

# Our Social Agenda

## Creating Lasting Social Impact

*True progress is not just about speed but about inclusivity, equity, and empowerment. Like a torch being passed forward, Sabancı Holding's social impact initiatives ensure that the benefits of progress reach all stakeholders—employees, communities, and future generations. Through education programs, workforce training, and diversity & inclusion initiatives, we empower individuals with the tools and knowledge they need to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.*

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# Our Social Agenda

At Sabancı Holding, we believe that the purpose of business is to generate value by addressing the challenges faced by people and the planet. Companies should grow by offering meaningful solutions, not by contributing to the problems themselves. Our Social Agenda is built on this belief and reflects our long-term commitment to both business success and social wellbeing.

With over 60 thousand employees and millions of people touched across our value chain, we are committed to driving positive change from within. We promote inclusive and sustainable practices through SDG-linked products and services, responsible employment, and volunteering programs that engage not only our employees but also our society.

Beyond the boundaries of our businesses, we work closely with Sabancı Foundation and Sabancı University to amplify our impact. Through joint initiatives, we address critical societal needs in education, equality, cultural access, and inclusion. These partnerships, grounded in our commitment to social contribution and investments, allow us to extend our reach and deliver programs that create long-term social value.

*In 2024, Sabancı Group launched the Sabancı Youth Mobilization establishing a new social enterprise model across Türkiye.*

Aiming to retain national intellectual capital and ensure equal access to innovation and technology for young people and entrepreneurs, the campaign builds on the three-year Sabancı Republic Day Campaign (2021–2023) to invest in youth competencies and leadership development.

With the goal of “transforming brain drain into brain power,” Sabancı Youth Mobilization will expand to university campuses across Türkiye through Sabancı Technology and Impact Centers. These centers will support young people in areas such as entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainability. Focusing on Sabancı Group’s key focus areas – energy and climate technologies, material technologies, mobility solutions, and digital technologies – the centers will provide mentorship, education, and project development opportunities, enabling young people to realize their ideas.

A Sabancı Technology and Impact Centers Network will be established across various regions of Türkiye. Initially implemented in cities with Sabancı Group operations, the centers will be supported by Sabancı Volunteers and open to young talent aged 18–34.

**Over three years, the project aims to establish a presence in 34 provinces and at 35 universities in Türkiye, and at least two centers and two universities abroad, reaching a minimum of 30 thousand young people.**

Sabancı Technology and Impact Centers will foster an ecosystem for idea development and value creation, support sustainability- and social impact-focused entrepreneurs, and cultivate next-generation leadership skills.

*In 2024, a total of eight centers were established, including seven Technology and Impact Centers across five different cities and the digital hub, hosted at [sabancigenclikseferberligi.com](https://sabancigenclikseferberligi.com).*

# Our Social Agenda

The Sabancı Youth Mobilization strategically empowered young talents to develop sustainable solutions, aligning with our long-term impact goals. By fostering youth engagement in sustainability and innovation, the initiative contributed to building a future-ready society and enhancing our stakeholder value.

Sabancı Group harnesses the power of its industrial and business activities to support a wide range of social and cultural efforts through **Sabancı Foundation**.

Since its establishment, the Foundation has supported thousands of impactful projects across Türkiye, with a strong emphasis on empowering women, youth, and individuals with disabilities. By working with non-governmental organizations, public institutions, and universities, the Foundation addresses pressing societal challenges and helps build stronger, more inclusive communities.

The Sabancı Foundation has awarded over 51 thousand scholarships, supported more than 900 civil society projects, and made significant contributions to education, culture, and the arts. Through long-standing grant programs, capacity-building efforts,

and nationwide awareness campaigns, the Foundation continues to be a catalyst for sustainable social transformation.

**Sabancı University** also plays a key role in strengthening the Group's efforts to generate positive social impact with its mission to educate competent and self-confident individuals at both national and international levels. The University contributes to the production and development of knowledge in the fields of natural sciences and engineering, as well as social sciences, humanities, and management sciences through innovative and interdisciplinary research.

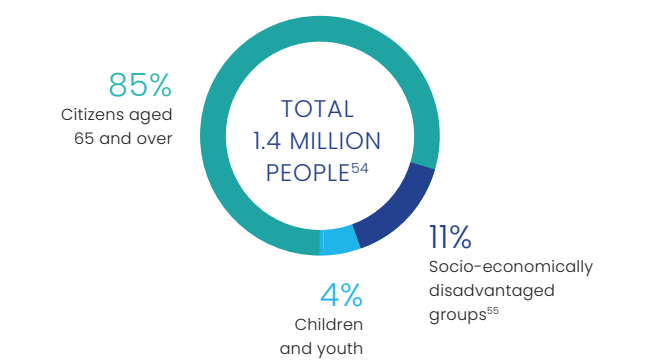
The University has contributed to society by producing a new generation of professionals who are committed to lifelong learning and positive change. Thousands of its graduates now lead impactful careers across various sectors in Türkiye and around the world.

In addition to academic excellence, the university emphasizes community engagement through volunteering, entrepreneurship, and research projects that tackle key societal issues such as climate change, digital inclusion, and social inequality. This ecosystem of

learning and contribution reinforces Sabancı Holding's vision of building a more equitable and forward-looking society.

**In collaboration with our Group companies, the Sabancı Foundation, Sabancı University, and through initiatives like the Sabancı Youth Mobilization, Sabancı Holding is dedicated to building a future where everyone can ensure prosperity.**

People Reached through Inclusion Programs Carried out by Sabancı Group Companies (2024, excluding Sabancı Foundation) ✓



54 Akbank, Agesa, Brisa, Carrefoursa, Çimsa, Kordsa, Teknosa, Enerjisa Enerji, and Enerjisa Üretim are included.  
55 These groups represent people with various social and/or economic disadvantages, and detailed definition may vary according to each program.

