

NAKHCHIVAN
STATE
UNIVERSITY

20
25

SDG PROGRESS REPORT





*From Campus to Community:
Shaping a Sustainable future*

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REPORT ON PROGRESS TOWARDS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS OF THE UNIVERSITY

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This report presents a comprehensive overview of the initiatives implemented by Nakhchivan State University in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It highlights key achievements and outlines strategic objectives for the future. The publication reflects the university’s ongoing commitment to the principles of sustainable development. We believe that these efforts will contribute meaningfully not only to the advancement of our institution but also to the global mission of fostering a greener, more equitable, and sustainable world.



MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

As Rector I am delighted to introduce you the 2025 Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report of Nakhchivan State University. This report captures our ongoing commitment to the United Nations 2030 Agenda and highlights the real impact of our educational, academic, research, and civic projects in promoting sustainable and inclusive growth.

NSU had expanded its reach and strengthened its efforts by integrating sustainability into our strategy, courses, infrastructure, and community partnerships. Whether through improving climate resilience, promoting gender equality, increasing access to digital education, or supporting student innovation, we remain committed to our role as a higher education institution in contributing to global well-being.

This progress would not have been possible without the passion and dedication of our faculty members, administrative teams, students, and stakeholders. I sincerely thank each for hard work and collaboration. As we move forward, let us continue to lead with purpose, learn with humility, and act with integrity to build a more sustainable future for everyone.

Elbrus Isayev

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Introduction

Nakhchivan State University is one of the leading higher education institutions committed to advancing sustainable development through education, research, innovation, and community engagement in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic of Azerbaijan. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been incorporated within the academic mission and operational framework of NSU as part of its long-term institutional strategy, in recognition of the transformative role that universities may play toward the creation of a sustainable and inclusive future.

Over the past few years, the University has enhanced its contribution toward the SDGs by expanding sustainability-focused academic programs, facilitating interdisciplinary research collaborations, supporting youth-led initiatives, and expanding international cooperation. NSU actively works toward the solving of regional and global challenges through activities targeting key goals such as Quality Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG 9), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17).

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) continues strengthening its commitment to sustainable development, innovation, and community wellbeing. This SDG Progress Report highlights key initiatives, achievements, and areas for improvement aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

This SDG Progress Report describes the ongoing University efforts, achievements, and strategic priorities in embedding sustainability across campus life and academic practice. It reflects NSU's commitment to fostering responsible citizenship, strengthening institutional capacity, and contributing meaningfully to the sustainable development agenda at the local, national, and international levels.

Executive Summary

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) has actively embedded the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its academic, operational, and community engagement strategies, aiming to position itself as a regional leader in sustainability. The university aligns its initiatives with Azerbaijan's national SDG priorities, focusing on a wide range of social, economic, and environmental targets.

- **Education & Research:** NSU integrates all 17 SDGs into its curriculum, offering new elective courses like "Climate Change and Sustainable Development" and embedding related topics into various disciplines. Research output related to SDGs in reputable journals has increased, and a dedicated SDG Club with over 400 student members facilitates practical projects and training.
- **Poverty and Hunger (SDG 1 & 2):** The university provides extensive financial aid, awarding over 2,800 scholarships in 2025 to students from disadvantaged backgrounds. It offers inexpensive meals at its cafeteria and food assistance programs, with around 430 students receiving discounted meals in 2025.
- **Health and Well-being (SDG 3):** NSU is a smoke-free campus and organizes numerous health events, workshops on mental wellness, and first aid training, involving medical students in local community clinics.
- **Gender Equality (SDG 5):** Women represent over 55% of senior leadership, including deans and department heads, and gender-focused scholarships encourage female participation in various fields, including STEM.
- **Climate Action & Environment (SDG 13, 14, 15):** NSU demonstrates a strong commitment to environmental stewardship, including planting over 4,300 trees since 2023 and participating in projects to enrich aquatic ecosystems like releasing juvenile carp into local reservoirs. The university promotes renewable energy education and is working on a roadmap to become carbon-neutral by 2030.
- **Partnerships & Innovation (SDG 9 & 17):** NSU collaborates with governmental organizations, international institutions, and private sector entities to support innovation, provide job opportunities, and leverage expertise for sustainable development efforts.

