



# SUSTAINABLE FUNDING AND DONATIONS POLICY

THE POLICY HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE DECISION OF THE  
SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL OF NAKHCHIVAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
AT THE MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2024 (PROTOCOL  
NO: 01), AND REVIEWED ON JANUARY 6, 2025.



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## Sustainable Funding and Donations Policy

### 1. Purpose

This policy establishes the guiding principles and framework for the acceptance, management, allocation, and utilization of all forms of funding and donations at Nakhchivan State University (NSU). The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all financial contributions – whether in the form of monetary funds, endowments, grants, sponsorships, or in-kind donations – are managed in a way that upholds transparency, accountability, ethical responsibility, and long-term sustainability.

*Through this policy, NSU seeks to:*

1. Safeguard the integrity and independence of its academic, research, and administrative activities.
2. Promote sustainable financial practices that support not only immediate institutional needs but also long-term strategic goals.
3. Ensure that every contribution received is aligned with the values, mission, and vision of NSU as a center for education, research, innovation, and social development in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic and beyond.
4. Strengthen stakeholder confidence, including students, faculty, donors, partners, and the wider community, by maintaining a clear, fair, and accountable framework for funding and donations.
5. Maximize the impact of contributions by directing resources towards initiatives that advance education quality, social responsibility, environmental sustainability, and inclusive growth.
6. In doing so, this policy reflects NSU's commitment to being a responsible, ethical, and future-oriented institution, ensuring that all donations contribute meaningfully to the university's mission of preparing skilled graduates, advancing knowledge, fostering innovation, and promoting sustainable development in society.



## 2. Scope

This policy applies to all financial and in-kind contributions received by Nakhchivan State University from external and internal sources. It encompasses:

1. Philanthropic Donations: Contributions from individuals, alumni, philanthropists, and charitable organizations.
2. Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships: Financial or material support from companies in exchange for recognition, research collaboration, or corporate social responsibility initiatives.
3. Grants and Research Funding: National, regional, and international grants awarded to support academic programs, research projects, or institutional development.
4. Endowments and Long-term Funds: Investments established to generate sustainable income for scholarships, professorships, research chairs, or infrastructure development.
5. In-kind Donations: Non-financial contributions such as equipment, books, software, technology, land, or facilities that advance the mission of the university.
6. This policy is binding for all faculties, departments, centers, and administrative units of NSU, as well as for staff, faculty, and representatives involved in fundraising, grant management, or donor relations.

## 3. Guiding Principles

1. All funding and donations received by NSU will be guided by the following principles:
2. Alignment with Mission: Contributions must support the academic, research, innovation, and social development objectives of the university.
3. Ethical Standards: NSU will not accept funds derived from illegal, unethical, or socially harmful activities, including industries related to arms trade, tobacco, gambling, exploitative labor, or environmentally destructive practices.
4. Transparency and Accountability: All agreements, amounts, and terms will be properly documented, tracked, and reported in line with national laws and university procedures.
5. Sustainability: Funds will be directed towards projects with long-term impact, ensuring that immediate benefits are coupled with future-oriented development.



6. Independence and Integrity: Donations must not compromise the university's academic freedom, independence, or decision-making authority.

7. Inclusiveness: Contributions should enhance opportunities for students, researchers, and the community regardless of gender, ethnicity, or socio-economic background.

#### **4. Types of Acceptable Funding**

NSU recognizes the following categories of contributions:

1. Restricted Donations: Funds provided for specific purposes such as scholarships, research projects, or infrastructure, provided they comply with NSU's mission and ethical framework.
2. Unrestricted Donations: Funds that can be used at the university's discretion to address its highest priorities.
3. Endowments: Permanent funds invested to provide ongoing income for the university.
4. Partnership Funding: Joint financial contributions through collaborations with public institutions, private companies, or NGOs.
5. In-kind Contributions: Tangible resources (laboratory equipment, technology, services, etc.) that strengthen academic and research capacities.

#### **5. Governance and Oversight**

To guarantee transparency and institutional accountability, the following governance framework will be applied:

1. A Funding and Donations Committee (FDC) will be established under the Rector's Office to evaluate, approve, and monitor donations.
2. All contributions exceeding a financial threshold (e.g., 10,000 AZN) must be reviewed and approved by the University Senate.
3. The Finance Department will maintain an up-to-date record of all donations and prepare quarterly internal reports.
4. An Annual Donations Report will be published and made publicly available to stakeholders, highlighting sources of funds, allocation, and impact.
5. Donor agreements will include clear terms of use, reporting requirements, and provisions for recognition (if applicable).



## **6. Risk Management**

NSU is committed to safeguarding its reputation, academic integrity, and social responsibility by applying strong risk management practices:

1. Due Diligence: A thorough review process will be conducted for each potential donor to ensure alignment with NSU's values and legal compliance.
2. Reputational Risks: Donations from sources involved in corruption, exploitation, discrimination, or environmental destruction will be declined.
3. Conflict of Interest: Faculty and staff must disclose any personal or professional connections that may create a conflict of interest in funding decisions.
4. Legal Compliance: All contributions must comply with Azerbaijani legislation, tax regulations, and international best practices.

## **7. Utilization of Funds**

All accepted funds and donations will be allocated responsibly and strategically to maximize impact. Key priority areas include:

1. Student Support: Scholarships, financial aid programs, and initiatives for disadvantaged groups.
2. Research and Innovation: Funding for laboratories, publications, patents, start-ups, and international collaborations.
3. Infrastructure and Facilities: Development of sustainable, accessible, and energy-efficient campuses.
4. Community Engagement: Outreach programs, public lectures, cultural initiatives, and social responsibility projects.
5. Sustainability Projects: Green energy, environmental protection, and SDG-related initiatives.
6. Donor recognition (such as naming rights or acknowledgments) will be permitted only if consistent with NSU's mission, values, and national laws.



## 8. Monitoring and Reporting

To ensure accountability and transparency:

1. The Finance Department will monitor all transactions and provide regular updates to the Rector's Office.
2. All funds will be subject to annual independent audit.
3. An Impact Report will be prepared annually, outlining the outcomes achieved through donations, including educational, social, and environmental impact indicators.
4. KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) will be used to measure effectiveness in areas such as student access, research outputs, and sustainability achievements.

## 9. Review and Updates

This policy is a living document and will be:

1. Reviewed every three years, or sooner if required by changes in law, regulations, or institutional strategy.
2. Updated to reflect best practices in higher education funding, international standards (OECD, UNESCO), and donor relations.
3. Improved based on feedback from stakeholders, including students, faculty, and donors.