# Community Investments

*Our community investment efforts are anchored in two strategic pillars: empowering youth through the Sabancı Youth Mobilization and activating employees through the Sabancı Volunteers Program. Together, they embody our commitment to inclusive and lasting social value creation.*

## EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH THE SABANCI YOUTH MOBILIZATION

In line with Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's vision – “All my hope is in the youth” – we launched the Sabancı Youth Mobilization in 2024, establishing a new social enterprise model across Türkiye. At the heart of our 2024 efforts lies the Sabancı Technology and Impact Centers Network, a nationwide initiative to equip young people aged 18–34 with future-focused skills aligned with our four strategic domains: energy and climate technologies, material technologies, mobility solutions, and digital technologies.

The Sabancı Technology and Impact Centers Network includes seven physical centers and a digital hub, each designed to offer targeted education, mentorship, and entrepreneurship opportunities:

### Izmir (IYTE, İzmir Institute of Technology – Enerjisa Üretim)

Two centers that promote hands-on learning in the Remote Monitoring Room and AI powered energy analytics. Students connect with real-world data from over 25+ renewable energy plants (~3,940 MW capacity).

### Eskişehir (ESTU, Eskişehir Technical University – Çimsa)

Türkiye's first 3D-printed tech center. A six-week materials innovation program introduces sustainable cement applications and next-gen design.

### Aksaray (ASU, Aksaray University – Brisa)

Features digital manufacturing labs and an entrepreneurship program tailored to the automotive and mobility sectors.

### Kocaeli (KOÜ, Kocaeli University – Kordsa & Carrefoursa)

Separate centers from both companies which integrate sustainable materials workshops with career development and coaching for young innovators.

### Ankara (Söğütözü MHM – Enerjisa Enerji)

Offers startup support tools and deep dives into energy transition strategy, grid tech, and sustainable innovation.

The digital hub, hosted at [sabancigenclikseferberligi.com](https://sabancigenclikseferberligi.com), featured 61 free training modules spanning AI, cloud technologies, sustainability, leadership, personal development, and crisis response simulations. From over 10 thousand applicants, 4,450 active learners engaged in immersive, practical content with measurable outcomes.

# Community Investments

Group companies played an integral role in enabling this impact:

- **Enerjisa Üretim** led AI-based energy education using its plant infrastructure.
- **Çimsa** pioneered additive manufacturing for sustainable construction.
- **Brisa** provided digital production training and mobility-themed innovation modules.
- **Kordsa** supported future material sciences programming.
- **Carrefoursa** contributed to life skills and personal development sessions.

Looking forward, we aim to reach 30 thousand young people by 2026, scaling our presence to 34 provinces, 35 universities, and two international centers.

## ACTIVATING EMPLOYEES THROUGH THE SABANCI VOLUNTEERS PROGRAM

*Our Sabancı Volunteers Program channels the energy and expertise of our employees toward social impact.*

In 2024:

- 1,000 volunteers ran in the 46<sup>th</sup> Istanbul Marathon as part of our “Running for Good” initiative, supporting educational equality.

- Employees delivered mentoring sessions, led workshops, and contributed to center programming.

Through these united efforts, we foster a culture of purpose and action—mobilizing talent, inspiring the next generation, and building resilient communities throughout Türkiye and beyond.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM SABANCI GROUP COMPANIES

### Çimsa

In 2024, Çimsa launched the **Çimsa Technology and Impact Center** at **Eskişehir Technical University**, Türkiye’s largest 3D-printed structure, as part of the Sabancı Youth Mobilization. The company introduced 6-week training programs for 20 students at the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral levels in the building materials industry, introducing them to the dynamics of the industry much more closely. The programs aim to reach 500 students in five years.

Through its **“Our Work is Equality”** initiative, Çimsa promoted gender equality and realized career training to 600 students in 2024, expanding total reach to 5,950. In Mersin, the company also marked the 10th year of its powered wheelchair support program, delivering mobility solutions to nearly 500 individuals with disabilities.

### Akçansa

In 2024, Akçansa advanced its social impact through four flagship programs, **“Artificial Reef”**, **“Young Women Building Their Future”**, **“STEM Talks & STEM Education”**, and **“My Volunteer Journey”**, mobilizing 420 volunteers across 95 projects, contributing 2,380 hours of community engagement. These efforts supported youth education, gender inclusion, and environmental awareness, reinforcing the company’s commitment to inclusive development.

To strengthen regional ties and support employment, 20 blue-collar workers from nearby villages were hired at the Çanakkale plant. Akçansa also partnered with Çanakkale 18 March University to upgrade technical training infrastructure and offer student internships.

### Kordsa

In 2024, Kordsa advanced its social impact through **“Future Reinforcers”** project, an eight-year initiative rooted in the UN SDGs to provide accessible, high-quality education in material technologies. A new phase launched in 2024 includes a protocol with the Ministry of National Education to deliver comprehensive technical textile training for vocational high school students and teachers in the İzmit region. The pilot program began at Sabancı Vocational and Technical Anatolian High School in İzmit, where 11th and 12<sup>th</sup> graders receive practical,

# Community Investments

profession-aligned education. Successful graduates may receive employment offers based on performance.

