satisfaction surveys to gather insights and feedback, targeting external stakeholders and internal groups such as academic staff, administrative staff, and students. Additionally, stakeholder participation in AGU's processes is assessed through the Institutional Internal Evaluation Report, which is prepared annually. AGU's organizational structure, including the **Vice Rectorate responsible for Stakeholder Relations**, plays a key role in managing and fostering these stakeholder interactions. The relevant links can be found below.

Click [here](#) to reach AGU's Strategic Plan 2023-2027.

Click [here](#) to access the Organization Chart of the Vice Rectorate Responsible for Stakeholder Relations.

Click [here](#) to reach AGU's Stakeholder Engagement Policy

Click [here](#) to see the AGU's Institutional Internal Evaluation Report 2024.

Click [here](#) to see the External Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey 2024.

Click [here](#) to see the Internal (Academic Staff) Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey 2024.

Click [here](#) to see the Internal (Administrative Staff) Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey 2024.

Click [here](#) to see the Internal (Student) Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey 2024

AGU ensures that local stakeholders, including residents, local government, and civil society representatives, are meaningfully included in decision-making processes through various commissions. Notably, **AGU's Quality Commission** comprises representatives from both the **Kayseri Chamber of Commerce** and the **Kayseri Chamber of Industry**, facilitating collaboration and input from the local business community. This inclusive approach enhances the university's connection with the community and allows for diverse perspectives in shaping its policies and initiatives. For more information, please visit the [commission website](#) (page 2).

20	KALİTE KOMİSYONU	Prof. Dr. Cengiz YILMAZ	Strateji Geliştirme D. Bşk.lığı	Prof. Dr. Evren MUTLUGÜN
				Prof. Dr. Irfan ALAN
				Prof. Dr. Erk HACIHASANOĞLU
				Prof. Dr. Alaattin SEN
				Prof. Dr. Hakan USTA
				Genel Sekreter Osman YILDIRIM
				Doç. Dr. Ramazan ÜNLÜ
				Prof. Dr. Mehmet ŞAHİN
				Prof. Dr. Burak ASILISKENDER
				Dr. Öğr. Üyesi Sinan AKYÜZ
				Strateji Geliştirme D. Bşk. Belgin AKYÜZ
				Üniversite Öğrenci Konseyi Başkanı (Ekrem CALISKAN)
				Üniversite Öğrenci Temsilcisi
				Kayseri Sanayi Odası Temsilcisi
Kayseri Ticaret Odası Temsilcisi				

The **management board of Abdullah Gül University's Technology Development Zone** includes representatives from the **Kayseri Chamber of Commerce** and the **Kayseri Chamber of Industry**. This representation ensures that the interests and insights of local businesses are integrated into the region's technological advancements and innovations. For more information, click [here](#).

AGU stakeholders have an active role in our university's decisions. In 2023, during the Turkish **Higher Education Quality Council (YÖKAK in Turkish) External Evaluation Program** that AGU experienced, the evaluators and external stakeholders of AGU came together at our University and shared many feedbacks about AGU. Please see Turkish Higher Education Quality Council's [Institutional Accreditation Report](#) prepared for AGU which is **valid for three years**.

Abdullah Gül University actively engages local stakeholders, including residents, local government, and civil society representatives, through its membership in the **Anatolian Universities Union**. This initiative involves collaboration with **18 universities across Türkiye**, providing a structured mechanism for **meaningful participation in university decision-making processes**. Such involvement ensures diverse perspectives and strengthens community ties. For more information, click [here](#).

Furthermore, AGU ensures that local stakeholders, including residents, have meaningful mechanisms for participating in university decision-making. Local citizens can apply to the **Presidential Communication Center (CIMER)** to submit their suggestions and complaints, which are then forwarded to AGU. This process allows residents to **effectively communicate their concerns**, ensuring that their voices are heard and considered in **shaping university policies** and initiatives. For more information, click [here](#).

Another example is AGU and the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of National Education, and NGOs were brought together under the same roof and carried out projects under the leadership of AGU. It has been ensured that the projects to be carried out by the institutions are selected as being in line with the aim of achieving the SDGs, having social content, and supporting regional development. In this regard, diversity was ensured by choosing a different concept (such as environment, health, etc.) in each project. Projects carried out with the developed local leadership system were so successful that they paved the way to international projects where AGU helped local actors reach international actors like the United Nations. In this context, 20 projects were carried out under the leadership of AGU, 24 stakeholder institutions were brought together, and 3,877 people benefited from these projects.

Advisory Boards of Departments

All departments of AGU form advisory boards to consider external stakeholders' opinions and suggestions and make improvements. These departments come together with advisory boards and include them in decision-making" (p.15). According to the nature of the stakeholder, the report identifies the different AGU units designated to contact them and through which media they will interact.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Management Sciences.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Architecture.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Engineering.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Department of Electric and Electrical Engineering.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Department of Industrial Engineering.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board of the Department of Computer Engineering.

AGU has clearly articulated its principles and commitments regarding organized crime, corruption, and bribery. As part of its unwavering dedication to ethical conduct, AGU adheres strictly to the Republic of Türkiye's anti-bribery and anti-corruption policies, ensuring that all forms of corruption, bribery, or improper conduct are expressly prohibited. The university has implemented robust measures to prevent any involvement in such activities, both within Türkiye and internationally, by its employees, or by any individuals or organizations acting on behalf of AGU. Importantly, this commitment has proven effective, as **in 2024, no cases of corruption or bribery were reported at AGU**. This reflects the university's ongoing dedication to fostering a transparent and accountable institutional culture.

Click [here](#) to see Corruption and Bribery Policy.

Click [here](#) to see AGU Permanent Worker Disciplinary Procedures and Principles.

Click [here](#) to see Disciplinary Investigation Guide.

