

5. Waste Data and Reporting

Through improvements in waste management, infrastructure investments, and awareness campaigns carried out in recent years, IZTECH has achieved measurable progress in its waste performance.

All waste data are collected, estimated and evaluated annually by the Sustainability Office.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

Waste Type	Source	2024 (ton per year)	2025 (ton per year)	Change (%)	Explanation
Organic Waste (Total)	Entire campus (cafeteria, buildings, gardens)	245	218	-11%	Total organic waste decreased due to composting and biogas applications. Campaigns such as " <i>Transform Your Waste Oil</i> " will be expanded.
Cafeteria waste	Central cafeteria (measured data)	95 (projected)	9.0 (measured)	-90%	Based on daily measurements, 9 tons were recorded; waste reduction efforts proved highly effective. The use of leftover food as animal feed, staff awareness activities, and optimized portion sizes significantly reduced waste generation.
Organic fraction from buildings	Offices, tea kitchens	115	120	+4%	Slight increase parallel to population growth.
Garden waste	Landscaping and pruning activities	35	40	+14%	Increase associated with the expansion of campus green areas.
Inorganic Waste (Total)	Entire campus	262	281	+7%	Increase parallel to event frequency and population growth.
Aluminum cans	Canteens, vending machines	16	18	+12%	Improved accessibility of recycling bins.
Soft plastics	Bottles, packaging	139	152	+9%	Proportional to increased consumption.
Hard plastics	Laboratory and kitchen use	25	26	+4%	Remained relatively stable.
Paper and cardboard	Offices, classrooms	82	85	+3%	Despite ongoing digitalization, the increase reflects optimized waste collection with more recycling bins available.
Hazardous (Toxic) Waste (Total)	Laboratories and technical units	6.54	7.46	+14%	Growth driven by increased research activities; all managed through the MoTAT system in full compliance with occupational health and safety regulations.
Batteries	General campus	0.24	0.26	+8%	Effective awareness campaigns and improved separate collection.
Laboratory chemicals	Faculty laboratories	5.5	5.9	+7%	Proportional increase due to higher research output.

L Electronic waste	E-waste campaign, device renewals	0.8	1.3	+63%	“Bring Your E-Waste” campaign included community participation, resulting in significant collection growth.
Wastewater (Sewage)	Wastewater treatment plant	2,000 m ³ /day	2,200 m ³ /day	+10%	Load increase parallel to campus population growth; system capacity remains sufficient.

- By the end of **2025**, a total of **506 tons of waste** were managed across the campus. Despite a **10% increase in campus population**, a measurable reduction in **organic waste generation** was achieved. This demonstrates that the systematic improvements implemented in waste management have had a **direct positive impact on environmental performance**.
- **Thanks to composting and biogas applications, the total amount of organic waste decreased.** Cafeteria waste was weighed and recorded daily, showing that only **9 tons of organic waste** were generated in 2025. This reduction highlights the success of **portion optimization, staff awareness, and expanded food waste prevention campaigns**.
- **The use of leftover food as animal feed** and the awareness raised among campus personnel both supported waste reduction and helped establish a **circular nutrient cycle**.
- **Garden and landscaping waste**, which increased in line with the expansion of green areas, was fully integrated into the **campus composting system**. Compost production continued in 2025 with the existing composting machine.
- Although inorganic waste increased by **7%**, the material recovery rate was maintained through improved **accessibility of recycling bins** despite the rise in campus events and population. The increase in paper and cardboard waste resulted not from reduced digitalization but from **optimized recycling collection systems**.
- **Hazardous waste management** was fully documented through the **MoTAT (National Waste Tracking System)**. All chemical wastes were collected in accordance with **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) regulations** and transferred to licensed firms. With the increase in scientific research activities, laboratory waste rose by **7%**, yet full **regulatory compliance** was maintained.
- **Electronic waste** increased by **63%**, largely due to the **“Bring Your E-Waste” campaign**, which was open to the wider community. The collected devices were directed to licensed recycling facilities.
- In efforts to reduce **single-use plastics**, the continued implementation of **plastic bag pricing (1 TL)** and the promotion of **reusable container campaigns** kept consumption **18% lower** compared to the baseline.
- The **wastewater treatment plant** continued to operate **within capacity limits**, despite an increase in daily load from **2,000 to 2,200 m³/day** due to population growth. Treated water was reused in campus landscaping applications.

Starting from **2025–2026**, all waste types will be **measured regularly**, as currently done for organic waste. Data will be **published on the university website** through an interactive **waste management dashboard**, updated **monthly**, allowing all campus stakeholders to **track results in real time**.