Kordsa also established the **Kordsa Technology and Impact Center at Kocaeli University** in December 2024, designed to equip students with advanced technical and leadership skills related to material technologies through training and mentorship. Supported by Sabancı Group's technology infrastructure, the center facilitates direct knowledge transfer from industry professionals. Since its opening, over 120 students have engaged, with a goal to reach 1,500 by the end of 2025.

## Brisa

In 2024, **"Young Women Building Their Future"** project of Brisa trained over 250 young women in vocational skills, job placement, and mentorship, enhancing their workforce participation.

**Brisa Academy** supported over 14,500 individuals with technical training and social mobility programs.

Brisa launched the **Brisa Technology and Impact Center in Aksaray** as part of the Sabancı Youth Mobilization, serving as a hub for youth innovation and digital manufacturing education tailored to the automotive and mobility sectors.

## Temsa

In 2024, Temsa's **"We Removed Barriers in Career (KAEK)"** project continued supporting disabled individuals in overcoming employment obstacles and raising social awareness over its 10-year journey.

The **"Strong Women of Automotive"** project, launched in 2023, empowered NEET women in Çukurova with technical training, leading to the employment of 28 women and wider social awareness. Additionally, the **"Changemakers"** program recognized sustainability-focused projects, promoting innovation and best practices within Temsa.

The **"Temsa Dream Partners"** initiative, marking its 10<sup>th</sup> year, organized a Children's Festival in Hatay for children affected by the earthquake. The project aims to create equal opportunities in education, support the development of children, and ensure mental and physical well-being; reaching thousands of students to date.

## Enerjisa Enerji

The **"Karataş Sustainable Fisheries Support Project"** of Enerjisa Enerji addresses marine pollution and ecosystem threats in one of Türkiye's largest fishing districts, tackling ghost nets, plastic waste, and climate risks.

This initiative aligns with nine UN SDGs and achieved an **SROI of 8.7** in 2024.

The long-running **"I Am Protecting the Energy of the World"** program has educated over 300 thousand primary school students on energy conservation since 2010, supported by hundreds of employee volunteers.

The **"She-nergy"** program promotes female employment in electricity distribution, winning multiple awards including first place in the New Generation of Sabancı category at the 15<sup>th</sup> Sabancı Golden Collar Awards.

## Enerjisa Üretim

Enerjisa Üretim's high-impact social initiative, the **"Womomentum Program"**, which supports women's career development and workforce participation, achieved a remarkable **SROI of 17.37** in 2024, reflecting significant improvements in confidence, professional skills, and gender awareness among participants.

The **"REDKA"** project successfully operated the Ovacık Wind Energy Power Plant end-to-end with an all-female team, earning recognition at the 5th International Awareness Awards for promoting women's employment and equal opportunities.

# Community Investments

The company also supports local communities near its power plants and renewable energy sites through partnerships with public institutions and civil society.

A key milestone in 2024 was the establishment of a **dedicated Social Business team** within the company's sustainability unit, creating a systematic approach to social impact management and ensuring the continuity of social sustainability efforts across all operations.

## Akbank

In 2024, Akbank's key programs such as the **"Youth Academy"**, reaching over 180 thousand youth, and **"CaseCampus"** demonstrated measurable social returns, confirming their societal value.

Through **"Transformation Holds the Future"**, Akbank upcycles office furniture into school supplies, supporting vocational students in the earthquake zone. Over 18 thousand pieces will benefit nearly 400 thousand students in more than 1,300 schools by project completion.

As the only Turkish bank in the UNEP FI & UN Women's Gender Equality Working Group 2024, Akbank leads on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in the financial sector.

Akbank also hosted over 700 cultural events and introduced Türkiye's first permanent AI artwork by Refik Anadol, inspiring youth with the fusion of art and technology.

## Teknosa

In 2024, Teknosa advanced its social impact primarily through the **"Technology for Women"** project, which delivered digital skills training to thousands of women and achieved an SROI of 4.27, empowering greater digital inclusion.

## SabancıDx

The **"Yarınlar Seninle Mümkün" (Tomorrow is Possible with You)** project concluded in 2024, empowering 500 university students across Türkiye, including a 20% quota for earthquake-affected youth. Over five semesters, participants engaged in workshops, mentorship, and webinars to build career planning and personal development skills.

SabancıDx experts delivered key trainings covering cybersecurity, human-centered design, cloud transformation, artificial intelligence, agile software development, lifelong learning, and career management. These sessions provided participants with practical skills and insights to navigate the digital era confidently.



# Sabancı Foundation

50

Years of  
History

120+

Institutions

55K+

Scholarships

*Sabancı Group harnesses the power of its industrial and business activities to support a wide range of social and cultural efforts through Sabancı Foundation. Today, it is one of the leading family foundations in Türkiye.*

Embracing the late Hacı Ömer Sabancı's life philosophy of "Sharing what we have obtained from this land with its people," the Sabancı family established Hacı Ömer Sabancı Foundation (known as Sabancı Foundation) in 1974 to consolidate all their philanthropic activities under one organization. Sadıka Sabancı, wife of Hacı Ömer Sabancı, donated her entire wealth to the Foundation's endowment. Sabancı Foundation's financial resources consist of donations provided by the Sabancı Family and Sabancı Group, and revenues generated from the Foundation's assets.

*2024 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sabancı Foundation's establishment.*

During its 50-year history, Sabancı Foundation has built more than 120 institutions – schools, dormitories, teachers' centers, medical facilities, sports complexes, cultural centers and social facilities – in 78 districts across Türkiye. Since 2007, the Foundation has supported 247 projects carried out by civil society organizations nationwide. In culture and the arts, the Foundation has provided long term support to major activities and events.