- *AGU as Global Compact Signatory*

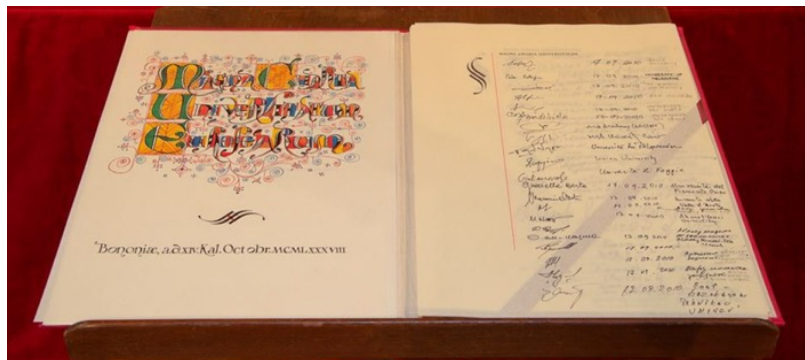


United Nations
Global Compact

AGU has initiated the admission process to the UN Global Compact to empower the university's ethical perspective. Here is AGU's commitment letter for the UN Global Compact. AGU has also complemented the core responsibilities of business in the areas of human rights, labor standards, environment and anti-corruption.

- **Compulsory Ethical Principles Contract for New Employees**

As a state institution, AGU requires all new employees to sign an ethics agreement confirming their acceptance of public ethics principles, which is then added to their personnel file. You can access the relevant ethics agreement from the [link](#). Besides that, the Turkish Court of Audit has a public officer's ethics contract, which also officially binds all public servers at the universities. Click the [link](#) to read related laws.



AGU is an official signatory of the Magna Charta Universitatum, the “Great Charter of Universities which lays down the “fundamental values and principles of the university and encourages strong bonds among European Universities. “It contains principles of academic freedom and institutional autonomy as a guideline for good governance and self-understanding of universities in the future. In line with the Magna Carta, AGU has committed to “promoting fundamental rights and freedoms for all, leading by example and progressing sustainably.”

Click [here](#) to see Academic Freedom and Rights Policy



The AGU values are implemented in every aspect of university life. Upholding our Values also means that we are dedicated to protecting the fundamental rights of equality and freedom. In this regard, AGU has adopted its own policies on equality and Freedom.

AGU prepares financial statements on an annual basis, summarizing its financial position, performance, and cash flows. AGU has several institutional reports regarding publishing Financial Data, as given below.

Click [here](#) to read the 2024 Financial Statements.

Click [here](#) to read the 2024 Administration Annual Report.

Click [here](#) to read the 2024 Investment Program Monitoring and Evaluation Report.

Click [here](#) to read the 2024 Institutional Financial Status and Expectations Report.

Click [here](#) to read the Turkish Court of Account Audit Report.

Click [here](#) to read AGU’s Financial Report shared by Sayıstay (Supreme Audit Court of Türkiye).

The above-mentioned reports are regularly published on the website of our [Strategy Development Department](#).

AGU academic and administrative staff provide specific expert advice to local, regional, or national government in several ways, such as policy guidance, participation in committees, and provision of evidence at the local, regional, and national levels. The table below provides evidence of AGU academics working in collaboration with policy makers at local, regional and national levels, and taking an active role in scientific consultancy and committees.

Expertise Provision by AGU Faculty Members

Staff Name	Research Area	Institution Receiving Consultancy	Position	Local/ Regional/ National/ Government
<u>Prof.Dr. Erk Hacıhasanoğlu</u>	Money, Capital and Financial Institutions/Financial Markets and Investment Management, Policy Development against Poverty, Policy Development for Decent Employment and Growth, Policy Development for Financial Inclusion, Policy Development for Global Financial Partnerships, Policy Development for Peaceful and Accountable Institutions.	Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Industry and Technology	Advisor to the Minister	National
<u>Prof. Dr. Evren Mutlugün</u>	Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Electronic, Nanotechnology, Optics and Photonics, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Material science and engineering, Optical Properties, Nanomaterials, Engineering and Technology, Policy Development for Clean Energy Technologies, Policy Development for Energy-Efficient Technologies.	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye	Member of the Advisory Board	National
<u>Prof. Dr. Niğmet Uzal</u>	Environmental Engineering, Environmental Technology, Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction, Water Pollution and Control, Water Supply and Treatment, Membrane, Policy Development for Clean Energy Technologies, Policy Development for Water Reuse and Conservation, Policy Development for Low-Carbon Energy Use, Policy Development for Water Security.	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye	Executive Board Member	National
<u>Prof. Vehbi Çağrı Güngör</u>	Information Systems, Communication and Control Engineering, Communication Engineering, Computer Sciences, Computer Networks, Communications and Network Protocols, Artificial Intelligence, Computer Learning and Pattern Recognition, Engineering and Technology, Policy Development for Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, Policy Development for Sustainable Cities and Communities.	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye	Member of the Advisory Board	National

Staff Name	Research Area	Institution Receiving Consultancy	Position	Local/ Regional/ National/ Government
<u>Prof. Dr. Hakan Usta</u>	Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, Material science and engineering, Semiconductor and Superconductor Materials, Optical Properties, Polymeric Materials, Nanomaterials, Structure-Property Relationship, Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Chemistry of Aromatic Compounds, Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Policy Development for Clean Energy Technologies, Policy Development for Sustainable Material Use, Policy Development for Waste Reduction and Recycling, Policy Development for Climate Adaptation Technologies.	Presidency of the Republic of Türkiye	Councilorship	National
<u>Asst. Prof. Dr. Özlem Kevseroğlu</u>	Architecture, City and Regional Planning, Policy Development for Sustainable Cities and Communities, Policy Development for Sustainable Urban Planning, Policy Development for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure, Policy Development for Land Conservation and Restoration.	Ministry of National Education	Councilorship	Regional
<u>Asst. Prof. Dr. Özlem Kevseroğlu</u>	Architecture, City and Regional Planning, Policy Development for Sustainable Cities and Communities, Policy Development for Sustainable Urban Planning, Policy Development for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure, Policy Development for Land Conservation and Restoration.	Talas Municipality, KAYSERİ	Councilorship	Local
<u>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Müge Akın</u>	Geological Engineering, Applied Geology, Civil Engineering, Geotechnical, Policy Development for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure, Policy Development for Sustainable Land Use, Policy Development for Urban Sustainability.	Republic of Türkiye Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change	Scientific Consultancy	National
<u>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Müge Akın</u>	Geological Engineering, Applied Geology, Civil Engineering, Geotechnical, Policy Development for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure, Policy Development for Sustainable Land Use, Policy Development for Urban Sustainability.	İzmir Metropolitan Municipality	Participate in scientific research	Regional

