



Arkas Line 2024 *Sustainability Report* Published!

In this year's sustainability report, we not only share our progress in environmental, social, and governance areas but also highlight the expansion of our service network and the investments made in our fleet.

Driven by the motivation to expand our scope each year, we have introduced several significant updates to our 2024 report:

- Increased our sustainability priorities from 12 to 16 through a gap analysis study.
- Expanded the scope of our sustainability targets.
- Enhanced our carbon tracking by including general expenses in Scope 3 emissions.
- Analyzed climate-related risks, opportunities, and trends.
- Added UNGC, WEPs, and SASB indexes to this year's report, which was published last year in accordance with the GRI standard.

With this report, we share the milestones of our sustainability journey today, while shaping our future responsibilities with greater awareness.

[Click here](#) to access the full report.

news from us

We are happy to share the latest developments in our sustainability projects and our journey toward decarbonization in every issue.

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Arkas Line Joins the UN Global Compact's "Target Gender Equality Accelerator" Program



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

Gender equality is recognized as both a fundamental human right and a key driver of success in the business world. With this understanding, the UN Global Compact, in collaboration with UN Women, launched the Target Gender Equality Accelerator program to help companies transform their gender equality commitments into concrete actions. Designed in alignment with the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), the program guides companies in developing inclusive policies across workplaces, supply chains, and communities.

Representing Arkas Line, Sustainability Manager Samet Korkmaz and Senior Human Resources Manager Çiğdem Çapa will participate in the six-month intensive training program.

Participants of the program gain the opportunity to:

- Identify gender equality priorities and set measurable targets
- Integrate equality approaches into company policies and strategies
- Prepare for the EU's upcoming gender regulations
- Share knowledge on key issues such as gender pay gaps and inclusive leadership
- Report progress within the UN Global Compact's Communication on Progress (CoP) framework

The program enables companies to go beyond one-off initiatives and adopt a comprehensive and sustainable approach to gender equality. Participants benefit from performance analyses, capacity-building workshops, expert guidance, and peer learning opportunities throughout the process.



EBRD Supports *Maritime Decarbonisation* in Türkiye



The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), in collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Türkiye, is supporting the country's low-carbon transition in the maritime sector under the "Maritime Decarbonisation and Green Shipping Programme." The project's launch meeting, held in Ankara on September 11, was attended by Seçkin Gül (General Manager, Arkas Bunker), Serra Tükel (Sustainability Director, Arkas Line), Soner Dulkadir (OpEx Manager,

Arkas Line), and Emre Güven (Environmental Inspector, Arkas Fleet).

The program aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy efficiency, and align Türkiye's maritime industry with EU environmental standards.

Key focus areas include:

- Modernisation of port infrastructure
- Retrofit projects to enhance vessel energy efficiency
- Development of infrastructure for alternative fuels such as LNG, hydrogen, and ammonia
- Integration of renewable energy
- Provision of technical assistance and capacity building

Additionally, a feasibility study for a green shipping corridor between Türkiye and the EU is planned. The six-year program will allocate a total budget of €70 million, comprising €20 million in EU grants and €50 million in EBRD loans, to accelerate transformation in Türkiye's maritime sector in line with the 2053 net-zero target.

Sue Barrett, EBRD Director for Infrastructure in Türkiye, the Middle East, and Africa, emphasized the program's transformative potential: "This partnership is a critical step toward aligning Türkiye's maritime sector with international standards."

Safe and Independent Communication with the Ethics Support



As Arkas Line, we strengthened our corporate values built on inclusivity, equal opportunity, and diversity by launching the independent Ethics Support Center in September 2025 to further reinforce our culture of ethics.

The Ethics Support Center provides a secure and independent platform where employees can anonymously report any suspected or verified ethical violations. Accessible 24/7, the system is managed confidentially by the international independent auditing firm PwC.

Through this initiative, our employees will witness one of the most tangible examples of our commitment to ethical principles and values.

For more information:
arkasline.ethicshelpcenter.com

Our Environmental Policy Updated: A Broader Approach with the *ESG Policy*

In line with our sustainability vision, we have transformed the practices previously carried out under our Expanded Environmental Policy into a more inclusive and holistic framework — our new Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Policy. With this update, we not only focus on reducing our environmental impact but also embrace a comprehensive approach that includes our social responsibilities and corporate governance principles.

Our new ESG Policy is built on our core corporate values — valuing people, respecting nature and life, fostering collaboration, and acting with a strong sense of responsibility. Our goal is not only to minimize the environmental impact of our operations but also to create long-term value for all our stakeholders.

Through this comprehensive approach, we commit to reducing carbon emissions, increasing renewable fuel use, and strengthening equality and ethical standards in the workplace. With our ESG Policy, we once again affirm our commitment to protecting the environment, people, and our shared future.