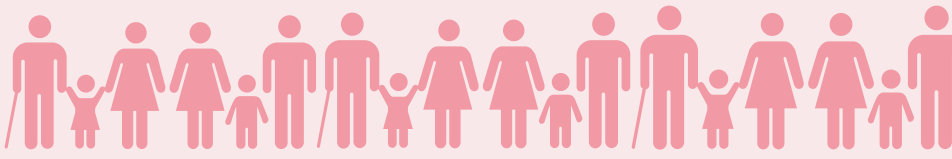
Overall, Nakhchivan State University employs a data-driven, inclusive, and multi-faceted approach to achieving the SDGs, monitoring its progress annually and aligning local actions with the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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EDUCATING
FOR A WORLD
WITHOUT
POVERTY

1 NO
POVERTY





Introduction

"No Poverty" (SDG 1) is the first UN Sustainable Development Goal, a global commitment to end poverty in all forms by 2030, ensuring everyone, especially the vulnerable, has access to resources, services, and social protection, tackling issues from lack of food and sanitation to inequality, and building resilience against crises like climate change, ultimately aiming for universal dignity and inclusive prosperity.

Nakhchivan State University (NSU) is actively committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1, which aims to "end poverty in all its forms everywhere". The university addresses this goal through a comprehensive, multi-dimensional approach that integrates financial assistance, educational support, and community engagement initiatives to alleviate social inequality and empower its students and the broader community.



"TOGETHER FOR A POVERTY-FREE WORLD."

Empowering students through financial support and inclusive opportunities, Nakhchivan State University is committed to reducing economic barriers and fostering equal access to education for all.

Strategic Focus in 2025

In 2025, NSU continues to provide a large number of scholarships and financial aid to students, including those from disadvantaged or rural backgrounds, reducing economic barriers. The university offers affordable dormitory housing, loans, and support services, helping low-income and international students — thereby promoting inclusiveness and equal opportunity.

Through the increased accessibility of higher education for low-income students, NSU is directly contributing to breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty and promoting inclusive excellence in the district.

This is a summary report of the progress, accomplishments and plans of the university for SDG 1 during 2025. It reinforces NSU's historic commitment to ensuring that no student is denied access to college because of inability to pay, and that access to higher education remains a force for opportunity, equity, and enduring change.

Dormitory and Meal Support

Nakhchivan State University provides on-campus dormitory housing for students. The dormitory accommodates hundreds of students.

These such programs were designed to relieve basic expenses of living for students, and instead enable them to concentrate on their scholarship, direct activism and study.

Figure 1. Dormitory and Meal-covered Support Recipients (2022-2025)

Dormitory and food aid both significantly increased in 2025, now serving more than 290 students.

FIGURE 1:

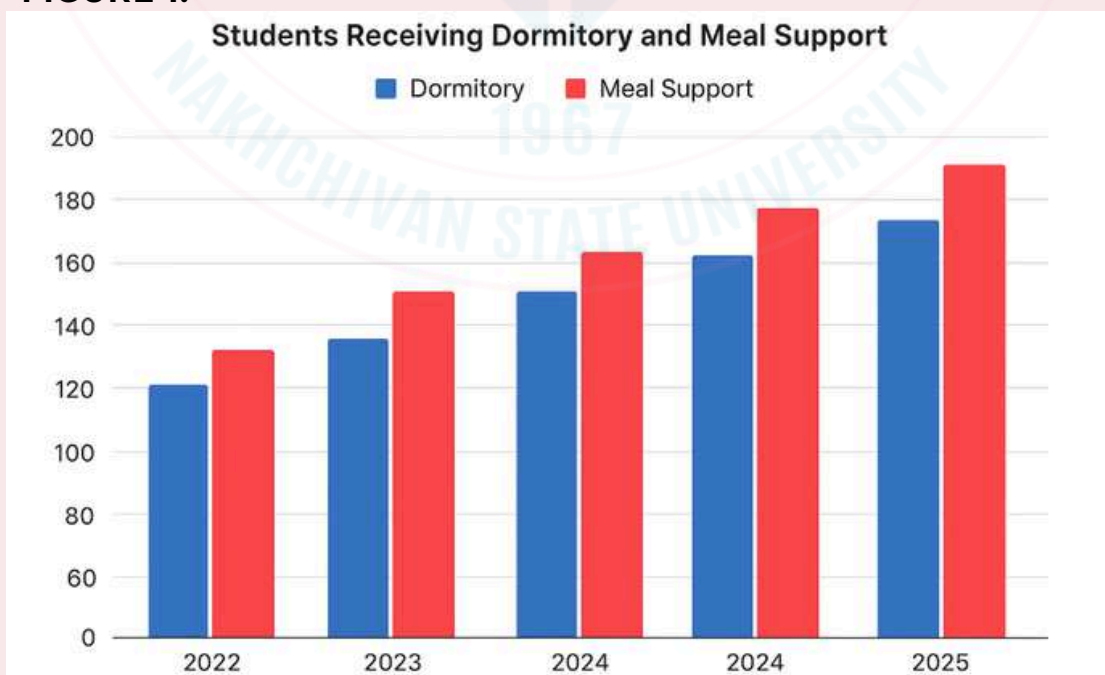
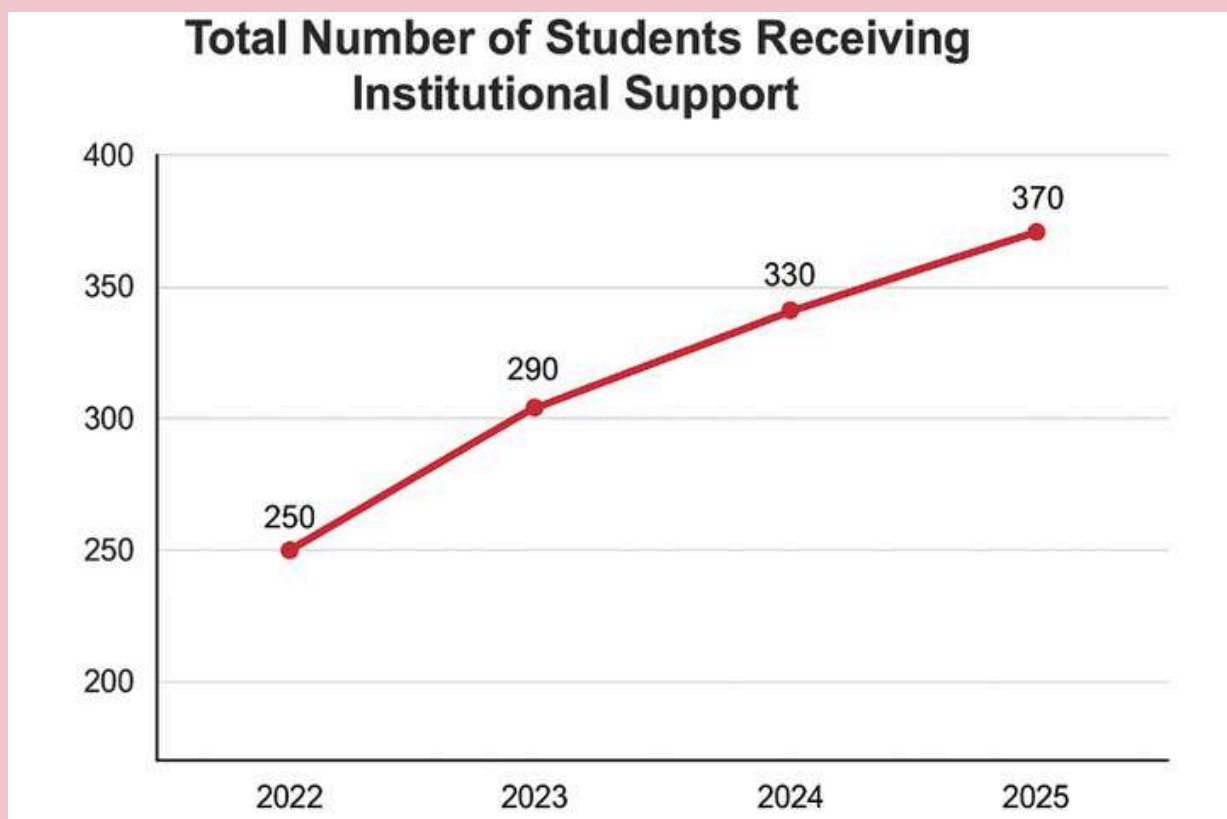