Staff Name	Research Area	Institution Receiving Consultancy	Position	Local/ Regional/ National/ Government
<u>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gülay Yalçın Alkan</u>	Computer Sciences, Equipment, Processor Architectures, Engineering and Technology Small and Medium Industry Development Organization, Policy Development for Sustainable Industrial Innovation, Policy Development for Partnerships for Technological Development.	Small and Medium Industry Development Organization (KOSGEB) Aksaray Directorate	Member of the Advisory Board	Regional
<u>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gülay Yalçın Alkan</u>	Computer Sciences, Equipment, Processor Architectures, Engineering and Technology Small and Medium Industry Development Organization, Policy Development for Sustainable Industrial Innovation, Policy Development for Partnerships for Technological Development.	Small and Medium Industry Development Organization (KOSGEB) Eskişehir Directorate	Member of the Advisory Board	Regional
<u>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gülay Yalçın Alkan</u>	Computer Sciences, Equipment, Processor Architectures, Engineering and Technology Small and Medium Industry Development Organization, Policy Development for Sustainable Industrial Innovation, Policy Development for Partnerships for Technological Development.	Small and Medium Industry Development Organization (KOSGEB) Eskişehir Directorate	Avaluator Member	Regional
<u>Asst. Prof. Dr. Sebiha Çevik Kaplan</u>	Life Sciences, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Genetic Disorders, Genomics, Natural Sciences, Policy Development for Responsible Genetic Engineering, Policy Development for Health Biotechnology.	Small and Medium Industry Development Organization (KOSGEB) Nevşehir Directorate	Member of the Advisory Board	Regional
<u>Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ahmet Erdem Tozoğlu</u>	Social Sciences and Humanities, History, History of Turkish Republic, History of The Ottoman Institutions and Civilization, Architecture, History of Architecture and Restoration, History of Architecture, Engineering and Technology, Policy Development for Cultural Heritage Preservation, Policy Development for Sustainable Urban Planning.	Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality	Participate in scientific research	Regional

AGU PROGRESS

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

2024



2023



Here is the list of ethical culture-related trainings held in AGU in 2024 by the Department of Personnel Affairs for the AGU members. Please see the [link](#) for all in-service training The Department of Personnel Affairs holds.

Training Name	Duration
Official Correspondence Procedures and Principles	180 minutes
Confidentiality and the Importance of Confidentiality	35 minutes
Communication and (Correspondence) Training	46 minutes
Public Ethics and Ethical Conduct of Public Officials	46 minutes
Protocol and Etiquette Rules	60 minutes
Anger Management and Coping with Stress	120 minutes
Personal Data Protection Law No. 6698	120 minutes
Mobbing (Psychological Harassment in the Workplace)	20 minutes
Work Ethics	70 minutes

RESEARCH AND PROJECTS

Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Action Plan (CCAP): **The Kayseri Climate Action Project (CCAP)**, which was initiated with this understanding immediately after the ratification of the Paris Climate Agreement by our country and the 2053 net-zero vision, includes a planned action program aiming for a more resilient, carbon neutral and more sustainable urban life against climate

hazards. The Kayseri CCAP, Climate Action project, was prepared with the support of 91 participants from various institutions and organizations. In this context, a 2-day workshop was organized. From AGU, six members, including Abdurrahman Tekin, Ahmet Güç, Akif Taşkın, Dr. Fatma Şener Fidan, Recep Tayyip Akarsu, Prof. Dr. Niğmet Uzal, participated. The plan remains valid and continues to be **relevant as of 2024**.



Please click [here](#) to see Kayseri CCAP Climate Action Project Report.

- **SmartCITY Kayseri**

SmartCity Kayseri is an initiative aimed at making Kayseri a more sustainable, livable, and tech-driven city through innovative solutions in areas like **energy, environment, digital infrastructure, and transportation**. The Kayseri Metropolitan Municipality leads the project, coordinating strategic planning and implementation in partnership with universities, including AGU, public institutions, the private sector, and civil society. Acting as the main driver of the city's digital transformation, the municipality plays a central role in shaping a smart and climate-resilient urban future. AGU plays an active role in promoting sustainable urban development by participating in the **SmartCITY Kayseri** initiative and it is now advancing toward a more sustainable future through smart city innovations. These efforts focus on enhancing livability through technological advancements in sectors such as energy, environmental sustainability, and urban infrastructure.

AGU consistently engages in **SmartCITY coordination meetings** and related conferences, where stakeholders address urban planning, infrastructure improvements, and future development strategies. By taking part in these platforms, AGU contributes its academic expertise to shaping smart, community-oriented urban policies **in collaboration with local government bodies**. Click [here](#) for detailed information about the SmartCITY Kayseri meeting held in 2024.

- **Learn-Transform Project from Kayseri Model Factory**

AGU Model Factory provides training in capacity building and productivity enhancement for **regional and national industrial bodies, as well as public institutions**. These trainings, which focus primarily on competency development, capacity building, and awareness raising, aim to increase the level of knowledge of relevant actors and support the right decision-making processes. These activities within the Model Factory contribute to creating awareness and action to reduce energy and raw material consumption on climate issues and enable strategic steps to be taken towards solving social problems.

The seventh of the launch meetings, where good practice examples carried out by Kayseri Model Factory, which operates in partnership with Abdullah Gül University, Kayseri Chamber of Industry (KAYSO) and Kayseri Chamber of Commerce (KTO), were shared with the society, was held. For details, please visit the [link](#).



• TENAP Project Kick-off Meeting

The kick-off meeting for the “Project to Determine Türkiye’s Industrial Wastewater Profile (*TENAP*)” was held on December 26, 2024, at the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change’s Main Service Building.

This important project aims to determine the current status of industrial wastewater sources throughout Türkiye and to **establish the strategies and standards required for sustainable management**. It also aims to develop innovative and applicable solutions in industrial and environmental management processes.

