



**UI GREENMETRIC
REPORT**

2025

**AZERBAIJAN TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY**

REPORT ON WASTE

Introduction

In 2025, Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) further reinforced its institutional commitment to **sustainable waste management, circular economy principles, and environmental responsibility** through a comprehensive set of practical initiatives, awareness-raising programs, and innovation-driven activities implemented across the campus. Waste management at AzTU is approached not merely as an operational or technical requirement, but as an **integral educational, research, and societal responsibility**, fully aligned with the University's sustainability strategy and long-term development goals.

These efforts are closely linked to the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, with particular relevance to **SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)** and **SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)**. By embedding waste reduction and circular practices into campus operations and learning environments, AzTU contributes to fostering more sustainable urban systems and responsible resource use at both institutional and community levels.

Throughout 2025, AzTU's waste-related actions prioritized **waste reduction at source, the systematic separation and recycling of materials, and the reuse of resources through circular innovation practices**. These actions were complemented by **sustainability education and behavioral change initiatives**, ensuring that students, academic staff, and administrative personnel actively participate in environmentally responsible practices. Hands-on activities, demonstrations, and project-based learning opportunities enabled the campus to function as a **living laboratory** for sustainable waste management.

Institutional partnerships and innovation platforms further strengthened these efforts. Collaboration with technology and innovation stakeholders supported the introduction of practical recycling workflows, experimentation with circular materials, and the development of sustainability-oriented skills among students and researchers. Documented campus activities, student-led initiatives, and interdisciplinary engagement collectively illustrate AzTU's holistic approach to waste management—one that integrates **operations, education, innovation, and community engagement**.

Overall, AzTU's 2025 waste management framework reflects a **preventive, circular, and education-centered model**, contributing to reduced environmental impact, increased sustainability awareness, and the advancement of responsible production and consumption practices in line with international sustainability benchmarks.

References

- [1. UI GreenMetric World University Rankings](#)
- [2. National Information Portal on Sustainable Development – SDG 12 \(Responsible Consumption and Production\)](#)
- [3. National Information Portal on Sustainable Development – SDG 11 \(Sustainable Cities and Communities\)](#)

Objectives

The main objectives guiding AzTU's waste management practices in 2025 include:

- Reducing waste generation through awareness, education, and behavioral change
- Promoting recycling, reuse, and circular economy approaches
- Minimizing plastic and paper consumption through digitization
- Engaging students and staff in sustainability-driven waste initiatives
- Supporting innovation and research related to sustainable materials and waste reduction
- Aligning campus waste practices with national and international sustainability policies

Keywords

KEYWORDS Waste				
Total volume of toxic waste produced	Type of toxic waste	Electronics waste	Laboratory chemical waste	Toxic waste treatment
Waste reduction	Waste reuse	Waste recycling	Down-cycling	Up-cycling
3R program (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)	University waste management	Paper saving initiatives	Electronic communication	Paperless office
Wastepaper collection	Sustainable waste management policy	Separate waste collection (paper, plastic, glass)	Partnership with recycling companies	Composting initiatives
Organic waste management	Food waste management	Sustainable procurement policy (SPP)	Plastic waste reduction	Single-use plastic ban
Plastic-free campus	Digitization and paper consumption reduction	Environmental education	Circular economic principles	Waste audit program
Hazardous waste management	Basel Convention compliance	Wastewater treatment	Sewage disposal	Environmental safety

Current Situation

1. Waste Reduction Through Awareness and Education

In 2025, AzTU placed strong emphasis on **awareness-based waste reduction**, recognizing that behavioral change is a key driver of long-term sustainability. Sustainability-focused workshops addressing plastic pollution and alternative materials were organized for students, highlighting practical solutions to reduce single-use plastics and promote environmentally responsible consumption. ([source](#))

Impact

- Increased environmental literacy among students
- Promotion of sustainable material alternatives
- Support for waste prevention at source



2. Circular Economy and Recycling-Oriented Initiatives

AzTU actively supports **circular economy practices** through initiatives that demonstrate waste reuse and recycling concepts in practice. The university's sustainability activities emphasize transforming waste into usable resources and showcasing recycling processes as educational tools.

