



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY DOCUMENT

SECTION ONE

Purpose, Scope, and Definitions

1. Short Title

“Arkin University of Creative Arts and Design (ARUCAD) Community Engagement Policy Document.”.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy Document, the following terms shall have the meanings set out below;

- a) University: ARUCAD University,
- b) Board of Trustees, Senate, or the relevant Administrative Board: The ARUCAD Board of Trustees, ARUCAD Senate, or the relevant ARUCAD Administrative Board,
- c) Rector: The Rector of ARUCAD,
- d) Governance: The holistic management structure encompassing the determination of the strategic direction of the University, the execution of decision-making processes, the balancing of authority and responsibility, and the ensuring of accountability,
- e) Community Engagement: The multidimensional contribution made by the University to the social, cultural, economic, and environmental development of society through its education and training, research, arts, and service activities,
- f) Social Benefit: The sustainable and positive impacts generated by community engagement activities that enhance the quality of life of individuals and society,
- g) PDCA Cycle (Plan-Do-Check-Act): The quality management model based on the planning, implementation, monitoring, and improvement of institutional activities in accordance with the results obtained.

3. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to transform the University’s knowledge base, academic expertise, and creative capacity into social benefit; **to contribute to sustainable development** at the local, national, and global levels; and to strengthen the interaction between the University and society.

4. Scope

This Policy covers all community engagement activities carried out within the scope of education and training, research and development, arts, culture and creative activities, as well as social responsibility and volunteer initiatives.

SECTION TWO

Fundamental Principles, Objectives, and Relationship with Institutional Areas

5. Fundamental Community Engagement Principles

Our University conducts its community engagement activities in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) **Social Benefit and Responsibility:** Developing solution-oriented and ethical approaches that are responsive to societal needs
- (b) **Participation and Collaboration:** Acting in cooperation with local governments, non-governmental organizations, public institutions, and the private sector
- (c) **Equality and Inclusiveness:** Conducting accessible and inclusive activities that consider disadvantaged groups
- (d) **Sustainability:** Planning community engagement activities to create long-term impact rather than organizing temporary events
- (e) **Scientific and Artistic Foundation:** Placing academic knowledge, scientific methods, and artistic production at the center of community engagement

6. Strategic Objectives

The University's community engagement strategy is shaped within the framework of the University's strategic plan in line with the following objectives:

- (1) **Local and Regional Contribution**
 - (a) To develop initiatives addressing the social, cultural, economic, and environmental needs of the region where the University is located,
 - (b) To establish sustainable collaborations with local stakeholders.
- (2) **Culture, Arts, and Creative Industries**
 - (a) To raise social awareness through arts and design,
 - (b) To contribute to the protection and visibility of cultural heritage.
- (3) **Social Responsibility and Volunteering**
 - (a) To encourage the participation of students and staff in volunteer-based activities,
 - (b) To support projects that enhance social awareness.
- (4) **Sustainable Development and Environment**
 - (a) To conduct projects aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,
 - (b) To support activities that promote environmental awareness and climate consciousness.
- (5) **Knowledge Transfer to Society**
 - (a) To make scientific and artistic outputs accessible to society,
 - (b) To expand lifelong learning and continuing education activities.

7. Relationship of Community Engagement with Education and Research

- (1) Community engagement is addressed in an integrated manner with education, training, and research activities.
- (2) Course contents, project work, and applied learning processes are supported to include a community engagement dimension.
- (3) The transformation of research outcomes into social impact is encouraged.

8. Community Engagement and Stakeholder Collaboration

- (1) The University develops collaborations with local administrations, public institutions, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, and the private sector.
- (2) Stakeholder opinions are taken into consideration in the planning and evaluation of community engagement activities.

9. Governance and Support Mechanisms

- (1) Community engagement activities are planned and carried out through relevant committees and coordinatorships.

- (2) Incentive and support mechanisms are developed to increase the participation of students and staff.
- (3) Digital platforms and communication tools are used effectively.

10. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Continuous Improvement

- (1) The implementation of this Policy is monitored by quality commissions and relevant boards.
- (2) It is evaluated through indicators and internal evaluation reports.
- (3) Policies are updated in line with feedback, and processes are improved within the framework of the PDCA Cycle.

SECTION THREE Other Provisions

11. Matters Not Provided for in the Principles

In cases where no provision is set forth in this Policy, the relevant provisions of other regulations of ARUCAD, as well as the decisions of the Board of Trustees, the Senate, or the relevant Administrative Board, shall apply.

12. Entry into Force

These policies shall enter into force as of the date on which they are adopted by the Senate of Arkın University of Creative Arts and Design.

13. Authority for Implementation

The provisions of these policies shall be implemented by the Rector of Arkın University of Creative Arts and Design.