The project will be carried out by a distinguished team consisting of valuable academics from Bursa Technical University, Middle East Technical University, Süleyman Demirel University, Isparta University of Applied Sciences, Ankara University, **Abdullah Gül University**, Medeniyet University, and Erciyes University, as well as experts from the Ministry. It stands out as a successful example of collaboration between academia, industry, and the public sector.

• Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK)

Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye, or TUBITAK in short, is one of the relevant organizations of the Ministry of Industry and Technology. It aims to encourage, direct, and popularize science and technology in Türkiye and is subject to private law provisions. The information of the academicians conducting their projects within TUBITAK is given below.



Project Title	Project Lead	Project Type
<u>Development of a new generation double-layered cardiac patch and examination of its in vivo effectiveness for the treatment of myocardial injuries</u>	İsmail Alper İšođlu	TÜBİTAK
<u>Preparation of Hydrogel Tissue Adhesives with Biomimetic Adhesion, Self-healing and Limited Swelling Behavior, Formed by Double Cross-Linking. Examination of Their In Vitro and In Vivo Efficiencies</u>	Sevil Dinçer İšođlu	TÜBİTAK
<u>Preparation and Characterization of Light-Crosslinkable, Alginate-Based, Tannic Acid-Enhanced Bioink Hydrogels</u>	Sevil Dinçer İšođlu	TÜBİTAK
<u>Production of high value-added carotenoids in engineered microorganisms and investigation of their antiviral properties against Hepatitis C Virus</u>	Özkan Fidan	TÜBİTAK
<u>Investigation of the Anticancer Effect of Rapamycin and Niacin Combinations on Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) Cell Lines</u>	İsmail Akçok	TÜBİTAK
<u>Targeting Syk in M2 Macrophages and Investigation of Syk Enzyme Inhibition Affects on the Secretome of Macrophages and Its Consequences on Mesothelioma</u>	Emel Başak Gencer Akçok	TÜBİTAK
<u>Molecular Determination of the Effects of Histone Deacetylase Inhibitors on Pten / PI3k / Akt / Mtor Pathway and Cholangiocarcinoma Development</u>	Emel Başak Gencer Akçok	TÜBİTAK

• **TUSEB:**

Turkish Health Institutes Presidency (TÜSEB) was established to serve our country and humanity in health science and technologies and support planned and sustainable development. In line with the goals of meeting Türkiye's need for advanced technology and innovation in health science and technologies, reducing foreign dependency, and increasing and sustaining competitiveness, a strategic plan is being followed that takes into account the development plan objectives and the priorities determined by the President and the Ministry of Health. The information of the academicians who are conducting their projects within TÜSEB is given below.



List of TÜSEB Research at AGU

Project Title	Project Lead	Project Type
<u>Investigation of the Role of GTPase Activating Proteins FLCN and RP2 in Cilia Biogenesis</u>	İsmail Oktay Kaplan	TÜSEB
<u>Investigating the Molecular Mechanism of How Proteins That Are Not in the Cilia Are Kept Outside the Cilia Using the Fluorescence Recovery (FRAP)</u>	İsmail Oktay Kaplan	TÜSEB
<u>Investigation of the Antimicrobial Activity of Human Mesenchymal Stem Cells Against Persister <i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i> in 3D</u>	Mesude Biçer Çalışkan	TÜSEB
<u>Microbial Production of Pyrazinamide Used in Tuberculosis Treatment</u>	Özkan Fidan	TÜSEB
<u>Targeting of SH2 Domains in Syk Kinase Proteins and Investigation of This Targeting in Vitro</u>	İsmail Akçok	TÜSEB
<u>Development of a Double-Layered Patch for Use in Hernia Treatment and Investigation of its Effects in Vitro and In Vivo</u>	İsmail Alper İşoğlu	TÜSEB

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND COURSES

AGU offers many educational programs and courses. Our university has units such as the AGU Academy, the Model Factory, the AGU Youth Factory, and Technology Transfer Office and educational programs such as the *Global Challenge Curriculum (GLB)*. AGU hosts multiple educational programs and courses open to the public, such as executive education programs and/or vocational training programs.

AGU Academy

AGU Academy (Continuing Education Application and Research Center) was established to provide qualified training and consultancy services to public institutions, private sector and individuals to rapidly meet the demands and needs of individuals/society with methods appropriate to the age requirements.

Click [here](#) to visit AGU Academy's web page.

The image shows two promotional materials for AGU Academy. On the left is a website snippet for 'UYGULAMALI PROJE YAZMA EĞİTİMİ' (Applied Project Writing Training) with details about the course content, duration, and contact information. On the right is a flyer for 'KURUMSAL KARBON AYAK İZİ HESAPLANMASI EĞİTİMİ' (Corporate Carbon Footprint Calculation Training). The flyer includes the course title, objectives, content, duration (62 hours), and contact details for Dr. Fatma Şener Fidan.

Corporate Sustainability Reporting Training Program at Abdullah Gül University

The image is a flyer for 'KURUMSAL SÜRDÜREBİLİRLİK RAPORLAMASI EĞİTİMİ' (Corporate Sustainability Reporting Training). It features a globe graphic and logos for KSK (Kürumal Sürdürülebilirlik Kurumu) and KGGK (Kurumsal Gözetim Kurumu). The flyer lists the course content, duration (62 hours), and contact information for the AGU Academy. The course content includes: Sürdürülebilirlik Giriş, Sürdürülebilirliğe İlişkin Düzenlemeler ve Türkiye'deki Sektörel Etkileri, Sürdürülebilirlik İlgili Temel Kavramlar, Kurumsal Sürdürülebilirlik Raporlamasında Temel Kavramlar ve İkeler, Kurumsal Sürdürülebilirlik Raporlamasına Yönelik Çerçeve ve Standartlar, Türkiye Yeşil Mutabakat Eylem Planı, Türkiye Sürdürülebilirlik Raporlama Standartları, Sürdürülebilirlik Performansının Ölçümü ve Raporlanması, Emisyon Kontrolü ve Yönetimi, Çevre, Sosyal ve Yönetişim Açısından Sürdürülebilirlik (ESG), Kurumsal Sürdürülebilirlik Raporlamasına İlişkin Diğer Önemli Gelişmeler, Kurumsal Sürdürülebilirlik Raporlamasına İlişkin Vaka Çalışması, Temel Finans ve Finansal Raporlama, Yeşil Finansman, Kurumsal Yönetim Kavramı, Tebliği ve İkeleri.