İYTE WASTE MANAGEMENT DASHBOARD



500 TONS OF WASTE YEARLY GENERATION



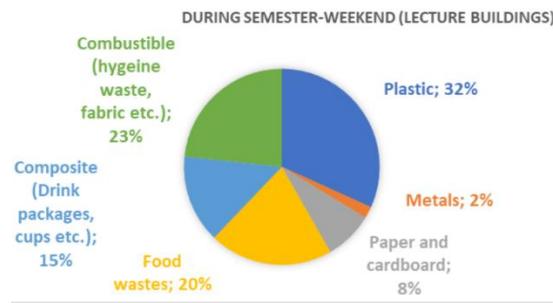
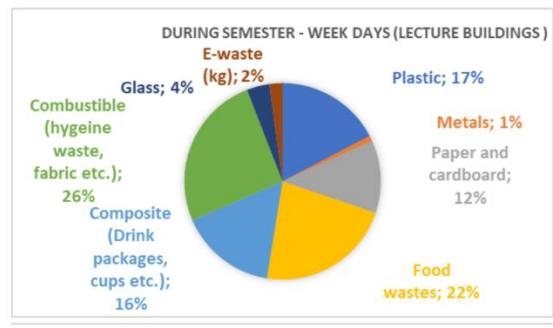
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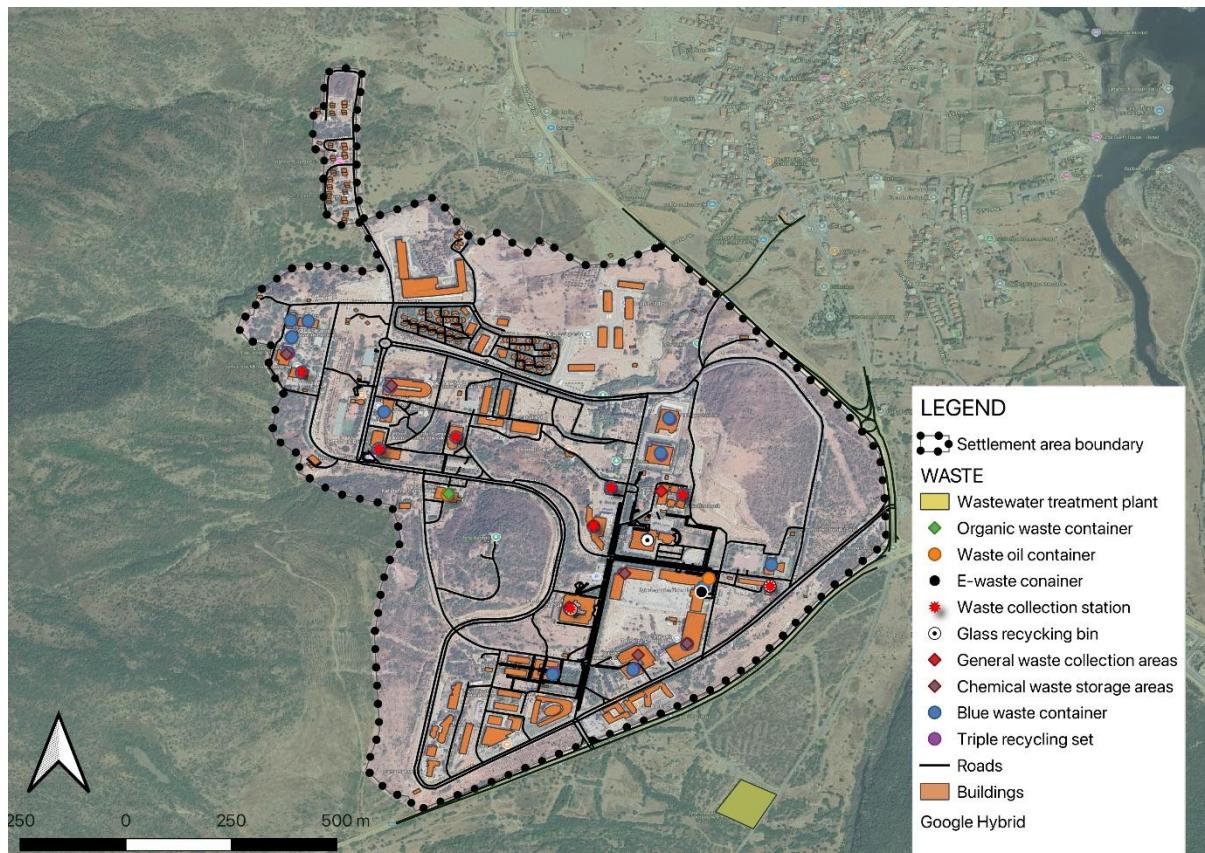
9 TONS OF FOOD WASTE GOES TO BIOGAS PLANT



≈ 110 TON CO₂-EQ/YEAR REDUCTION



Waste Management Dashboard



Waste Collection Map

5.2. Annual Sustainability Reports

The long-term analysis of waste management performance is monitored not only through real-time data but also via annual sustainability reports. These reports provide a detailed overview of the steps taken each year by IZTECH to reduce its environmental impacts and the achievements gained through these efforts.

Access and Archiving:

All reports will be available for download in PDF format under the "Sustainability Reports Archive" section of the university's website and will be published in both Turkish and English.

This section should not only present quantitative achievements but also convey the collective effort, transformation, and environmental awareness of the IZTECH community through a narrative approach.

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SUSTAINABLE GREEN CAMPUS COORDINATION

The IZTECH Sustainable Green Campus Coordinatorship was established in 2014. A search conference for a sustainable living campus, themed "happy campus," was held with the collective participation of campus stakeholders. However, a formal Framework on Sustainable Campus was only defined in December 2019.

IZTECH committed to the UI GreenMetric as a tool for essential self-assessment and growth in sustainability in 2020, continuing this practice in 2021 and 2022. Guided by the motto "happy campus, happy peninsula, happy Izmir," the IZTECH Sustainable Green Campus Coordination team was formed, comprising 12 members, including our rector, field-expert academicians, and young, enthusiastic teaching assistants. Significantly, our Coordinatorship remains active today due to the support of Eco Motion and numerous other student groups, enabling us to secure campus sustainability through a bottom-up development approach.

<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

OUR SUSTAINABILITY THEMES

THREE PILLARS of SUSTAINABILITY: In the areas of education, research, and societal benefit, IZTECH embraces economic, social, and ecological sustainability as its guiding principle, aiming to maintain all campus assets within a sustainable environment.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: IZTECH considers it as a responsibility to contribute to developing individuals who are mindful of the planet's sustainable future and aware of the threats to society and the environment, starting with its own campus and surrounding areas, and to foster awareness on this critical issue.

USE of RESOURCES: IZTECH monitors and records resource utilization values, regularly shares them with campus stakeholders and the public, and undertakes necessary actions for continuous improvement.



Sustainability Report