Having provided more than 55 thousand scholarships over the last 50 years, Sabancı Foundation encourages and recognizes success with awards in education, the arts and sports.

The Foundation's primary areas of activity include education, social change, culture, and the arts. The Foundation focuses particularly on women, young people, and people with disabilities within these activities.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

On March 23–24, a search conference was held with the participation of national and international philanthropic organizations. Insights, expertise and a collaborative spirit fostered meaningful discussions and generated innovative ideas regarding the Foundation's future. The review of findings from this strategic change search conference continued throughout the year and will be

further structured in 2025 to inform the Foundation's future strategy. A documentary film and a special book were produced to commemorate Sabancı Foundation's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

## SOCIAL CHANGE

Sabancı Foundation supports projects implemented by civil society organizations with grants aimed at finding lasting solutions to today's complex social issues. The Foundation engages in long-term, institutional partnerships to expand its scope and impact.

Introduced in 2007, Sabancı Foundation Grants Program supports civil society organizations in promoting social development to achieve equality and the active participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities in society. Over its 18-year history, the Grants Program has provided support to 247 projects and initiatives, directly impacting nearly 422 thousand individuals and indirectly reaching over 6.8 million people nationwide.

Türkiye's Changemakers Program, which successfully completed its 15<sup>th</sup> year in 2024, highlights the stories and efforts of individuals who significantly contribute to social development and inspire society across the country. Since its inception in 2009, the program has received nearly 20 thousand applications; the remarkable stories



# Sabancı Foundation

of 216 Changemakers were selected and video recorded. These inspiring videos are widely disseminated on the program's website and social media platforms.

In 2024, Sabancı Foundation hosted Dr. Jane Goodall, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and Roots & Shoots, United Nations Peace Ambassador, and renowned ethologist at a special event. The event focused on biodiversity, climate action, and the role of youth in driving change. Dr. Goodall delivered an inspiring speech, sharing her life story, emphasizing hope and the interconnectedness of all life, and calling for collective action.

Launched in 2022, the first phase of the 'Young Women Building Their Future' project, an effort aimed at raising awareness of the challenges faced by NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) young women in Türkiye, was completed in 2024. According to an SROI analysis, the first phase generated a social return of TL 4.14 for every TL 1 invested through training, mentorship, and grant programs, enhancing employability and empowerment and influencing national policies.

## INSTITUTIONS

To date, Sabancı Foundation has built more than 120 institutions in 78 districts across Türkiye, including

schools, student dormitories, healthcare facilities, cultural centers, sports facilities, libraries, teachers' centers, and social facilities as well as Sabancı University –the most significant investment undertaken by Sabancı Foundation.

In 2024, the Foundation continued its school investments in the country's earthquake region. Construction of Enerjisa Atatürk Primary School in Hassa district of Hatay was completed with a donation of Enerjisa Enerji's partner, E.ON. The Hatay Arsuz Sabancı Secondary School Agesa Annex Building was also completed with a donation from Agesa. School buildings completed in 2024 are: Hatay – Hassa Enerjisa Atatürk Primary School, Hatay – Arsuz Sabancı Secondary School Agesa Annex Building, Adana – Sakıp Sabancı Secondary School, İstanbul – Sakıp Sabancı Anatolian High School Gymnasium

## CULTURE & THE ARTS

Over the years, Sabancı Foundation has provided long-term support to culture and the arts. The Foundation has supported The State Theaters – Sabancı International Adana Theater Festival since 1998 and Türkiye Youth Philharmonic Orchestra since 2009. The Foundation's support to Metropolis Ancient City excavations also continued in 2024.

Sabancı Foundation Short Film Competition was launched in 2016 with the tagline "Short Film, Long Impact." This popular competition raises awareness of social issues through art, while highlighting the creative perspective of cinema and encouraging young talent. In 2024, "Climate Migration" was the theme of the Sabancı Foundation 9<sup>th</sup> Short Film Competition, held under the tagline "Film It Before They Migrate."

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Over its 50-year history, Sabancı Foundation has provided more than 55 thousand scholarships to students demonstrating academic excellence through its scholarship program. Currently, Sabancı Foundation scholarships support approximately 1,500 students each year, with 350 being new recipients. Sabancı Foundation has award programs in education, sports, arts, and culture. To date, these programs have presented 1,280 awards to deserving recipients in these diverse fields. Sabancı Foundation's various activities have also received awards in recognition of their excellence. The Foundation's awareness campaigns, such as the video film produced for the October 11 International Day of the Girl Child, garnered significant positive feedback and recognition. In 2024, Sabancı Foundation received a total of 13 awards for this video film and other projects.

# Sabancı University

5,228

Students

350+

Patents

9,200+

Publications

## SHAPING THE FUTURE THROUGH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Sabancı University is committed to educating self-confident individuals who embrace universal values, demonstrate compassion for society's needs while focusing on solutions, internalize collaborative creation and development, and pursue continuous development.

One of Türkiye's three officially recognized Research Universities by the Presidency of Strategy and Budget and Council of Higher Education (YÖK), Sabancı

University conducts interdisciplinary research across its faculties, centers, and forums in basic and social sciences, engineering and technology, business and art. Its 10 centers and forums contribute to scientific research, economic development, and society.

*Sabancı University has made significant contributions with over 9,200 publications and has secured more than 352 patents to date.*

Founded on a research-driven ethos, Sabancı University has produced over 9,200 publications<sup>56</sup> and secured more than 352 patents<sup>58</sup> to date. As of end-November 2024, the University has 276 active externally funded research projects with a total budget of TL 1.8 billion<sup>57</sup>. The University ranked first among 165 universities in TÜBİTAK-supported project budgets at TL 497 million. Sabancı University faculty published over 650 scientific publications<sup>56</sup> and obtained 36 patents<sup>58</sup>.

