

## **GEBZE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**

### **ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAM**

The purpose of this program is to provide an environment for the protection of the natural ecosystem, including animals and plant life, on the GTU campus. The program will help eliminate the danger of the loss of biological diversity and degradation, provide sustainable management and protection of the coastal regions associated with GTU Campus and the Marmara Sea, as well as protect Saz Creek which passes through the GTU campus. Moreover, the protection of artificial ecosystems, including forests, an artificial lake, and landscape design of the buildings, is included within this program. It encompasses the principles, laws, and provisions for the implementation of policies and programs in accordance with these principles, considering the legal, administrative, and technological factors related to its design and implementation.

#### **BASIS OF THE PROGRAM**

This Program Report is based on Land Hunting Law No. 4915, Environment Law No. 2872, the Convention for the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats—of which the Republic of Turkey is a party—and the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. The working group for the sustainable management of the ecosystem operates under the coordination of the Sustainability Office. The Working Group (Ecosystem Committee) is established to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the Program Report. Specific Definitions: Biodiversity: Species, genetic, functional, and ecosystem diversity. Ecosystem: The ecosystem comprises all living things in a place and the surroundings they interact with. Natural ecosystems: Ecosystems formed due to natural conditions. Artificial ecosystems: Man-made ecosystems.

#### **PRINCIPLES**

Natural and artificial ecosystems within the responsibility and jurisdiction of the University are managed in accordance with the following principles: As stated in paragraph c of the third article of Environmental Law No. 2872, sustainable development concepts are taken into consideration during the decision-making process. The protection of animal species living on the campuses, biological diversity, and the health of ecosystems is given priority during campus planning, as well as the planning of activities held on the Campus. Activities that destroy the ecosystems are not allowed, or immediate restoration after the activity is guaranteed. The execution of the tasks related to this subject is carried out by personnel appointed by the Rector's Office/Sustainability Office Coordinatorship or the administration. The committee for wildlife conservation is formed by five academic members from the

Sustainability Office Coordinatorship committee and administrative staff appointed by the Rector. The Committee fulfills its responsibilities with the authority it receives from the Rectorate. The guidelines of The Land Hunting Law No. 4915, Environment Law No. 2872, the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, to which the Republic of Turkey is a party, and the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats are evaluated by the Committee members, and any action against these guidelines will be reported to the Rectorate for immediate protective measures for the ecosystem. Identification, monitoring, and protection of species listed on national conservation lists and the "Red List of Species in Danger of Extinction," created by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, are given importance in this context. In addition to the above-mentioned species, butterflies and bird species of the GTU Campus previously determined, along with the olive trees of the Campus, are also considered valuable animal and plant species specific to the GTU Campus. These animal and plant species will also be monitored, as they serve as indicators of a healthy ecosystem on the Campus. Therefore, the conservation needs of these species are determined which will also help protection of biodiversity.

#### **DECISION-MAKING PROCESS OF THE ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE**

The Ecosystem Working Group (Ecosystem Committee) convenes with the absolute majority of the total number of members and makes decisions with one more than half of the number of people attending the meeting. The committee holds its regular meetings every three months, in conjunction with the Sustainability Office Coordinatorship Commission meetings, and may also convene extraordinarily if necessary. This program report has been prepared by the Ecosystem Working Group of the Sustainability Office Committee members and comes into effect on the date it is accepted by the Sustainability Office Senior Commission

**Ecosystem Working Group of Sustainability Office Coordinatorship:**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pinar Ergenekon

Assist. Prof. Dr. Bahar Yıldız Kutman

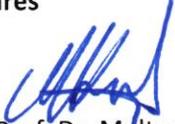
Biolog Şaziye Serda Kayman

Assist. Prof. Dr. Derya Ayrıl Çınar

Prof. Dr. Melek Özkan

**Sustainability Office Coordinatorship Senior Commission**

**Signatures**



Assist. Prof. Dr. Meltem Çelen



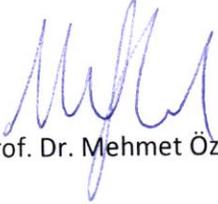
Assist. Prof. Dr. Bahar Yıldız Kutman



Assoc. Dr. Saniye Karaman Öztaş



Prof. Dr. Nihal Bektaş



Assist. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Özbil



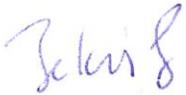
Prof. Dr. Kutlu Sevinç Kayıhan



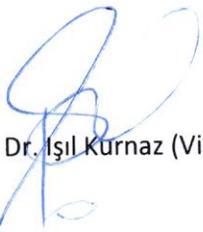
Assist. Prof. Dr. Derya Ayrıl Çınar (Sustainability Office Assitant Coordinator)



Prof. Dr. Melek Özkan (Sustainability Office coordinator)



Prof. Dr. Ebubekir Yüksel (Rectorate Advisor)



Prof. Dr. Işıl Kurnaz (Vice Rector)