Abdullah Gül University (AGÜ) has been accredited by the Public Oversight, Accounting and Auditing Standards Authority (*KGGK*) as one of the six educational institutions authorized to provide *Corporate Sustainability Reporting Training* under the Turkish Sustainability Reporting Standards (TSRS). As the only state institution among the accredited entities, AGÜ aims to enhance expertise in sustainability reporting through a comprehensive 62-hour face-to-face training program, coordinated by Dr. Fatma Şener Fidan from the AGÜ Sustainability Office, with contributions from both AGÜ academics and a KGGK representative.

These efforts reflect AGU's holistic approach to educating future leaders about the importance of responsible water management. About education link is [here](#).

- **Ethical Trainings within the AGU**

AGU, as a public university, must comply with the nationally signed and approved ethical principles and regulations; therefore, every national ethical public policy has bound the university. The decision to carry out various regulations and in-service training to raise ethical awareness and strengthen ethical practices in the public sector is included in AGU's strategic plan. In this direction, ethical principles are kept at the forefront of corporate values by academic and administrative units. Several administrative departments organize in-service training on the scope of organizational ethical cultures, such as The Department of Personnel Affairs, The Department of Health, Culture, and Sport.

COOPERATION AND EVENTS

AGU emphasizes the significance of the cooperation and events conducted in relation to the SDG 16. Some of the University's relevant cooperation and events are as follows.

AGU collaborates with various local organizations to foster sustainable development and strengthen community ties. These partnerships include working with AGUFE, TEMA, Anatolian Universities Union, Anatolian Tigers, Women Leadership Network, KIGDER, and Erciyes Teknopark. Through these collaborations, AGU engages with local stakeholders to address environmental, economic, and social challenges, promoting regional sustainability and enhancing opportunities for education, innovation, and leadership development, particularly among women and youth.

For more details, visit [AGU Sustainability Partnerships](#).

Protocols with Local Stakeholders

- ***Collaboration with the the Future Research Institute***

A cooperation protocol was signed between AGU Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz and the Founder of the Future Research Institute, Murat Sert. The protocol covers inter-institutional joint projects, research, training, consultancy activities, and participation in national/international projects.



- ***Collaboration Protocol for the "Climate Studies Center"***

A cooperation protocol was signed between AGU Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz and Kayseri Chamber of Commerce President Ömer Gülsoy for the establishment of the "Climate Studies Center" aimed at combating climate change. The center will focus

on reducing climate-related risks in Kayseri, improving energy efficiency, promoting renewable energy sources, and expanding environmentally friendly practices. This initiative will strengthen university-industry collaboration while contributing to the academic and professional development of young people.



• **A Protocol with Kayseri Chief Public Prosecutor's Office**

A cooperation protocol was signed between AGU and Kayseri Chief Public Prosecutor's Office. The protocol was signed within the framework of joint activities, project studies, collaborations and sustainable development goals within the scope of training and improvement activities carried out in Penal Institutions.



• **Cooperation Protocol with Kocasinan Municipality**

AGU Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz and Kocasinan Mayor Ahmet Çolakbayraktar signed a cooperation protocol between the two institutions covering European Union, R&D, and local development/social improvement projects.



• **Cooperation Protocol with Sami Yangın Anatolian High School**

AGU and Sami Yangın Anatolian High School signed a cooperation protocol. Signed by AGU Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz and School Principal Mehmet Uyar, the agreement covers inter-institutional collaboration in education, science, arts, and culture.



• **Cooperation Protocol with Murat Kantarcı Science and Art Center**

AGU and the Murat Kantarcı Science and Art Center signed a cooperation protocol. During a visit by Center Director Sezer İnan and his delegation to AGU Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz, the parties agreed to collaborate across education, science, arts, and culture.



• **Cooperation Protocol Process with HasÇelik Kablo**

As part of university–industry collaboration, HasÇelik Kablo visited our campus and met with AGU's Career & Professional Development Office and TTO teams to advance a cooperation protocol. The meeting covered the 7+1 Internship Program, recruitment processes, and potential joint projects.



• **Collaboration Protocol with Osman Ulubaş Köşk Anatolian High School – MUNOS24**

Within the scope of the International Model United Nations Conference 2024 (MUNOS24), AGU and Osman Ulubaş Köşk Anatolian High School signed a cooperation protocol on 13 February. The agreement outlines roles and procedures for activities to be carried out under the project.



• **Cooperation Protocol with Nuh Mehmet Küçükçalık Anatolian High School**

AGU and Nuh Mehmet Küçükçalık Anatolian High School signed a cooperation protocol to strengthen collaboration in education. As part of the program, AGU Business Department faculty Dr. Seyit Gökmen and Dr. Serap Sarp delivered sessions on financial literacy and responsible consumption. The initiative supports informed financial decision-making, fosters social responsibility, and highlights the value of university–school partnerships.



• AGU and the TOBB Kayseri Women Entrepreneurs Council

Protocol was signed between AGU and the **TOBB Kayseri Women Entrepreneurs Council** within the scope of university-industry collaboration. The protocol aims to develop projects, raise awareness, collaborate in finding funding, and organize seminars, conferences, and workshops within the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework. The protocol was signed at the Senate Hall of the Sümer Campus by the Rector, Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz, and the President of the Women Entrepreneurs Council, Tuğbahar İlgü. According to the protocol, it is aimed to organize joint projects between the two institutions within the framework of social contribution and the SGDs, carry out activities and develop projects to increase the recognition and awareness of the SDGs, prepare joint projects for national and international funds, and submit applications. Additionally, the protocol includes organizing trainings, workshops, competitions, and panels.



• AGU and UNHCR Collaborations

AGU also collaborates with **UNHCR** to support local communities, particularly focusing on refugee issues. Through this partnership, various activities have been organized to raise awareness and promote integration efforts for displaced populations in 2024. For more information, click [here](#).

