

Programs for Recyclable Waste (2024–2026)

Interfaculty Recycling League – “The Greenest Faculty”

A friendly competition is organized among faculties or departments. During specific periods, the amount of recyclable waste collected by each faculty is measured. The faculty achieving the highest recycling rate is awarded the title “The Greenest Faculty” along with a recognition plaque. This initiative is supported by the Waste Data Dashboard, which is updated annually with verified performance data.

From Waste to Art: Re-Art Festival

Students and staff create artworks using recyclable materials. The resulting pieces are exhibited in the main square in front of the Library. The event visually conveys the message “Waste is not an end, but a beginning.”

The image below shows an example from the Upcycling Workshop (İleri Dönüşüm Atölyesi) held as part of this initiative..



Repair and Reuse: IZTECH Repair Café

With the support of volunteer students and technical staff, free repair workshops are organized on campus for small electronic devices, bicycles, and clothing. This initiative promotes the culture of reuse while also allowing students to apply their engineering skills for social benefit.

On-Campus Sharing Network – “IZTECH Share” Platform

An online sharing network is established for unused items such as office supplies, furniture, stationery, or laboratory equipment.

Requests and postings are managed through the university website. This system, guided by the principle “Not Waste, but a Resource,” enables the reuse of materials across campus.

Plastic Hunters Program

Special collection points are set up across the campus for soft plastics, which are particularly difficult to recycle.

The collected materials are sent to a partner recycling company, where they are transformed into benches, seating units, or waste bins, which are then reused on campus. Additionally, students organize volunteer waste collection campaigns both on campus and in nearby areas.

A photo from one of these student-led activities is shared below.



IZTECH Students Participating in a Waste Collection Event

“Leave Happy from IZTECH” Donation Campaign

During student move-out periods, **donation points** are set up for reusable items such as **clothing, books, and kitchenware**.

Collected items are distributed to **local non-governmental organizations** and **schools in need**.

This year, during **graduation ceremonies and orientation days**, special attention will be drawn to the **importance of waste management** and **resource sharing points** will be visibly featured on campus.

Digital Detox Week

Every fall and spring semester, a **campus-wide e-waste collection week** is organized. Students and staff contribute by disposing of their **used batteries, chargers, earphones, and electronic devices** in designated e-waste bins.

At the end of the event, the **total collected e-waste** and the **environmental benefits achieved** are publicly announced on the university's website.

The **poster of the e-waste event organized at IZTECH** is presented below



Figure: E-Waste Poster

Zero Waste Starter Kits

Newly enrolled students and newly appointed staff members receive a **“Zero Waste Starter Kit,”** which includes a **cloth bag, reusable coffee cup, water bottle,** and a **waste segregation guide.**

At cafeterias, a **10% discount** is applied to those who bring their own cups, encouraging the development of long-term sustainable habits.

Book Exchange Shelves – “Share Your Book” Corners

At the entrances of libraries and faculty buildings, **book exchange shelves** are set up where everyone can leave books they have read and take new ones left by others. This initiative both **prevents waste** and **strengthens the culture of sharing** within the campus community.

Talking Bins: Design Competition

To increase the visibility and engagement of recycling bins, a **bin design competition** is organized among students.

Winning designs are applied to bins throughout the campus. The goal is to encourage students to **creatively and functionally transform their environment.**

Motivational phrases related to recycling and sustainability are also featured on **IZTECH's campus waste bins**.

Relevant visuals are given below.



Motivational Quotes on Waste Bins at the IZTECH Campus

6.4.2. Programs for Organic Waste

Campus Compost Project

Park and garden waste generated on campus is processed using IZTECH's own composting machine.

The compost produced is then used as fertilizer in campus gardens and green areas.

Photos of the composting machine and related equipment located on the IZTECH campus are presented below.



Composting Boxes



Composting Machine



Shredding Machine

“DÖKME” Project – “ Do not Pour and Collect for the Future!”

The “DÖKME” Project launched at IZTECH is a new environmental initiative that focuses on the recovery of used vegetable oils generated on campus.

Within the scope of this project:

- Oil collection containers have been placed in areas such as cafeterias, canteens, and laboratories.
- Students and staff can bring used cooking oils from their homes and deposit them at these collection points.
- The collected oils are sent to biodiesel production facilities, where they are converted into renewable energy.

The project is supported by awareness campaigns, posters, and collection events under the motto “Pour and Collect for the Future!”

This initiative represents one of the most recent examples of IZTECH’s circular economy vision.

The project poster is presented below.



Figure: One of the Waste Oil Collection Points – İZTECH Campus

Bring Your Waste Oils to the Collection Points!

- Deposit your used cooking oils from home into the safe and easily accessible oil collection units located around the campus.
- These oils will be transformed into eco-friendly biofuel by DB Agricultural Energy.

Joining the Campaign is Easy

Step 1: Collect your used cooking oils in plastic bottles.

Step 2: Close the bottle cap tightly and drop it with the bottle into the ring-lidded containers at the collection points.

Note: Do not worry — the plastic bottles you bring will also be separated and recycled, providing double environmental benefits!

The Result: A Win for the Environment and the Economy!

Waste oils are recycled without harming nature.

The produced biofuel contributes to renewable energy generation.

Revenue Turned into Educational Support!

The income generated from the collected oils will be used to support students' educational expenses at the university

Neden Önemli?



Bitkisel Atık Yağların Toprağa Döküldüğünde Çevreye Olumsuz Etkileri

- Su kaynaklarını kirlendir ve temiz suya erişimi zorlaştırır.
- 1 litre bitkisel atık yağ 1 milyon litre suyu kirlendir.



Bitkisel Atık Yağların Su Kaynaklarına Karıştığında Çevreye Olumsuz Etkileri

- Toprak verimliliğini azaltır ve tarıma zarar verir.
- Kanalizasyon sistemlerini tıkar, altyapı sorunlarına yol açar.



Bitkisel Atık Yağların Doğrudan Yakılması Durumunda Çevreye Olumsuz Etkileri

- Yanlış şekilde bertaraf edilirse, insan sağlığını tehdit eden zararlı gazlar ve kimyasallar oluşturur.