A notable example is the **Green Mission initiative**, which introduces students and visiting school pupils to recycling processes and environmental responsibility, reinforcing waste segregation and recycling culture at an early stage. ([source](#))

Impact

- Strengthening recycling culture
- Community outreach beyond the university
- Contribution to urban sustainability awareness (SDG-11 & SDG-12)



3. Innovation and Sustainability Infrastructure Supporting Waste Reduction

In 2025, AzTU enhanced its sustainability-oriented infrastructure through the establishment of the **DISC Innovation and Sustainability Lab**. While the lab addresses a broad range of sustainability topics, its focus on circular technologies and responsible resource use directly supports waste reduction, e-waste awareness, and sustainable innovation practices. (source)

Impact

- Promotion of circular design thinking
- Practical sustainability skills for students
- Institutional support for innovation addressing waste challenges



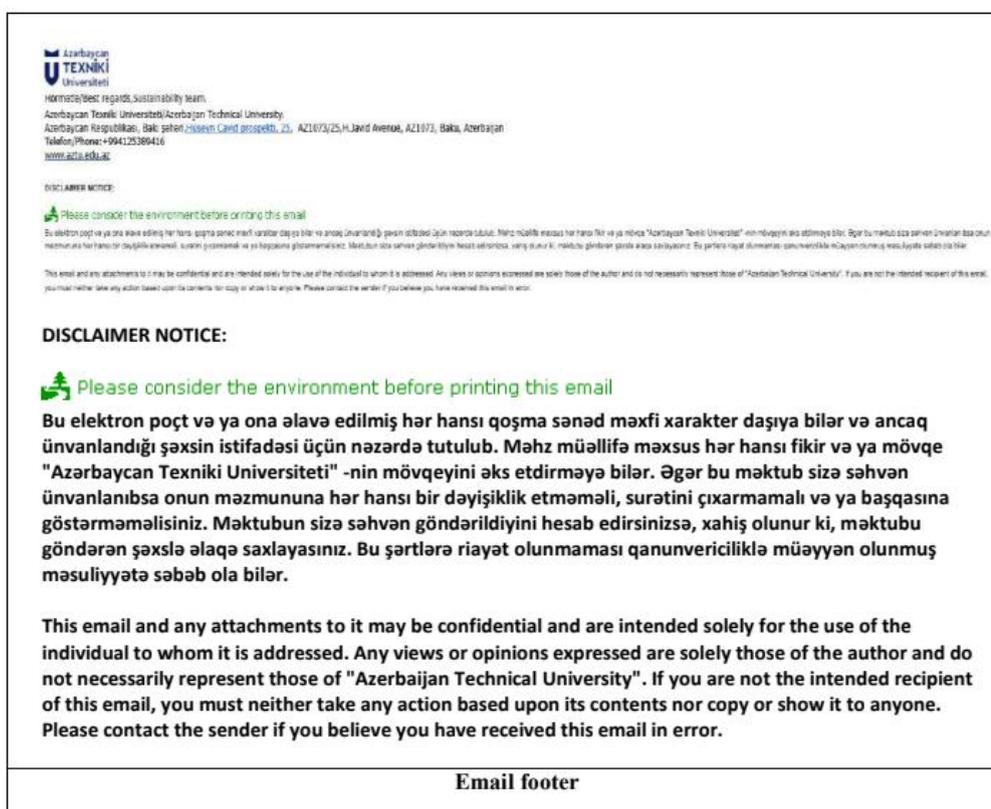
4. Digitalization and Reduction of Paper Waste

AZTU continues to reduce paper consumption by expanding **digital communication, online platforms, and electronic documentation**, contributing directly to waste minimization. The university's broader digital transformation efforts indirectly support waste reduction by limiting paper-based administrative and academic processes. ([source](#))

Impact

- Reduced paper usage
- Increased efficiency in administrative processes
- Support for paperless and low-waste campus practices

5. Student Engagement and



5. Sustainability Culture

Students play an active role in AzTU's waste-related sustainability agenda. Through participation in environmental workshops, innovation labs, and sustainability events, students contribute to waste awareness, responsible consumption, and community engagement initiatives.

This participatory approach strengthens the university's sustainability culture and ensures that waste management is embedded within education and student life rather than treated solely as an operational function.



Future Goals

AzTU's future waste management goals focus on **qualitative improvement and institutional capacity building**, including:

- Expanding recycling and waste segregation practices
- Strengthening sustainability education related to waste and consumption
- Increasing student-led initiatives on waste reduction
- Supporting innovation projects focused on circular economy solutions
- Enhancing cooperation with public and private partners in waste management

Conclusion

In 2025, Azerbaijan Technical University demonstrated a **practical, education-driven, and innovation-oriented approach** to waste management. Through sustainability workshops, recycling awareness initiatives, digitalization, and circular economy-focused infrastructure, AzTU actively contributes to responsible consumption and waste reduction.

By grounding its waste management strategy in documented activities and public engagement, AzTU aligns fully with UI GreenMetric principles and reinforces its role as a socially responsible and environmentally conscious higher education institution.