Protocol between Kayseri Provincial Migration Management and AGU

To contribute to societal impact, the AGU collaborates with the Provincial Migration Administration through training, seminars, and projects. The cooperation protocol signed between Abdullah Gül University (AGU) and the Provincial Directorate of Migration Management has no expiration date and remains in effect indefinitely.

Please click [here](#) to see protocol.

Please click [here](#) to see organized events within the scope of protocol.



• General Directorate of Public Health External Evaluation and Accreditation Processes



Abdullah Gül University (AGU) was certified under the “Nutrition-Friendly and Physically Active Workplace Program” administered by the Ministry of Health’s General Directorate of Public Health. AGU met the program’s compliance criteria by monitoring staff well-being, serving hygienic and calorie-appropriate meals, and encouraging use of the campus Fitness Center. For details, please visit the [link](#).

Events:

AGU at the Nevşehir Fair as a Member of the Anatolian Universities Union

As a member of the Anatolian Universities Union, AGU actively participated in the 2024 University Promotion Fairs – Nevşehir event. Dean Prof. Dr. Erk Hacıhasanoğlu and Department Chair Dr. Serap Sarp introduced AGU's programs and opportunities to senior high-school students and answered their questions to support informed choices. For details, please visit the [link](#).



3rd R&D Project Market and University Promotion Fair (AÜB)



Coordinated by the Anatolian Universities Union (AÜB) and hosted by Erzincan Binali Yıldırım University, the “3rd R&D Project Market” and “University Promotion Fair” were held. AGU was represented by Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz, Vice Rector Prof. Dr. Erk Hacıhasanoğlu, Career & Professional Development Office Director Lecturer Hilal Demirel, and TTO staff Lecturer Şebnem Severcan. For details, please visit the [link](#).

Kayseri City Council and AGU Rector Meeting

The President of the Kayseri City Council visited Abdullah Gül University (AGU) Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz to share information about the Council's ongoing activities and collaborative initiatives. During the meeting, both parties discussed opportunities for AGU to provide expert advice and academic input to support local governance and policy development in Kayseri. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Melikgazi Municipality Collaboration Meeting

On 15 August 2024, Melikgazi Municipality's R&D team visited AGU and met with Coordinators Bora Akince (Youth Studies), Fatma Şener Fidan (Sustainability Office), and Nimet Bulut (International Office). Discussions covered integrating municipal R&D with AGU's innovation processes, developing sustainability projects, and strengthening university–municipality cooperation. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Advice to the Ministry of Youth and Sports: Preparation for the Youth Policy Document Vision Workshop



AGU provided “Moderator and Secretariat Training” at the preparatory meeting in Kayseri for the Ministry of Youth and Sports’ Youth Policy Document, hosted by the Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports. This support strengthened facilitation and stakeholder input for the policy workshop. For details, please visit the [link](#).

AGU–Industry Meeting

At the AGU–Industry Meeting, attended by representatives from business and industry, Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz emphasized the importance of research projects, while Engineering Faculty Dean Prof. Dr. Evren Mutlugün outlined AGU's research performance and collaboration mechanisms—providing evidence-based input to inform regional policy and partnership decisions. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Engagement with Local & EU Stakeholders: ‘EU in Kayseri – Cooperating and Working Together

AGU Faculty member Dr. Fatma Şener Fidan represented AGU’s Sustainability Office at the networking event hosted by the Kayseri Chamber of Commerce and the Kayseri EU Information Center. With participation from Mr. Ramūnas Janauskas (Head of Communications, EU Delegation to Türkiye) and regional institutions, discussions explored collaboration with EU bodies on initiatives aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals—bringing AGU’s sustainability expertise into local policy and project planning. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Participation in Provincial Coordination: Combating Violence Against Women

At the 2024 Provincial Coordination Monitoring & Evaluation meeting chaired by Deputy Governor Şemseddin Erkaya, AGU contributed expert input through Psychology Research Assistant Hafize Öznur Erem. Alongside the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Services and partner institutions, activities, trainings, events, and case figures were reviewed to inform local policy and practice. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Little Designers' & SDG Awareness

AGU Academy, together with the Press and Public Relations Directorate, organized the “Little Designers Training” for 4th graders at Sümer Osman Göksu Primary School. Led by graphic designer Nur Dirgenali, students designed their own logos through hands-on activities. AGU faculty member Dr. Sümevra Ayık also delivered an SDG awareness session focused on “SDG-2: Zero Hunger,” fostering early awareness of global challenges. For details, please visit the [link](#).



AGU & Psychology Seminar for Ahmet Eren Anatolian High School

Dr. Şakir Yılmaz from AGU's Psychology Department delivered an on-campus presentation to students from Ahmet Eren Anatolian High School, introducing AGU and the field of psychology. The session provided evidence-based guidance on academic pathways and fostered engagement with local education stakeholders. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Career Planning Talk at Kırşehir Ahi Evran Anatolian High School

AGU Rector Prof. Dr. Cengiz Yılmaz met with students at Kırşehir Ahi Evran Anatolian High School, offering evidence-based insights on career planning and answering student questions—supporting local education decision-making with expert advice. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Contribution to National AI Policy: 1st National Artificial Intelligence Meeting

AGU's Assoc. Prof. Kübra Şimşek participated in the 1st National AI Meeting at Cappadocia University, co-organized by AI TR, KUIS AI Center, AI Factory, and ITU. Sessions on autonomous systems, vision, generative AI, ethics, and public policy enabled evidence-based input to national discussions—informing future guidelines, safeguards, and governance of AI in Türkiye. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Input on Accreditation & Education Quality: Central Anatolia Workshop (STAR & KTO Karatay)

Co-organized by the Social, Human and Basic Sciences Accreditation & Rating Association (STAR) and KTO Karatay University, the “Central Anatolia Program Accreditations – Briefing & Evaluation Workshop” focused on accreditation and quality enhancement in education. AGU's Dr. Kübra Şimşek participated, contributing expert insights to inform regional standards and policy practice. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Evidence for Social Policy: ‘Care Crisis in Türkiye and Worldwide’ Conference with Turkish Women’s Union

In cooperation with the Turkish Women’s Union Kayseri Branch, AGU's Assoc. Prof. Armağan Teke Lloyd delivered a talk titled “Care Crisis in Türkiye and Worldwide” on 4 October 2024. The presentation offered evidence-based insights to inform local policy and civil-society efforts; a plaque was presented in recognition of the contribution. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Youth Policy Co-Creation: Ministry of Youth and Sports Cooperation & Consultation Meeting



On 25 December 2024, the Ministry's consultation meeting on youth policies convened stakeholders; AGU was represented by Lect. Dr. Bora Akince, who presented the university's recent youth-focused activities and collaborations. For details, please visit the [link](#).

