



KAZANCI HOLDING



AKSA SUSTAINABILITY BULLETIN

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NEWS FROM AKSA

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COOPERATION AGREEMENT
FOR THE MERSIN WIND POWER
PLANT PROJECT**

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GOLDWIND AND AKSA RENEWABLE ENERGY SIGN A COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE MERSIN WIND POWER PLANT PROJECT

An agreement has been signed between Goldwind and Aksa Renewable Energy, a subsidiary of Aksa Energy, for the 100 MW wind power plant with storage project to be established in Mersin.



Under the agreement signed between Aksa Renewable Energy and Goldwind, which operates in the field of wind energy technologies, it is aimed to commission Goldwind's state-of-the-art GWH182-8.0 MW model wind turbines in the project. In order to support continuity of generation, the integration of energy storage systems into the project is also envisaged.

The wind power plant to be implemented in Mersin will contribute to more effective management of the fluctuating generation profile of wind energy thanks to storage integration. This structure will increase flexibility while enabling a more balanced supply of electricity generated from renewable sources to the grid. Upon completion of the project, it is planned to add another high-efficiency investment to the country's renewable energy capacity.



AKSA ENERGY HAS BEEN INCLUDED IN THE BIST SUSTAINABILITY INDEX FOR 10 YEARS

Aksa Energy maintained its position in the Borsa İstanbul Sustainability Index this year as well, continuing its consistent performance in the field of sustainability. With this achievement, the Company has succeeded in being included in the Index uninterruptedly for the past 10 years.



Within the scope of the Borsa İstanbul Sustainability Index criteria, Aksa Energy was evaluated in the environmental, social, and governance areas by London Stock Exchange Data & Analytics, and its Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) score increased to 66. The seven-point increase compared to the previous year demonstrated the Company's improvement in sustainability performance.

Aksa Energy, which has been sharing sustainability reports in line with GRI Standards with the public since 2015, continues its long-term efforts steadily by placing sustainability at the center of its business processes. With this approach, the company focuses on reducing environmental impacts, increasing social benefits, and developing a strong governance structure.



BOOK DONATION FROM KAZANCI HOLDING TO THE SCHOOL LIBRARY IN GOYNUK

The book donation campaign launched by Kazancı Holding last month has been successfully completed. As part of the campaign, more than 180 books collected were delivered to the school library in Göynük, Bolu, which was renovated by Aksa Energy and made available for students' use.



Carried out through the voluntary contributions of employees, the campaign aimed to increase children's access to books and to promote reading habits. The donated books have taken their place on the shelves of the library, which had previously been established with the support of Aksa Energy, enabling students to benefit from a richer pool of educational resources.

With this contribution, the library at Göynük Necla Türk Primary School has evolved beyond being merely a physical learning space, transforming into a vibrant educational environment enriched by its content.

Kazancı Holding continues to strengthen its social responsibility initiatives in the field of education through a culture of volunteerism and solidarity. In this context, the book donation campaign—organized for the third time—reflects the company's ongoing commitment to sustaining and institutionalizing this spirit of cooperation.



A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO THE ENERGY SECTOR

THE ROLE OF GREEN ENERGY POLICIES IN CONSUMER CONFIDENCE AND BRAND LOYALTY

As a professional with more than 13 years of experience in the energy sector, having undertaken various roles and responsibilities, and currently serving in a managerial position at Akse Elektrik for the past six years, I have had the opportunity to closely observe the practical implications of sustainability, consumer trust, and corporate reputation. These observations have significantly shaped my perspective on how energy companies manage their environmental responsibilities and how they communicate these practices to the public.

Within this context, my master's thesis entitled *"The Role Of Green Energy Policies In Consumer Confidence And Brand Loyalty"* aims to integrate academic knowledge with professional field experience, offering a comprehensive analysis of the effects of sustainability practices on consumer perceptions within the energy sector.

As the energy sector undergoes a profound transformation driven by the global climate crisis and increasing environmental awareness, consumers are increasingly evaluating companies not only based on their economic performance, but also on their environmental and social responsibilities.