Journey Never Ends: *A Voyage in the Heart of the Atlantic*



Content creator and entrepreneur Enes Yilmazer documented his 11-day Atlantic voyage aboard Arkas Line's container vessel Sine A. "Journey Never Ends" is more than a route chronicle—it brings to life the human side of maritime life, the daily stories of our crew, and the unseen face of global trade.

Following its Turkey premiere on June 24, 2025, in İzmir, the documentary's international screening took place on August 10, 2025, in Los Angeles. Yilmazer emphasized that "These ships keep the world moving," underlining that our vessels are not merely logistical tools but living ecosystems of their own.

For Arkas Line, this project stands as a powerful reminder of the balance maritime transport maintains between people and nature. Released on YouTube on August 25, 2025, Journey Never Ends reached millions of viewers, highlighting once again the importance of both technological transformation and human awareness for a sustainable future.

Watch the video here: [Click to view.](#)

The New Face of Colonialism: *Waste Colonialism*

The global waste trade remains at the center of environmental justice debates. Developed countries export tons of plastic, electronic, and textile waste to low-income nations, shifting environmental burdens and health risks onto vulnerable communities. Experts define this practice as "waste colonialism," recognizing it not only as an ecological crisis but also as a profound ethical and justice issue.

According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the term first emerged during the 1989 Basel Convention negotiations. However, following China's ban on waste imports, the flow of plastic and electronic waste has shifted toward countries such as the Philippines, Malaysia, and Vietnam. Türkiye has also been affected—approximately 660,000 tons of plastic waste were imported from the European Union and the United Kingdom in 2020 alone.

This growing imbalance underscores the urgent need for a fair and sustainable global waste management system, where environmental responsibility is shared rather than outsourced.



UNEP Finance Initiative Releases *Sustainability and Risk Management Report*



The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) has published the "Sustainability Disclosure Landscape Report for Risk Management." The study offers a comparative analysis of major sustainability disclosure frameworks such as IFRS S1 & S2, ESRS, TCFD, and GRI, assessing how these standards are integrated into corporate risk management systems. It also provides practical insights through case studies on companies' materiality assessments and transition plan disclosures.

Key takeaways from the report include:

- The double materiality approach is increasingly becoming a mainstream standard in business practices.
- The credibility of net-zero targets depends critically on transparent transition plans.
- Data consistency, methodological differences, and capacity limitations remain major challenges for companies.

The findings reaffirm that sustainability reporting is no longer merely a compliance exercise but an essential component of strategic risk management and corporate decision-making.

Climate Alarm from Australia: *Heat-Related Deaths Could Rise by 450% at 3°C Warming*



Australia's newly released National Climate Risk Assessment Report warns that if global temperatures rise above 3°C, heat-related deaths could increase by 444% in Sydney and 423% in Darwin. The report also projects that rising sea levels could place 1.5 million coastal residents at risk by 2050, and over 3 million by 2090.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese described the report as a "wake-up call," while Climate Minister Chris Bowen emphasized the urgency of action: "The cost of taking action is often debated, but the cost of inaction will always be higher."

The findings underscore the escalating climate risks facing Australia and the need for immediate, coordinated global climate action to mitigate the human and environmental toll of extreme heat and rising seas.

Gender Equality Is Losing Ground: *UN Women 2025 Report Warns*



The 2025 Status Report on Gender Equality, published by UN Women and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), paints a concerning picture of the global fight for gender equality. If current policies and practices remain unchanged, 351 million women and girls will continue to live in extreme poverty by 2030 — signaling that Sustainable Development Goal 5: Gender Equality is unlikely to be achieved. In 2024 alone, more than 64 million women experienced moderate or severe food insecurity compared to men.

Gender equality is not only a matter of social justice but also a cornerstone of sustainable development. Equal participation of women in economic, social, and environmental decision-making processes is key to building more resilient and inclusive societies. The report serves as a reminder that the gender dimension must be more

strongly integrated into sustainability strategies. Empowering women is not just a question of equality — it is an essential requirement for a fairer, more inclusive, and sustainable future.

Istanbul Joins the Net Zero Cities Program: *A New Era for Carbon-Neutral Buildings*



Istanbul has taken a significant step toward becoming a carbon-neutral city by being selected for the Net Zero Cities program, supported by the European Commission. Within this framework, the Build4GreenIST project stands out with innovative practices that embody the city's sustainable urban development vision.

As part of the initiative, a technical guide for carbon-neutral buildings has been developed — serving as a valuable resource for architects, engineers, and urban planners. In selected pilot areas across Istanbul, energy consumption is

now monitored through sensors, allowing real-time tracking of building energy efficiency.