Eurodesk Türkiye 2024 Evaluation Meeting

Eurodesk Türkiye 2024 Evaluation Meeting was held on 11–14 December 2024 by the National Agency, the Eurodesk Türkiye Evaluation Meeting gathered all contact points to review the year's activities and plan institutional, regional, and national actions for the coming year. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Corporate Sustainability Panel at AGU

In collaboration with the Public Oversight Authority, the Kayseri Chamber of Commerce, and the Kayseri Chamber of Industry, AGU organized the “Corporate Sustainability Panel” on 19 December 2024 at the Rectorate Conference Hall. The panel provided a strategic roadmap for institutions to achieve sustainability goals and brought together public- and private-sector representatives for evidence-based discussion. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Expert Evidence for Energy Policy: AGU at the 4th International World Energy Conference (IWEC)



AGU Sustainability Coordinator Dr. Fatma Şener Fidan presented at IWEC in Kayseri (Dec 6, 2024), co-authoring with Dr. Sena Aydoğan: “Clean Clothes, Clean Purchasing: A Sustainable Approach to Buying Washing Machines Using CODAS Multi-Criteria Determination.” The study proposes a sustainability-based evaluation model for appliance selection (CODAS MCDM) and shows how energy-efficient purchasing can reduce environmental impacts and align with broader energy policies—contributing evidence to inform policy and consumer guidance. For details, please visit the [link](#).

Sustainability in the Middle East' Workshop

AGU's Social Sciences Institute organized the workshop at the Sümer Campus Rectorate Conference Hall, coordinated by Assoc. Prof. Umut Türk and Assoc. Prof. Armağan Teke.



Bringing together 12 scholars from four countries, the program provided policymakers and stakeholders with in-depth briefings on peace and sustainability, food security, trade, SDG progress in the Middle East, and the importance of secure data access. In his opening remarks, Assoc. Prof. Türk stressed removing barriers to evidence-based policy formulation, enhancing decision-makers' capacity to address complex regional challenges. For details, please visit the [link](#).

Cooperathon – Next-Gen Youth Entrepreneurship' Training

At AGU, under the coordination of Prof. Dr. Burak Asiliskender, Dr. Sinan Akyüz, and Dr. Sümeyra Ayık—and within ORAN's 2023 Rural Development & Tourism Support Program—a continuous 16-hour theoretical and hands-on training was delivered. The program provided evidence-based guidance on cooperative-driven entrepreneurship to regional stakeholders, including Kayseri Model Factory, Koop-DaGel, local universities, the Kayseri Chamber of Commerce, TOBB Kayseri Women Entrepreneurs Board, and the Talas Maharetli Eller cooperative. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Capacity-Building on Migration & Social Inclusion: “Culture and Arts Gathering” with UNHCR & ARSA

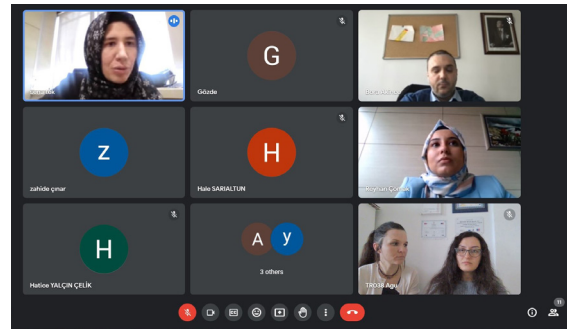
AGU, in partnership with UNHCR and the Afghan Refugees Solidarity and Assistance Association (ARSA), hosted the “Culture and Arts Gathering” at the Sümer Campus Rectorate Conference Hall.



Coordinated by ARSA President Dr. Zakira Hekmat, the program featured ARSA's music group, a video of joint projects with Mehmet İlgü Primary School, a zeybek dance performance, and contributions from children and youth in international solidarity groups. The event provided outreach and general education for local stakeholders and policymakers on refugee inclusion through culture. For details, please visit the [link](#).

Capacity-Building on Youth Policy: Meeting with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (GSB) Directorate of Research & Policy Development

AGU held an online meeting with staff from the Directorate of Research and Policy Development under the General Directorate of Education, Research and Coordination at Türkiye's Ministry of Youth and Sports. The session introduced our unit's activities and explored joint steps in the youth field—supporting outreach, knowledge-sharing, and policy-relevant collaboration. For details, please visit the [link](#).



International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women Workshop

Organized under the UN-designated day, this workshop convened public institutions and NGOs to share practices on preventing and responding to gender-based violence—advancing outreach, general education, and policy-relevant capacity-building for decision-makers. AGU was represented by Assoc. Prof. Armağan Teke Lloyd and Research Assistant Fevzi Can Gürüz. For details, please visit the [link](#).