Figure 2. Total number of students who have received an institutional grant or scholarship (2022-2025)

300 per year, the number of students supported institution-wide has increased from 250 in fall 2022 to 370 in fall 2025, a 48% increase in students supported during this time. This increase reflects NSU's responsive and growing keeping pace with the issue of student poverty.

FIGURE 2:



Refund and Reduction of Tuition Charges

NSU had practiced a policy of granting partial or full tuition fee exemptions to the students from low income families, internally displaced persons (IDP) and persons with disabilities based on financial need.

There exists various scholarship for students at Nakhchivan State University. These are:

1. Low-income Support Program
2. Inclusive Scholarships
3. President scholarship
4. Scholarship for the Bachelor's degree level
5. Scholarship for the Master's degree level
6. Scholarship for the Doctoral degree level"
7. Targeted scholarship
8. Future Teacher Scholarship
9. For students up to 23 years old who have lost their parents or are deprived of parental care – Bachelor's degree level.
10. For students up to 23 years old who have lost their parents or are deprived of parental care – Master's degree level.
11. Entrepreneurship Scholarship
12. Individual scholarship

13. SABAH Groups Scholarship
14. Heydar Aliyev International Education Grant – Scholarship for Foreign Students
15. Financial assistance to families of martyrs
16. Financial assistance to war veterans and veteran families
17. Financial assistance for disability
18. Financial assistance to internally displaced persons and so on.

President scholarship

In the Republic of Azerbaijan, it is granted with the purpose of strengthening state support for students who have achieved high results in the field of education, ensuring more favorable conditions for their studies, and increasing their motivation towards education.

Scholarship for the Bachelor's degree level

Regardless of whether students receive education under state order, at the state's expense, or on a paid basis, scholarships are awarded to students enrolled in full-time education (excluding part-time study) at higher and secondary specialized educational institutions based on their overall academic performance.

Targeted scholarship

Regardless of whether students are enrolled under the state order, at the state's expense, or on a paid basis, scholarships are awarded to students studying in the full-time form of education (excluding part-time studies) at higher and secondary specialized education institutions, based on their overall academic performance.

Future Teacher Scholarship

It is awarded to those who score more than 500 points in the entrance exams to higher education institutions and select teaching as their first or second choice of specialty.

SABAH Groups Scholarship

All students studying in SABAH groups are provided with a scholarship of 50 manat for their first semester in the SABAH groups. For the following semesters, the scholarship amount is determined based on the "Procedure for awarding and paying targeted SABAH scholarships to SABAH project (group) students," and students receive scholarships of 50 manat (incentive) or 70 manat (excellent performance).

Financial assistance to families of martyrs

Members of martyr families, war veterans, persons with disabilities of groups I and II, as well as individuals with the status of internally displaced persons, are exempted from paying tuition fees in accordance with the state's social protection policy.

Financial assistance to war veterans and veteran families

Members of the families of martyrs, war veterans, persons with disabilities of the first and second groups, as well as individuals with internally displaced person status, are exempt from tuition fees in accordance with the state's social protection policy.

