



**Sustainability Policy  
of  
Azerbaijan Technical University**

**Baku-2024**

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## **Introduction**

The document "Sustainable Development Policy (SDP) of Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU)" was prepared accordingly Resolution No. A/RES/70/1 of the UN General Assembly dated September 25, 2015, "National Coordinating Council for Sustainable Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan" The Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-economic Development" the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Development Strategy of Azerbaijan Technical University for 2021-2030.

## **Purpose**

The country's sustainable policy is aimed at ensuring sustainability in the use of economic and human resources by ensuring the interests of current and future generations.

AzTU accepts the sustainability of the growth of achievements in the social and economic spheres as the main priority and its goal is to build a sustainable and inclusive university that meets the global demands of the 21st century.

## **Scope**

The current "Document" applies to all students, academic and administrative staff, as well as guests and consultants, who participate in all educational, educational programs, and social activities of AzTU, about other persons who are not students or employees.

## **Principles**

AzTU supports the principle of open partnership with employees, students, and partners based on mutual respect and understanding.

AzTU is committed to the highest standards in everything it does, adhering to ethical business practices and applying the best corporate governance practices.

AzTU operates strictly by Azerbaijan and international legislation in force.

AzTU supports increasing information openness and transparency to share knowledge on sustainability issues to promote good practice and raise awareness within the university.

AzTU is working on improving the management system for all types of activities by applying digital and automated systems to increase labor efficiency.

Identification and assessment of new risks, including external and internal risk factors, is continuously carried out by the university.

AzTU strives to reduce energy consumption implement energy-saving technologies, and invest in environmental projects and technologies to minimize energy consumption and reduce carbon footprint.

The procedure of special assessment of working conditions is carried out regularly.

AzTU creates equal opportunities and conditions to realize the potential of all employees and students based on common values, cultural diversity, gender, race, and other equality.

## **Policy**

- Provide opportunities that encourage and promote participation in the educational process.
- support to vulnerable groups of the population, including the disabled and people who find themselves in a difficult financial situation during education;
- preparation of mental health programs for employees and students;
- implementing policies to support employment, training, and regulation;
- provision of properly organized and supported scholarships, grants, and financial assistance to students;
- monitoring work results in the field of employment and management of academic teaching load.
- creation of stable and flexible infrastructure with minimal impact on the environment.
- improvement of existing buildings, improvement of resource efficiency, application of environmentally friendly technologies.
- keeping the campus safe for people and the environment;
- Develop strategies and cultures that support the development, maintenance, and strengthening of partnerships both domestically and internationally

## **Goals**

Promoting actions and initiatives in support of new models of growth and conscious lifestyles, until 2030 the university identifies 5 areas in which the main work to implement the principles of sustainable development will be concentrated:

### **Positioning the university as a University of sustainable development**

- a) specifying the principles of sustainable development among the university's strategic development goals;
- b) correcting the text and content of strategic and long-term program documents of the university, taking into account the goals of sustainable development;
- c) adaptation of the university's strategic goals to the sustainable development goals of the UN.

### **Educational programs**

- a) Inclusion of sustainable development issues in university curricula.
- b) Creating new educational programs and revising existing educational programs with the inclusion of sustainable development issues
- c) Development of new subjects on sustainable development as an optional component of educational programs
- d) Updating the topics of student, master, and candidate theses in all faculties to include sections on environmental protection and sustainable development.

### **Science and research**

- a) Inclusion of topics related to the UN sustainable development goals and issues of sustainable development of the university, city, region, and country at all educational programs and levels of study;
- b) Conducting fundamental and applied research for the university and all interested stakeholders, with the attraction of internal and external funding;
- c) Organization of internships for researchers in specialized laboratories, institutes, and centers on research topics;
- d) To stimulate student research on the topic of sustainable development, organize educational student excursions and short courses at institutes, and centers on ecology, nutrition, and health;
- e) Studying the possibility of conditions for research by teaching staff and students about green energy and resource conservation, for the further use of acquired skills in the development of innovative business projects within technology parks, business incubators, and the creation of start-up companies;
- f) Based on the library collection and the conducted scientific research of the university teaching staff, the creation of a special catalog/knowledge base on a wide range of issues and principles

of sustainable development, regular exhibitions of literature on the topic, holding special library open days with access to working with the knowledge base for city residents;

- g) Organization of round tables, discussions, and scientific, theoretical, and practical conferences on current issues of sustainable development;
- h) Study of the possibilities and conditions for publishing university teaching staff in specialized scientific publications.

### **Green University**

- a) Creation of a working group to prepare proposals for improving the energy efficiency of structures and buildings of the University,
- b) reconstruction of buildings and improvement of thermal insulation, replacement of outdated equipment with more efficient ones, installation of motion sensors for automatic power shutdown, etc.
- c) Development of a university energy plan to rationalize the consumption of primary resources, increase the energy efficiency of buildings, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- d) Regular monitoring and analysis of energy consumption dynamics, compilation of energy balances, publication of energy data, and informing teaching staff and students about the university's achievements in the field of energy saving - ensuring economical use of water, installing limiters
- e) saving paper, developing electronic means of communication, and transitioning to paperless office work
- f) organizing waste paper collection on university campuses
- g) study of best practices and experiences of sustainable national and international campuses, development of initiatives to assess the volume of waste produced, to reduce it, separate its collection, as well as methods for its collection and disposal
- h) organizing separate collections for the main types of waste (paper/cardboard, plastic, glass), initiating agreements with city organizations for their recycling or environmentally friendly disposal

### **Promotion of sustainable development ideas**

- a) development of cooperation with local or regional authorities in the implementation of specific programs for the sustainable development of an industry, region, or territory;

- b) participation in city events to improve and green the territory and other initiatives;
- c) development of mutually beneficial cooperation with local enterprises and support of business initiatives aimed at sustainable development, organization of internships for university students in organizations guided by the principles of sustainable development;
- d) holding joint conferences, round tables, preparing scientific publications;

### **Inter-university cooperation on sustainable development issues**

- a) explore the possibilities and conditions for joining national and international Associations and networks of interuniversity cooperation on sustainable development issues
- b) study the successful experience of domestic and foreign universities to use best practices in the university's sustainable development policy

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

- The University will be responsible for the implementation of this policy and has the authority to develop appropriate procedures regarding, among other things:
- setting standards for sustainable development
- create policy implementation mechanisms
- define the processes by which all departments and departments must monitor, measure, evaluate, and report to the Rector on their progress towards achieving the goals set out in the University's SDP.

### **Review**

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years at a minimum. During the review, the policy will remain in full force and effect.