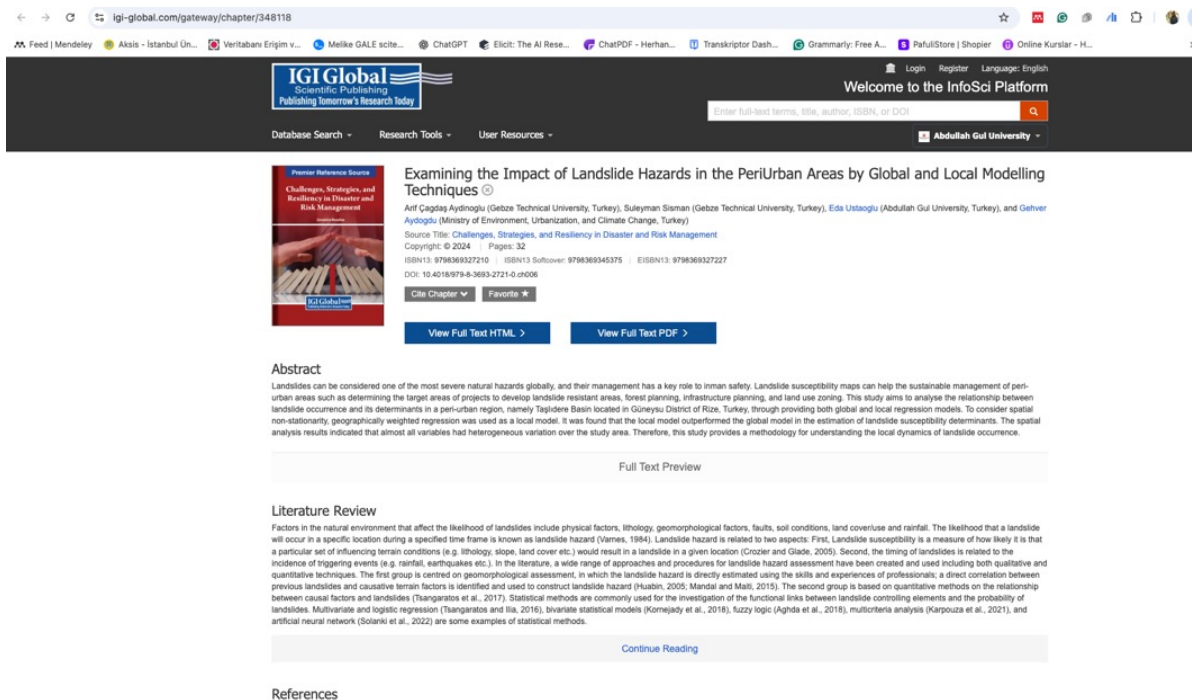
Capacity-Building on Urban Cultural Heritage Policy: UNESCO-Supported ICH Network Meeting (Warsaw)

AGU's Dr. Özlem Kevseroğlu participated in the 18th Annual Meeting of the South-East European Experts Network on Intangible Cultural Heritage in Warsaw. Hosted by the University of Warsaw with UNESCO's support, sessions focused on safeguarding, integrating, and sustaining living cultural heritage in cities—providing outreach and policy-relevant guidance for decision-makers. For details, please visit the [link](#).



Policy-Focused Research Collaboration between AGU and the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change

Abdullah Gül University (AGU) faculty member Dr. Eda Ustaoglu co-authored a research study titled “Examining the Impact of Landslide Hazards in the Peri-Urban Areas by Global and Local Modelling Techniques,” published by IGI Global in 2024. The study was conducted in collaboration with researchers from Gebze Technical University and the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization, and Climate Change (Türkiye). The research focuses on developing data-driven and model-based insights to support policy decisions related to land use planning, disaster risk management, and sustainable urban development. This collaboration exemplifies AGU’s active role in policy-oriented research aimed at strengthening evidence-based decision-making processes within national and regional government institutions.



The screenshot shows the IGI Global website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the IGI Global logo and the tagline 'Scientific Publishing Publishing Tomorrow's Research Today'. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a 'Welcome to the InfoSci Platform' message. The main content area displays the article title 'Examining the Impact of Landslide Hazards in the PeriUrban Areas by Global and Local Modelling Techniques' by Adif Çağdaş Aytekinoglu, Süleyman Sisman, Eda Ustaoglu, and Gebze Technical University. The article is part of the book 'Challenges, Strategies, and Resiliency in Disaster and Risk Management'. The abstract states: 'Landslides can be considered one of the most severe natural hazards globally, and their management has a key role to human safety. Landslide susceptibility maps can help the sustainable management of peri-urban areas such as determining the target areas of projects to develop landslide resistant areas, forest planning, infrastructure planning, and land use zoning. This study aims to analyse the relationship between landslide occurrence and its determinants in a peri-urban region, namely Taşlıdere Basin located in Güneşsu District of Rize, Turkey, through providing both global and local regression models. To consider spatial non-stationarity, geographically weighted regression was used as a local model. It was found that the local model outperformed the global model in the estimation of landslide susceptibility determinants. The spatial analysis results indicated that almost all variables had heterogeneous variation over the study area. Therefore, this study provides a methodology for understanding the local dynamics of landslide occurrence.'

MUNOS24 Model UN Conference

Under the auspices of the Kayseri Governorship and co-organized by AGU with partner universities and 43 international institutions, nearly 800 high-school and university students met for five days in a safe, neutral Model UN setting to debate SDG-aligned global issues and solutions, supported by a 29-member academic committee. Opening ceremonies were held at the Erciyes Culture Center with protocol and university representatives. For details, please visit the [link](#).



GLB 300 Sustainability Project Fair

A Sustainability Project Fair and Panel was organized in collaboration between AGU and the Kayseri Chamber of Industry. During this event, students taking the GLB 300 course presented their projects on topics such as “Fighting Addiction in Türkiye”, “Recycling Fruits for a Greener Campus”, “Improving the Cultural Integration of Refugees into the Local Community at the Kayseri Youth Center”, “Think Before You Speak”, and “How to Properly and Effectively Handle Waste”. The students had the opportunity to discuss their projects with guests, exchanging ideas on sustainability. This event aimed to provide both students and participants with a deeper understanding of sustainability and related societal challenges.

Click [here](#) for details.



International Staff Mobility Week at AGU

Co-hosted by AGU’s Erasmus Office and the ERASMUSTERN consortium, the week gathered internationalization officers from 13 higher-education institutions across 10



countries—together with consortium Erasmus staff—in a safe, neutral setting to share challenges and best practices on mobility and cooperation. Program highlights included an opening address by Assoc. Prof. Adil Oran, a city-and-campus briefing by Dr. Sinan Akyüz, institutional info stands in the Exhibition Hall, and a guided city tour that fostered trust and collaboration. For details, please visit the [link](#).