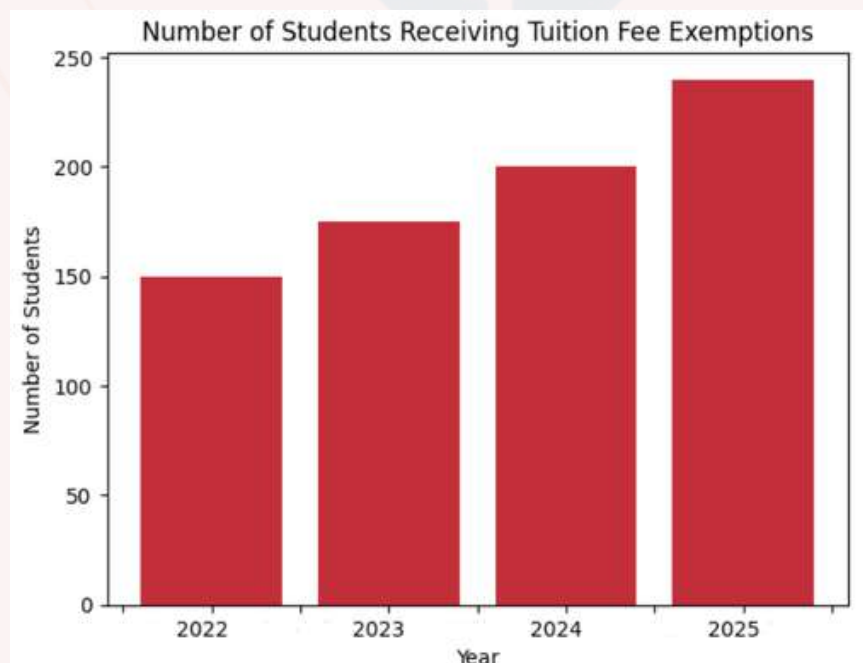
For students up to 23 years old who have lost their parents or are deprived of parental care – Bachelor's degree level.

For students up to 23 years old who have lost their parents or are deprived of parental care – Master's degree level.

Figure 3. High proportion of students on fee waivers (number of students receiving fee waivers 2022–2025)

This number shows an ongoing upward trajectory of students who are receiving tuition waivers, the total number of whom has increased by almost 20% in 2025 from the year before.

FIGURE 3:



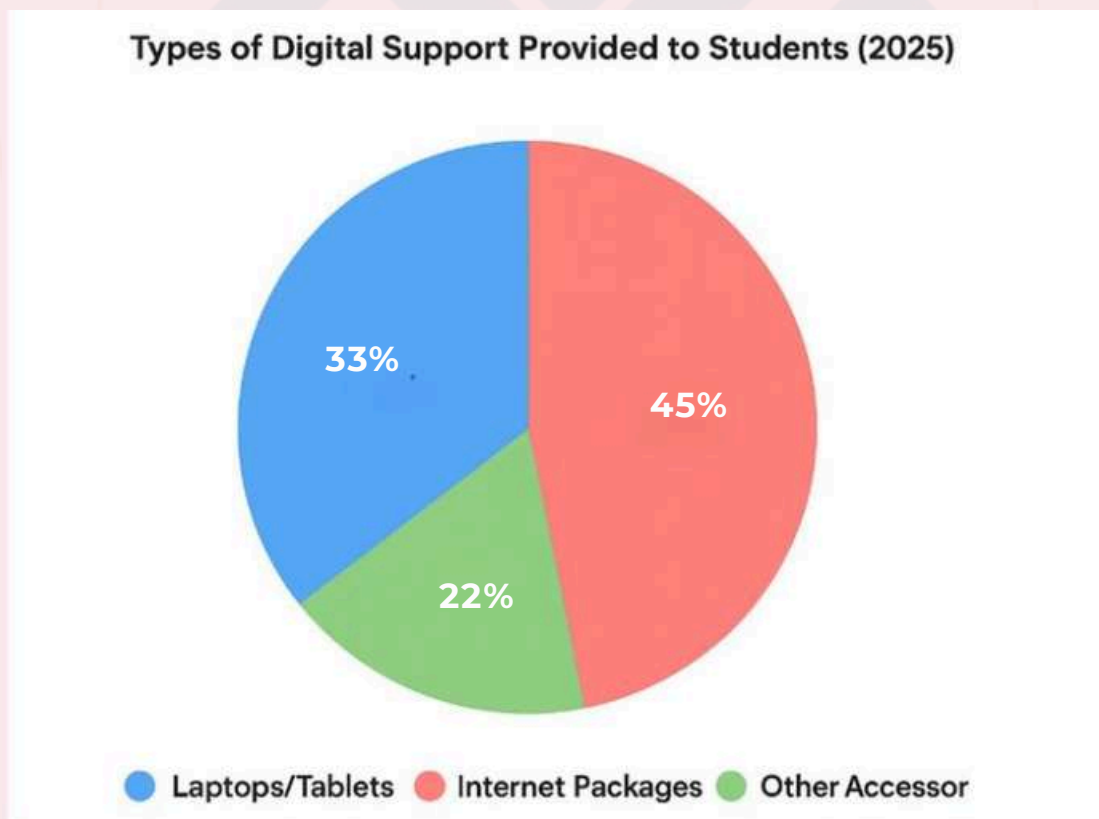
Devices and Access to Digital Learning

To close the digital divide, NSU would maintain its distribution of laptops, tablets, internet packages and other learning tools to as many students as had no digital access. This was particularly important for students learning remotely and students from low-income families.

Figure 4. Digital Support for Students in 2025 Types

Most digital assistance was for internet access and mobile devices. This graph illustrates the categories of digital student support provided in 2025. Internet bundles were the favorite among customers who bought the devices, making up 48%, followed by laptops/tablets (35%) and other accessories (24%). The grant facilitated access to online learning materials for all.

Figure 4:



Scholarship Source	Beneficiaries	Coverage / Benefits
NSU Internal Scholarships	NSU undergrad + postgrad	Stipends, tuition aid, bursaries
Azerbaijan Government Scholarships (2025/26)	International students	Full tuition, stipend, flight allowance, insurance
Heydar Aliyev Scholarship	International and local students	Funding + living support
International Mobility Scholarships	Selected students	Study abroad semesters / research stays

Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University has demonstrated a sustained and strategic commitment to achieving SDG 1, “No Poverty,” by ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder access to higher education. Through a combination of scholarships, financial aid, affordable housing, loans, and comprehensive student support services, NSU has actively reduced economic barriers for students from disadvantaged, rural, and low-income backgrounds, as well as for international learners.

These initiatives not only enable individual academic success but also contribute to breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty in the region. By prioritizing inclusiveness, equity, and opportunity, NSU reinforces its role as a transformative institution that empowers students, strengthens communities, and aligns local educational outcomes with global sustainable development objectives.

The 2025 progress underscores that access to higher education, when paired with targeted financial and social support, is a powerful mechanism for promoting social mobility, inclusive excellence, and long-term societal resilience. NSU’s ongoing efforts establish a foundation for continued advancement toward ending poverty in all its forms within the university and its wider community.

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**OUR
COMMITMENT,
OUR
RESPONSIBILITY
AT NAKCHIVAN
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**2 ZERO
HUNGER**





Introduction

"Zero Hunger" is tackling food insecurity on Nakhchivan State University campus (offering affordable/free meals, pantries) and globally through education, research in sustainable agriculture, waste reduction, and community partnerships, aligning with UN SDG 2 to end hunger via practical programs, research, and awareness campaigns, ensuring students focus on studies and fostering future food security experts. In 2025, NSU continued to expand initiatives aimed at providing access to healthy meals, raising awareness about food sustainability, and supporting local food systems in line with SDG 2 objectives.

Comprehensive Student Support System

The university operated a dedicated Student Support Unit to manage all aid-related processes including application review, welfare tracking, and referrals for psychological and housing support. Anonymous student support channels and welfare hotlines were also maintained to ensure discreet access to help.

Institutional Reach and Impact

The total number of students benefiting from any form of institutional support reached 350 in 2025- marking a 16% increase compared to 2024.



Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future

A global call to highlight the global collaboration among governments, organisations, and communities to build sustainable food systems that ensure better nutrition, environmental care, and a prosperous future for all.