The primary objective of this study is to reveal the impact of electricity companies' renewable energy investments, environmental commitments, and corporate communication approaches in these areas on consumer trust and brand loyalty. Within this scope, the research was approached from a qualitative perspective rather than quantitative measurements; the companies' sustainability reports, activity reports, and publicly available corporate content were examined using documentation and content analysis methods.

Türkiye's leading electricity companies were selected as a sample for the research; these companies' green energy strategies, levels of transparency and sustainability communications were evaluated comparatively.

Research findings show that green energy policies are not only an environmental necessity; they also carry strategic value in terms of consumer confidence and brand loyalty.

- Transparency and consistent communication are decisive in building consumer trust.
- Companies that openly share their renewable energy investments are perceived as more reliable.
- Structures that make sustainability part of their corporate culture build long-term brand loyalty.
- Inconsistencies between corporate discourse and actual practices give rise to the risk of greenwashing.

The risk of greenwashing stems from the mismatch between sustainability rhetoric and actual practices. This risk can be mitigated through a transparent and consistent corporate communication approach supported by measurable data.

When evaluated in conjunction with management experience gained in the energy sector, the research process reveals that sustainability is more than a theoretical concept; it is a leadership approach that must be integrated into daily operations. Customer service, process management, stakeholder relations, and work carried out with public institutions constitute the most concrete manifestations of trust building in the field.

The findings of the research reveal that sustainability-focused strategies in the energy sector strengthen corporate reputation, increase consumer confidence, and ensure long-term brand loyalty. Green energy policies stand out as a strategic area that must be addressed from the perspectives of leadership, corporate communication, and brand management, in addition to environmental responsibility.

Adem ERTÜRK

Akse Coruh EPSAS
Senior Provincial Director
of Rize



POLICY OF THE MONTH

GLOBAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Our Occupational Health and Safety Policy

Health and safety are fundamental to the way we do business.



PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Purpose

With this policy, our aim is to: define the fundamental responsibilities and principles for protecting occupational health and safety across all geographies where our operations are carried out, and to ensure a sustainable safe working environment.

Health is important for our company;

For our company, health is not only physical; it is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being.

With this understanding, we encourage the creation of environments and living conditions that enable our employees to adopt and maintain healthy lifestyles.

CORE PRINCIPLES



Full Compliance
We ensure full compliance with national and international regulations.



Training and Awareness
We regularly inform our employees and strengthen occupational health and safety awareness.



Risk Management
We assess OHS risks and prevent occupational accidents and diseases.



Participation and Feedback
We take employees' opinions and suggestions into account and support their participation.



Preventive Approach
We carry out control, measurement, and inspection activities on a regular basis.



Continuous Improvement
We monitor performance and aim to continuously improve OHS practices.

Every Near Miss report is equivalent to an accident prevented.

Scan the QR code with your mobile phone to submit a Near Miss report.



THE GLOBAL RISK MAP IS BEING REDRAWN: CLIMATE AND NATURE TO BE DECISIVE IN THE LONG TERM

The World Economic Forum's Global Risks Report 2026 clearly highlights how global risk perceptions diverge in the short and long term. According to the report, while geo-economic tensions and social vulnerabilities are expected to dominate the global agenda over the next two years, environmental risks stand out by a wide margin in the ten-year outlook.



In the short-term risk landscape, geo-economic conflicts, misinformation, social polarization, and cyber insecurity rank among the top concerns. Although extreme weather events remain a significant issue, the urgency of climate-related risks is overshadowed by more immediate crises. This does not indicate a decline in the climate threat, but rather reflects how the global agenda is shaped by other pressing pressures.

The ten-year perspective, however, points to a markedly different reality. Environmental issues now sit at the core of the most severe global risks. Extreme weather events top the list, followed closely by biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse, as well as critical changes to Earth systems. Natural resource scarcity also emerges as one of the key risk areas for the period ahead.

The report's central message is clear: while short-term crises may dominate today's agenda, climate- and nature-related risks will have the greatest impact on the global economy and societies over the next decade.