## ACHIEVEMENTS UNDERSCORING "RESEARCH UNIVERSITY" STATUS

*Sabancı University has reaffirmed its status as a Research University through numerous achievements throughout the year.*

- In the 2025 Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings, the University ranked in the 351-400 band among 2,092 educational institutions, sharing first place among 91 Turkish universities.
- Sabancı University Executive Development Unit (EDU) has climbed 44 places since 2018, ranking 34<sup>th</sup> in the 2024 Financial Times Executive Education World Rankings.
- Sabancı University's European MBA program achieved the highest ranking among Turkish programs in the QS European Rankings this year, reaching 64<sup>th</sup> place in Europe and first in Türkiye.
- As of end-November 2024, 110 externally funded research projects, including significant international studies, were completed, and 111 new projects were launched.

<sup>56</sup> Data updated: 25.12.2024 (Scopus)

<sup>57</sup> Data updated: 30.11.2024

<sup>58</sup> Data updated: 13.12.2024

# Sabancı University

## TOP PERFORMANCE IN COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION RANKINGS

Sabancı University ranked second in the Council of Higher Education's 2023 Research Universities performance ranking, up one position from the previous year. In the ranking, based on 2023 research university data, Sabancı University shared first place for Research Quality and achieved the highest score among 23 universities for Interaction and Collaboration.

## TÜRKİYE'S TOP UNIVERSITY FOR GRADUATE EMPLOYABILITY

*Sabancı University ranked among the top 250 universities globally in the 2025 Times Higher Education Global Employability University Ranking.*

As one of only two Turkish universities included, Sabancı University placed 218<sup>th</sup> worldwide.

Some 91% of Sabancı University alumni secure employment within one year of graduation, while 32% pursue graduate studies or careers internationally.

## UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS

Sabancı University supports student, faculty, and university-wide initiatives, innovative studies, and research. Seventeen percent of full-time faculty members in the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences are active entrepreneurs with established companies. As a leading research university in Türkiye and globally, Sabancı University strives to maintain its top ranking in the annual TÜBİTAK Entrepreneurial and Innovative University Index.

## ATTRACTING TOP STUDENTS

Over 5,228 students are enrolled at Sabancı University: 83% undergraduate and 17% graduate. In the 2024 Higher Education Institutions Exam, 803 students enrolled at Sabancı University, with 15% ranking in the top 1,000 nationwide. Foreign student enrollment reached 13% in the 2024-2025 academic year.

The Make a Promise for the Future Scholarship Program provided full scholarships to eight students from the earthquake region who enrolled via the entrance exam. Three current students will also receive scholarships through this program.

## NEW DATA SCIENCE AND ANALYTICS UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Sabancı University launched a new undergraduate Data Science and Analytics program in the 2024-2025 academic year, providing education in highly sought-after data analysis skills crucial for future professions.

## NEW INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR PROGRAM: BATTERY SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

The dynamic, interdisciplinary Battery Science and Engineering minor program integrates materials science, nanoengineering, mechatronics, electronics, and computer science to address global challenges in e-mobility and energy storage.

## SAKIP SABANCI INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARDS AND 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

The late Sakip Sabancı, Honorary Chair of Sabancı University, was commemorated at a special ceremony marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his passing. The Sakip Sabancı International Research Awards and 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony at Sabancı Center included a panel discussion on "Sakip Sabancı's Vision: Navigating the Future in Our Globalizing World:

# Sabancı University

Trends, Risks, and Opportunities,” attended by leading scientists from Türkiye and abroad. “The Vision of Sakıp Sabancı Project,” created for the 2024 commemoration, received six awards including the “European Excellence Awards 2024: AI in Communication.”

## *Türkiye’s First Campus to Announce a Net-Zero Target*

Sabancı University aims for net-zero energy on its Tuzla campus. As a green campus with significant solar energy infrastructure, and through its I-REC certification and 100% Green Energy Agreement with Enerjisa Enerji, the University meets all its energy needs from renewable energy sources. The Tuzla campus features a 1,100 kWe solar power plant and cogeneration system.

## PIONEERING SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Sabancı University’s Istanbul International Center for Energy and Climate (IICEC) held two key conferences in 2024: “Business World and Sustainable Energy” (April) and “Economic Growth and Energy: Shaping the Economy of the Future ” (December). The December conference was hosted by Güler Sabancı, Founding Chair of Sabancı University Board of Trustees, and Dr. Fatih Birol, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency (IEA) and Honorary Chair of IICEC. Turkish Treasury and Finance Minister Mehmet Şimşek was guest of honor.

Since establishing its technology commercialization company, Sabancı University Inovent Inc., in 2006, the University has accelerated its contributions to the entrepreneurial ecosystem. As of 2025, Inovent’s portfolio includes over 20 academic spin-offs. As an official TÜBİTAK BiGG Fund implementing organization, Inovent provides co-investment opportunities for early-stage startups. Inovent also manages startup scouting and evaluation for the Sabancı Holding and Abdul Latif Jameel-established J-Start Venture Capital Investment Fund, which focuses on deep-tech startups.

The SUCool Entrepreneurship Center, initially a 2014 pre-incubation program, expanded in 2023 with a dedicated center building to enhance support for entrepreneurs, providing a modern facility for co-working, collaboration, and networking.

To further these efforts, an innovation office – the first among Turkish universities – was established last year, with a dedicated Chief Innovation Officer.

# Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum (SSM)

2,000+

Artworks Accessible via digitalSSM

10,000+

Children & Students Enriched by the Arts

*Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum (SSM) aims to preserve, develop, and research artistic heritage through its collections, exhibitions, and programs.*

## SSM COLLECTIONS

*Housed within the historic Atlı Köşk, the Sakıp Sabancı Museum collections reopened to the public in December 2024 following an extensive nine-month restoration.*

Atlı Köşk now offers visitors a renewed and enriched experience, showcasing refined presentations of the Arts of the Book and Calligraphy Collection, the Painting Collection, and the Furniture and Decorative Arts Collection, blending newly acquired works with the established collection.

The enhanced displays underscore the museum's commitment to a dynamic approach to its collections, introducing previously unseen pieces to the public. Research on the Furniture and Decorative Arts Collection has yielded valuable insights into the history of the mansion and the context of its collections, providing new dimensions to both the exhibition arrangements and the museum's digital platforms.

The reopening of Atlı Köşk is further complemented by the expanded offerings of digitalSSM, the museum's digital archive platform. Accessible works now include

610 items from the Arts of the Book and Calligraphy Collection, 700 items from the Painting Collection, and 370 items from the Emirgan Archive. With the addition of sections dedicated to Archaeological Artifacts and the Furniture and Decorative Arts Collection, digitalSSM has evolved into an invaluable resource for all art enthusiasts.

## EXHIBITIONS AT SSM

### Georg Baselitz: The Last Decade

On September 13, 2024, SSM unveiled Georg Baselitz: The Last Decade, an exhibition dedicated to the works of the renowned German painter, sculptor, and printmaker.

Spanning all gallery spaces and the museum's gardens, the exhibition features nearly 100 monumental paintings and sculptures created over the last decade. A concurrent exhibition at Akbank Sanat presents an extensive selection of Baselitz's prints, providing an in-depth perspective on the artist's lifelong creative evolution.

Since the 1980s, Baselitz has made an indelible mark on the international art world, redefining German art in the post-war era. His works, deeply influenced by personal experiences and Germany's collective trauma,

# Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum (SSM)

reflect the enduring scars left by the Nazi period. The exhibition prominently features his iconic upside-down compositions, a hallmark of his artistic practice since 1969.

Accompanying the exhibition, a series of conferences brought together renowned historians and art experts to explore the artist's life, era, and oeuvre. The exhibition catalog features essays by Norman Rosenthal, Beral Madra, Eric Darragon, and John-Paul Stonard, offering critical insights into Baselitz's practice. Additionally, a children's book titled *Introducing Baselitz* invites young readers to delve into the artist's inspiring world, exploring his life and works through narratives rooted in his childhood.

## SSM LEARNING PROGRAMS

### Children's Programs

In 2024, SSM Learning Programs continued to conduct workshops inspired by its collections and current exhibitions, covering disciplines such as painting, architecture, archaeology, and abstract art. Guided tours for school groups also remained a key feature of the program.

Workshops such as "Families with Strollers" catered to children aged 18–24 months, focusing on textures, shapes, and colors. In total, approximately 2,000 children participated in specially designed workshops, while 120 schools and nearly 4,500 students attended complimentary guided school tours.

### Adult Programs

Adult programs at SSM in 2024 featured a range of enriching and interdisciplinary workshops and conferences, offering participants creative and intellectual engagement across diverse fields.

As part of the Georg Baselitz: The Last Decade exhibition, three seminars were held: "The Desolation into Which Baselitz Was Born: Nazism and Its Wreckage" by Prof. Halil Berktaş, "Memory in German Contemporary Art" by Dr. Osman Erden, and "From Illustrated Manuscripts to Wall Paintings: Visual Culture in a Modernizing Ottoman Society" by Prof. Tarkan Okçuoğlu.

The museum also hosted creative art therapy workshops titled *In Search of Raw Form: The Creative Process with Clay*, led by certified expressive art therapist Bihter Yasemin Adalı. Some 1,000 participants attended the year's adult-focused workshops and conferences.

## OUTDOOR EVENTS

### Soirée at the Museum

*Held on SSM's Bosphorus-view terrace from June 4–9, 2024, Soirée at the Museum, organized with the support of Sabancı Foundation and in collaboration with Başka Sinema, offered an exceptional open-air cinematic experience for cinephiles.*

Curated under the theme "Different Colors, Voices, Faces," the program presented an insightful selection of films. Among the Turkish productions, *Yurt* was a standout, having garnered the Best Screenplay award at the 2023 Venice Bisato d'Oro Awards and the Best Film accolade at the 2024 Annonay Film Festival. Another highlight was *Faruk*, celebrated with the FIPRESCI Award at the 2024 Berlinale Panorama. Also featured was *Bildiğin Gibi Değil*, directed by Vuslat Saraçoğlu, with stellar performances by Alican Yücesoy, Hazal Türesan and Serdar Orçin. This poignant narrative of three siblings triumphed at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Istanbul Film Festival, receiving the Jury Special Prize, Best Screenplay, Best Editing and Best Actor awards.

# Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum (SSM)

The international segment featured *The Peasants*, an adaptation of Wladyslaw Reymont's Nobel Prize-winning novel; *Daliland*, an intricate exploration of Salvador Dalí's life and art; and *Vanya*, a National Theatre Live adaptation of Chekhov's classic *Uncle Vanya*, reimagined by Simon Stephens.

