

ISTANBUL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
DIRECTIVE ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF
BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

SECTION ONE

Purpose, Scope, Basis and Definitions

PURPOSE

Article 1. The purpose of this Directive is;

- a. To support the protection, improvement and sustainable use of natural and artificial ecosystems in ITU campuses,
- b. To prevent the loss of biological diversity in ITU campuses,
- c. To stop and reverse the land degradation in ITU campuses,
- d. To sustainably manage and protect the marine and coastal ecosystems that ITU campuses are associated with from pollution.

SCOPE

Article 2. This Directive covers the various activities to be carried out at ITU campuses;

- a. The natural and artificial ecosystems of the campuses,
- b. Biodiversity on campuses

taking into account the legal, administrative and technical principles regarding its planning and implementation; it covers the principles, regulations and provisions regarding the implementation of policies and programs in line with these principles.

BASIS

Article 3. This Directive, which was enacted on the basis of the Land Hunting Law No. 4915, the 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.

DEFINITIONS

Article 4. In this Directive; the below-mentioned expressions refer to the ensuing definitions:

- a. University: Istanbul Technical University,
- b. Commission for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and Ecosystems: The commission established to carry out the tasks specified in the Directive, NS.
- c. Biodiversity: Species, genetic, functional and ecosystem diversity,
- d. Ecosystem: The system consisting of living things in a region and the environment which these living things are in contact with.

- e. Natural ecosystems: Ecosystems formed by the effect of natural conditions,
- f. Artificial ecosystems: Man-made ecosystems,
- g. Invasive species: Species that damage biodiversity by surviving, reproducing and multiplying outside of their past or present natural distribution area,
- h. Ecological remediation: Reconversion and restoration of destroyed ecosystems

SECTION TWO

General Principles, Executive Principles, Management Units, Duties and Obligations

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 5. Natural and artificial ecosystems within the responsibility and jurisdiction of the University are managed in accordance with the following principles:

- a. In the decision-making processes, sustainable development principles are taken into account, as specified in paragraph c of the 3rd article of the Environmental Law No. 2872,
- b. Priority is given to the protection of wild animals that live or stay on campuses,
- c. In campus planning and activities carried out on campus, priority is given to biological diversity and the needs of ecosystems, and the opinion of the ITU Biological Diversity and Ecosystems Conservation and Sustainable Use Commission is sought,
- d. The ecosystems that are destroyed in the activities carried out on the campuses are immediately restored,
- e. Resources that are sustainably produced, grown or harvested are preferred for all activities carried out on campuses.

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPLES

Article 6. The Directive is carried out by the ITU Commission for the Protection and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and Ecosystems. The execution of the works related to the subject is met by the personnel to be appointed by the Rector's Office/Dean's Office/Directorate or the administration.

MANAGEMENT UNITS

Article 7. Administrative Units:

- a. Commission for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and Ecosystems: It consists of at least five (5) academic or administrative staffs appointed by the Rector, preferably from Eurasia Institute of Earth Sciences, Ecology and Evolution Department, Environmental Engineering, Maritime Faculty, Molecular Biology and Genetics Department and Landscape Architecture faculty members. The term of office of the commission members is three (3) years. A commission member whose term of office has expired may be reassigned or dismissed by the Rector before the expiry of his term, following the procedure in his assignment.

- b. Chair of the Commission for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and Ecosystems: The chair is appointed by the Rector among the members of the commission.

RESPONSIBILITIES, DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS

Article 8. The Commission is responsible to the Rector for the proper and effective implementation of the Directive on the Protection and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and Ecosystems. The Commission fulfills this responsibility with the authority it receives from the Office of the Rector. The duties and responsibilities of the commission are stated below:

- a. Determining the difficulties encountered in the execution of the Directive, offering solutions to overcome the difficulties, and determining the Implementation Principles of this Directive,
- b. If there are changes in the legislation specified in Article 3 or in other cases, the Directive should be reviewed and updated,
- c. Presenting the evaluation results of each year as a report to the Rectorate.

Inventory and Tracking

Article 9. An inventory of diversity of species within the university's responsibilities and jurisdictions is made and the conservation needs of these species are determined. In this context, priority is given to identifying, monitoring and protecting the species in the national conservation lists and the "Red List of Species in Danger of Extinction" prepared by the International Union for Conservation of Natural Life and Natural Resources.

Article 10. Action plans are created to identify invasive alien species that may endanger biological diversity within the university's responsibilities and jurisdictions, to prevent the spread of these species and to reduce their effects.

Article 11. Studies on the research of biological diversity within the university's responsibilities and jurisdictions are encouraged and supported.

Awareness Raising Activities

Article 12. Trainings and activities on biodiversity and ecosystems are organized for the public, especially the students and staff of the university.

DECISION-MAKING PROCESS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

Article 13. The Commission convenes with the absolute majority of the total number of members and takes decisions with one more than half of the number of people attending the meeting. The commission holds its regular meetings every three (3) months and may convene extraordinarily, if necessary, upon the call of the chairman of the commission.

SECTION THREE
Enforcement and Execution

ENFORCEMENT

Article 14. This directive enters into force on the date it is accepted by the University Senate.

EXECUTION

Article 15. The provisions of this directive are executed by the Rector.