A HISTORIC SHIFT IN THE EU: WIND AND SOLAR SURPASS FOSSIL FUELS

In a historic milestone, electricity generation from wind and solar energy in the European Union surpassed fossil fuel-based generation for the first time in 2025. According to a report published by the international think tank Ember, wind and solar accounted for 30% of the EU's total electricity generation, while the share of fossil fuels declined to 29%.



Solar power played the largest role in this transition, continuing its rapid growth for the fourth consecutive year. Reaching a 13% share of total electricity generation, solar energy surpassed both coal and hydropower. In countries such as Hungary, Greece, Spain, and the Netherlands, solar power supplied more than one-fifth of total electricity production.

The report indicates that renewable energy sources overall generated 48% of the EU's electricity in 2025. Over the past five years, the share of fossil fuels has fallen from 37% to 29%, while coal usage declined to historically low levels.

The findings reveal that a structural transformation has begun in the EU energy system and that renewable energy sources now play a central role in electricity production.



THE HIDDEN COST OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: A RAPIDLY GROWING WATER FOOTPRINT

The rapid expansion of artificial intelligence technologies is placing increasing pressure on water resources, in addition to their rising energy consumption. Recent studies covering 2025 and 2026 indicate that AI systems could consume between 312 and 765 billion liters of water annually, while their carbon footprint may reach between 32 and 80 million tons of CO₂.



This level of consumption encompasses not only the direct water used for cooling data centers, but also the indirect water usage associated with electricity generation required to power AI systems. According to experts, the amount of water used in electricity production can be three to four times higher than the direct water consumption of data centers themselves.

Assessments by the International Energy Agency (IEA) suggest that large, AI-driven data centers already consume electricity at levels comparable to certain heavy industrial facilities.

If current trends continue, the energy demand of these centers is expected to more than double by 2030, further intensifying pressure on water resources.

Individual usage patterns also contribute to the growing impact. Estimates indicate that generating approximately 40 images corresponds to the consumption of one glass of clean water when cooling requirements and indirect energy use are taken into account. Repeated millions of times, these digital processes create a steadily expanding and largely invisible “water footprint.”

While more than 2 billion people worldwide lack regular access to clean water, the rapidly increasing water and energy demands of artificial intelligence technologies are forcing us to rethink the environmental consequences of our digital choices.



TURKIYE APPROVES GLOBAL OCEAN AGREEMENT

Türkiye has officially joined the global process to protect the oceans by approving the Global Ocean Agreement, which aims to protect biodiversity in the high seas. The Agreement, which entered into force on January 17, 2026, is considered one of the most comprehensive international environmental regulations after the Paris Agreement.



Prepared under the framework of the United Nations, the agreement enables, for the first time, the establishment of science-based marine protected areas in waters beyond national jurisdiction. The objective is to place at least 30% of the world's oceans under protection by 2030.

Public campaigns and growing awareness in Turkey contributed to accelerating the ratification process. With the approval of the Treaty, Turkey has joined the group of countries assuming international responsibility for the protection of the high seas and the strengthening of marine ecosystems.

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GRI RELEASES ITS FIRST STANDARDS UPDATE FOR 2026

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) has published its first Standards Setting Update of the year, reaffirming its goal of establishing a more streamlined, consistent, and impact-oriented sustainability reporting system as it moves toward 2026.



One of the most significant developments in the update is the mandatory application of GRI 101: Biodiversity and GRI 14: Mining Standards for reporting as of January 1. This step aims to ensure more consistent and comparable disclosure of impacts on nature, as well as enhanced transparency across sectors with high impact potential.

In the area of economic impacts, three standards—covering anti-corruption, fair competition, and public policy—have been released for public consultation, reflecting GRI's commitment to strengthening transparency in these critical areas. In parallel, the draft GSSB Work Program for the 2026–2028 period has been opened for stakeholder feedback.

The update also highlights that Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Energy Standards have now been integrated across all GRI Sector Standards. To support improved readability and usability of sustainability reports, GRI has introduced a free Content Index Template. Additionally, the review process for standards related to labor and human rights is expected to continue through March.

Through these updates, GRI aims to build a more transparent, comparable, and decision-useful reporting ecosystem in the lead-up to 2026.





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