## Stage at the Museum

Since 2017, Stage at the Museum has been organized with the support of the Sabancı Foundation. From August 22-25, 2024, the program, themed "Eyes Hear, Ears See," featured not only the most compelling plays of the season but also innovative performances and workshops that synthesized auditory and visual perception.

The theatrical component of the program featured performances of *Bana Kimse Ne Olduğunu Anlatmadı*, a play that earned İbrahim Selim the award for Actor of the Year at the 2016 Afife Theatre Awards; *Baba*, starring Şerif Erol and Özlem Zeynep Dinsel, regarded as one of the most significant international plays of recent times; *Mahallemiz Eşrafından*, set on an island where Greeks and Turks coexist; *Geçen Gün*, which portrays the intersecting, overlapping, and colliding encounters of two individuals; *Parrhesia 2*, examining the necessities of being human in an era where defending truth has

become both challenging and essential; and *Ama*, a humorous exploration of the intersections between the professional and personal lives of artists living in Istanbul. Additionally, the extensive program offered a wide array of activities, including the dance event *Sessiz Disko*; an interactive sound installation by Serkan Aka; sound painting workshops for children and adults; site-specific sound meditations, sound walks, and sound-mapping exercises led by sound designer and researcher Dr. Oğuz Öner; and ATTA's immersive and participatory performances designed for infants and children.

## YOGA AT THE MUSEUM

The highly anticipated Yoga at the Museum series, renowned for its annual appeal, drew participants to SSM's unique Bosphorus-view terrace from June to September 2024.

## CONCERTS

### Akbank Jazz Festival

As part of the 34<sup>th</sup> Akbank Jazz Festival, SSM hosted a harp concert by Meriç Dönük in its enchanting garden setting on September 29, 2024.

## SSM SHOP

In 2024, the Sakıp Sabancı Museum Shop featured products and services designed to create unforgettable cultural and artistic experiences for art enthusiasts. With both physical and digital spaces accessible to all, the SSM Shop maintained its commitment to accessibility and innovation, offering products and services that complement both permanent collections and temporary exhibitions through collaborations with designers and suppliers of design products. In all its operations, the SSM Shop remained dedicated to social responsibility and sustainability, seamlessly integrating these principles into its thoughtfully curated offerings.



# Financial Inclusion

According to the [World Bank's Global Findex Database 2021 Türkiye Country Brief](#), 74% of adults in Türkiye have an account at a financial institution. However, the data reveals a persistent gender gap in account ownership: 63% of women compared to 85% of men. Moreover, over one-third of account holders opened accounts primarily to receive government or wage payments, indicating that access to accounts is often functional but not always fully empowering. Around 68% use their accounts for digital payments, pointing to both the opportunity and necessity to drive deeper engagement and literacy.

Financial services today are more than mere tools for economic transactions, but an instrument of social empowerment. Equitable access to financial tools enables individuals and communities facing systematic barriers to stabilize their income, build resilience, and unlock opportunities. Without such access, social and economic disparities worsen, slowing the progress towards achieving the UN SDGs.

As digital innovation reshapes the global financial landscape, emerging technologies are unlocking possibilities for expanding financial inclusion. However, sustainable financial inclusion does not only flourish with access but requires efforts to promote financial literacy, strengthen trust and encourage active use of financial

services; being integral to any strategy aimed at building sustainable and equitable communities.

**At Sabancı Group, financial inclusion enables us to serve a broader customer base, enhance income diversification, promote social equity, and contribute to sustainable economic growth.**

We recognize the importance of building a financial system that is not only digitally accessible and innovative but also inclusive; capable of empowering every segment of society, including women, youth, entrepreneurs, and underserved customer groups.

Through the integrated strength of our banking, insurance, and pension companies, we aim to make financial services more equitable, barrier-free, and effective in improving the financial health of individuals and businesses across Türkiye.

## DIGITAL SOLUTIONS AND FINANCIAL LITERACY

Türkiye's rapid digitalization offers a meaningful pathway to inclusion. Akbank, as Sabancı Group's flagship financial institution, remains committed to offering simple, personalized, and user-friendly financial experiences through its mobile platform.

**Akbank Assistant** and smart search features manage **over 7 million interactions monthly**. The **"For You"** app delivers **35 million personalized notifications** and **over 45 video tutorials each month**, helping users better understand and manage their financial activities. Features such as **"My Expenses"**; **"My Home"**; **"My Travel"**; offer contextual insights for proactive financial planning, while interactive quizzes and content co-developed with **Microfon.co** help improve financial literacy in a relevant and engaging format. In addition, with the collaboration of **FODER** (Financial Literacy and Inclusion Association), Akbank organizes financial seminars for retirees and homemakers to raise awareness on saving, accumulation and investment.

**Agesa** supports financial inclusion by providing a variety of options to its customers tailored to different levels of financial literacy. Agesa helps its customers with private pension plans, catering to their specific needs and preferences in fund management through its digital fund advisor application, FonPro. The limited financial literacy option **'FonPro Uzmana Bırak'** (Delegate to Expert) provides regular information through expert fund management, eliminating the need to actively monitor the financial markets. By adopting this approach, Agesa aims to safeguard customers' investments and enhance their comprehension of all the potential and options at their disposal.

# Financial Inclusion

Moreover, Agesa continued to work to improve financial literacy and help individuals achieve their financial goals; improve their financial health, behaviors, attitudes and habits. With their **YouTube Project “Financial Therapy”** the industry’s first financial literacy video series, Agesa achieved **4.6 million views**.

## ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVE BANKING SERVICES

Sabancı Group prioritizes universal access across physical and digital channels. Akbank continues its collaboration with BlindLook, delivering **voice-assisted mobile banking for visually impaired users and sign language-supported customer service**. Branch accessibility is continuously improved through tactile paving, induction loops, Braille signage, and inclusive communication training for staff. In addition, audio and sign language formats are being introduced across customer documentation and service processes, reflecting our broader ambition to eliminate barriers and extend service reach. Akbank continues to foster effective communication with their employees and customers with disabilities through the **“Inclusive and BarrierFree Communication”** e-training, available to all bank employees. Accessibility features for the disabled are available across all 98 of Akbank’s branches.

**Agesa** received the **EyeBrand Award at BlindLook’s EyeBrand Ceremony for its voice simulation technology** developed for visually impaired customers. Through this technology offered on Agesa Mobile and website, visually impaired customers can perform all insurance transactions autonomously. In addition, Agesa launched a **video call service for hearing-impaired customers**, a first in the sector.

**As part of its Barrier-Free Digital Experience efforts, Agesa won a Bronze Stevie in the “Sustainability Service of the Year in Europe” category at the Stevie Awards, a Silver Award in the Positive Social Benefit category at the PSM Awards, and a Gold Award in the “Social Responsibility” category at the 2024 Smart-i Awards with its Audio Simulation Support for Visually Impaired Users project.**

Aksigorta develops inclusive solutions in its digital channels to ensure equal access to insurance services for everyone. As part of the BlindLook collaboration, Aksigorta added **voice guidance for the visually impaired to aksigorta.com.tr, online.aksigorta.com.tr and Aksigorta mobile application**, offering a barrier-free digital insurance experience. In addition, the Company strengthened its commitment to increasing financial inclusion by taking part in the EyeBrand Map, which sets digital accessibility standards.

## SUPPORTING SMES AND WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

SMEs are central to Türkiye’s economic fabric, and Sabancı Group actively supports their growth through accessible finance and advisory services.

Akbank’s embedded finance platform **Tosla İşim** and the **SME Eco Transformation Package** are designed to help SMEs –especially those facing sustainability transitions– manage cash flow, digitize operations, and reduce emissions.

As part of its commitment to financial health and inclusivity, Akbank has set measurable targets and regularly reports on its progress. The bank provides a wide range of products and services to enhance women entrepreneurs’ financial resilience and foster sustainable growth.

**Since launching the Women’s SME segment in 2021, Akbank has doubled its customer base and increased its loan balance sevenfold.**

By 2025, Akbank aims for a 10% annual growth rate in the number of women SME customers, surpassing expectations with a 23% increase in 2023 and a 19% increase in 2024.

# Financial Inclusion

Through the Women Enterprises Financing and Consultancy Support Program, **Akbank introduced the Women's SME Package, Türkiye's first and most comprehensive SME-focused package, backed by \$100 million from the EBRD and 80% Credit Guarantee Fund (CGF) support for women-led or managed SMEs facing guarantee challenges.** This package not only provides financing but also offers free mentorship, consultancy, and training. Additionally, through the **Binyaprak Women's SME Mentorship Program**, in collaboration with Turkishwin, the bank provided one-on-one mentorship to 100 Women SMEs, with the same support planned for another 100 in 2025.

## ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM AND INNOVATION SUPPORT

Inclusion also means enabling bold ideas and new ventures. **Akbank's Entrepreneurial Banking model** addresses the unique needs of early-stage startups and technology entrepreneurs through a mix of financial products, mentoring, networking, and capital access. **By 2024, this model had expanded to six dedicated branches in three provinces.** More than **300 entrepreneurs** joined workshops, and around **100 startups** participated in Akbank's development programs.

Through the **Technological Entrepreneurship Package**, Akbank also provides access to value-added services including cloud infrastructure, legal support, and digital marketing tools helping startups overcome non-financial barriers to scale.

Akbank also supports employee entrepreneurs through the **Akbank+** program, which has **invested USD 1.4 million** in intrapreneur-founded startups.

**Case Campus** – a boot camp connecting university students and recent graduates with the entrepreneurial ecosystem – and **Boost the Future** startup acceleration program continued successfully in collaboration with Endeavor, further strengthening Türkiye's entrepreneurship ecosystem.

By offering a customer-oriented insurance experience through digital transformation, **Aksigorta** supported start-ups developing artificial intelligence technologies at the Big Bang Startup Challenge as an ITU Çekirdek Gold Stakeholder. In this context, the Company provided a total of **TL 600 thousand in grants** (TL 300 thousand each) to Sensed AI, which offers solutions for the physical integrity and health of buildings and critical infrastructures, and SmartIR, which analyzes objects and people for security and operational efficiency.

## YOUTH BANKING AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Financial inclusion must start early to have lasting impact. **Akbank's youth-oriented programs** serve two major customer segments, **"Ready to Kick Off"** and **"Just Starting Out"**. Since launching its updated approach to student banking (formerly Akbank FAV), Akbank has **expanded its student customer base 3.3 times and its total young customer base 2.3 times.**

**AkÖde's Tosla app** complements this offering with a mobile-first experience that includes digital ID cards, sustainability-aligned card products, and tools tailored for young individuals and micro-businesses. Akbank also aligns its loyalty platform with social benefit: the chip money donation feature has supported eight NGO campaigns since May 2024, including initiatives with the Kurtaran Ev Association and the Tohum Autism Foundation.

**As Türkiye's financial ecosystem continues to evolve, Sabancı Group remains committed to ensuring no one is left behind. By embedding accessibility, education, gender balance, and entrepreneurial empowerment into our financial services strategy, we contribute to a more inclusive and resilient economy; one where every individual and enterprise has the means and confidence to participate in value creation.**