Since buildings account for around 40% of global carbon emissions, Istanbul's transformation in this field contributes not only to local but also to international climate goals. The city's inclusion in the Net Zero Cities program demonstrates the active role urban centers can play in combating the climate crisis. Projects like Build4GreenIST prove that sustainability goals are not confined to strategic documents but are being implemented on the ground.

New Regulations for Cleaner Air and Water at Sea

In May 2025, the Mediterranean Sea was officially designated as a Sulphur Oxide (SOx) Emission Control Area (ECA). Under this regulation, all vessels operating in the region are now required to either use fuel with a maximum sulphur content of 0.1% or install scrubber systems that deliver equivalent performance.

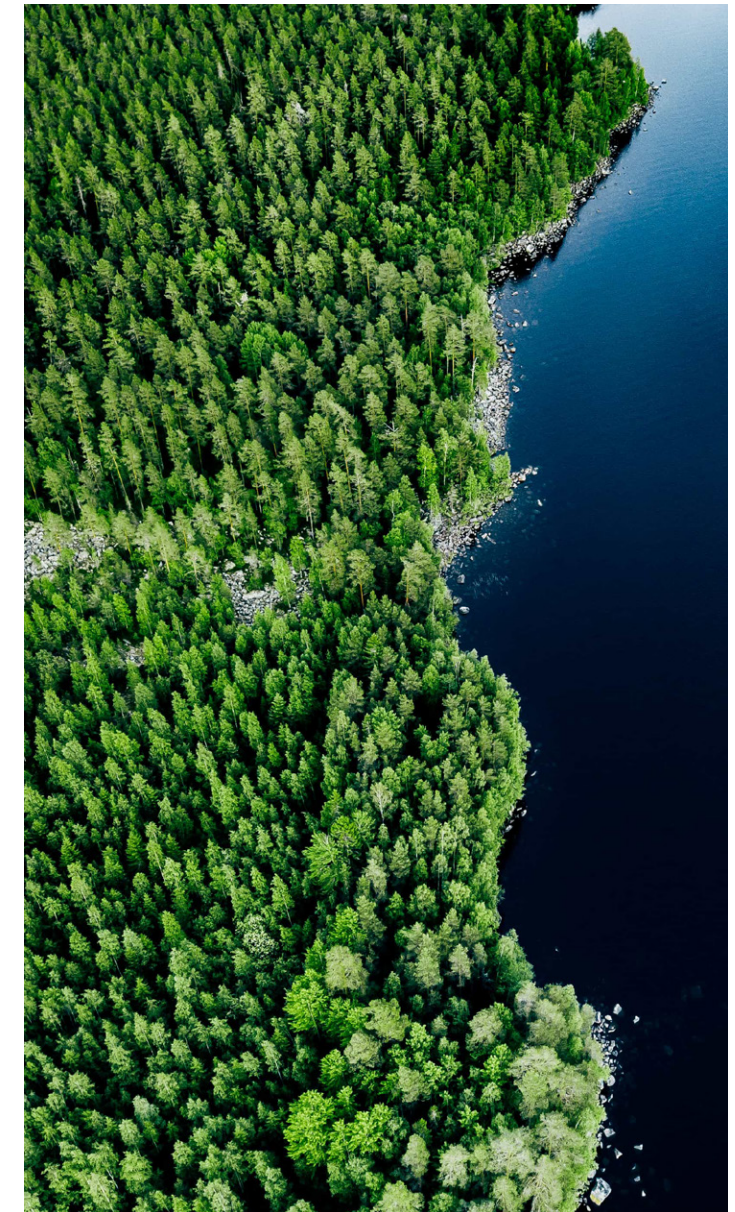
By September 2025, the effects of this decision had become more visible. More than 120 ports worldwide introduced restrictions on the discharge of open-loop scrubber wash water. Countries such as Denmark, Sweden, and Finland have imposed tighter controls or permit requirements on the use of open-loop scrubbers in coastal and port areas to reduce environmental impact. In

addition, the OSPAR Commission announced a gradual ban on scrubber discharges in the North-East Atlantic.

As a result of these global regulatory changes:

- By 2027, open-loop scrubber discharges will be completely banned.
- By 2029, discharges from even closed-loop systems will no longer be permitted.

These measures mark an important step in a global transformation aimed at reducing not only air emissions from ships but also their impact on marine ecosystems, moving toward a cleaner and more sustainable maritime industry.



ARKAS Line

In every issue, we bring you the latest news from Arkas Line, the sustainability journey of the maritime industry, and innovative, inspiring projects from around the world.

From the seas to the ports, from innovation to environmental solutions, all the latest developments are now in Sustain Connect.



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