WORLD
Food
day



Figure 1. Total Number of Students Receiving Institutional Support (2022–2025)

The total number of students benefitting from institutional support grew from 250 in 2022 to 350 in 2025, reflecting a 40% increase over the four-year period. This upward trend demonstrates NSU's proactive and expanding role in addressing student poverty.

- Facilitating community partnerships to promote sustainable agriculture and local food initiatives
- Organizing awareness events, scientific workshops, and rural outreach programs related to food and nutrition security

This report outlines NSU's progress under SDG 2, including measurable actions, community impacts, and future commitments. It highlights the university's growing role as a regional leader in ensuring that food access and sustainability remain integral to education and research.



“ORGANİK VƏ DAYANIQLI KƏND TƏSƏRRÜFATI”

Ekoloji tarazlıq və davamlı inkişaf I RESPUBLİKA ELMİ KONFRANS



4-5 iyun 2025
Naxçıvan

Innovation and Research in Agriculture

In 2025 NSU has been reinforced as a regional center of sustainable agricultural science. By such an expansion of the academic programmes, improvement of laboratory facilities and cross-sector collaboration, the university moved forward on certain priority areas related to the SDG 2: Zero Hunger.

1. Research Agendas and Products

The agricultural and environmental sector-The Faculty of Nature Sciences kept its attention on:
Dryland farming methods suitable for dry climates
Watersaving irrigation devices
Variety trials of crops for climate resilience
Optimization of soil fertility and plant nutrition

In 2025:

15 research projects were activated (up from 10 in 2023 – +50% more projects)

NSU participated in 2 EC-funded projects of sustainable agriculture

4 national and international scientific conferences organized on "Organic and Sustainable Agriculture" I Republican Scientific Conference, "International Congress on Sustainable Agriculture II", "International Apitherapy and Nature Congress III" , "International Salt Research Congress III"

35 refereed papers were also published on "Agricultural and Biological Sciences" and "Environmental Science" in SCOPUS (↑ from 4 last year)

2. Fundamentals and Infrastructure Laboratory and Infrastructure Development

Modernization was continued with the following for the Agricultural Research Laboratory:

- Digital soil sensors
- Plant growth chambers
- Water quality testing tools

A new pilot greenhouse was constructed to facilitate undergraduate research on organic crops and vertical farming.

3. Community Integration

NSU collaborated with various agricultural cooperatives and farmers to:

- Pilot drought-tolerant crops, provide farmer training on efficient water use, and deploy mobile soil-testing technology in remote areas.
- Introduce climate-smart agricultural innovations, strengthen local farming capacity, and support data-driven decision-making through advanced soil analysis tools
- Advance climate-resilient agricultural practices by implementing experimental test fields, developing farmer competencies, and integrating mobile diagnostic technologies into rural farming systems.
- Promote sustainable, climate-adaptive agricultural development

Programs to Provide Food to Students

Nakhchivan State University, as an active participant in achieving food security and ensuring equitable education, also extended structured food assistance to students with low income in 2025. These actions directly correspond to SDG 2.1, which calls for the end of hunger and access for all people, especially vulnerable groups like rural schools children and families from low-income communities, to safe and nutritious food year-round.

1. On-Campus Nutrition Support

So that students do not experience hunger:

NSU offers subsidized meals in campus cafeterias: students from low-income backgrounds (and international students) can get meals at reduced prices. During holidays and special events, NSU provides essential food resources to needy students.

Programs for students needing help obtaining food

During 2025 Nakhchivan State University, which is committed to food security and education for all, provided such advanced food assistance to students living with food insecurity. These initiatives are directly related to SDG 2.1: End hunger and ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all, especially the poor, and people in vulnerable situations, including children of students from rural areas and low income households.

1. On-Campus Nutrition Support

For Feeding Students: Food insecurity among students shall be lessened by:

All students were offered inexpensive meals at the university cafeteria but for those who met financial criteria based on low income, discounted daily meals were available.

In 2023, around 370 students had the subsidy.

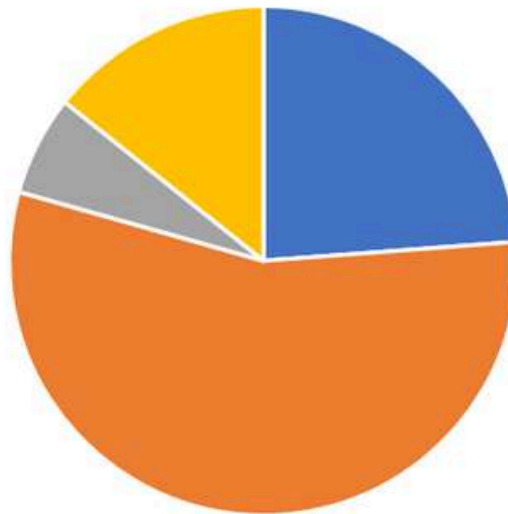
They also initiated a “Healthy Menu Week” campaign to increase awareness on nutrition and inexpensive meal planning.

2. Emergency Food Package Program

In collaboration with the NSU Student Union and local food suppliers, the university distributed food packages during critical periods (e.g., holidays, exam seasons, winter months).

- In total, 190 food packages were distributed in 2025 (↑ from 140 in 2023 – +35,71% growth).
- Priority was given to students from remote villages, international students, and those who applied through the student support hotline.

Growth in NSU Agricultural Research Outputs (2025)



■ Research Project ■ Publications ■ Events hosted ■ Farmers trained

3. Seasonal and Community-Based Support

Additional seasonal initiatives included:

- Ramadan and Nowruz food drives, coordinated by student clubs
- Donations of fresh produce and baked goods from the university's experimental farm
- Participation in World Food Day (October 16) with on-campus food security awareness events
- Seasonal Fruits & Vegetables Week



Output	2023	2024	2025	% Change
Research projects funded	10	14	15	+50%
Peer-reviewed publications (on indexed journals)	295	377	421	+42,71%
Field trials conducted	2	2	2	–
Farmers engaged in outreach events	1	1	1	–
Innovation labs upgraded	70	95	98	+40%



TOGETHER AGAINST HUNGER



FOOD FOR ALL, HUNGER FOR NONE



Community Engagement & Rural Outreach

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University expanded its engagement with rural communities to promote sustainable agriculture and food security practices. These efforts directly supported local development and aligned with SDG 2.3 and 2.4, which focus on increasing small-scale agricultural productivity and ensuring resilient farming systems.

Key Activities:

- 3 regional training workshops were organized in Sharur, Ordubad, and Babek districts, reaching over 120 local farmers.
- University faculty and students conducted mobile field visits to assist in soil testing, pest control, and water-efficient irrigation techniques.
- NSU partnered with two local cooperatives to pilot organic composting and drought-resistant seed use.
- A student volunteer group of 27 members supported seasonal harvest efforts and distributed educational materials on nutrition and sustainable farming.

These outreach programs helped build farmer capacity, improve yields, and strengthen NSU's role as a knowledge center in rural sustainability.

Category	2023	2024	2025	% Change
Meal subsidy recipients	370	420	450	+21,62%
Emergency food packages	140	180	190	+35,71%
Special food campaigns	2	3	4	+100%



Bridging knowledge and tradition, NSU empowers rural farmers to build resilient, sustainable food systems.

With every farmer trained, NSU sows seeds of sustainability and harvests hope for generations to come.



The university contributes to sustainable agriculture projects

1. Monitoring and Impact

To evaluate the effectiveness of its food security and agricultural outreach initiatives, Nakhchivan State University employed a structured monitoring system throughout 2025. This included the use of surveys, program reporting, and direct feedback from beneficiaries — both students and rural stakeholders.

2. Monitoring Tools and Methodology

- Biannual student welfare surveys measured the impact of food support services and cafeteria quality.
- Post-training evaluation forms were distributed to farmers participating in outreach events.
- Monthly program tracking was conducted by the Student Support Office and the Faculty of Agriculture.

3. Conclusions from Monitoring

- NSU's expanded food assistance program resulted in a measurable improvement in student retention and daily wellbeing.
- Farmer feedback indicated increased adoption of sustainable practices introduced through university-led trainings.
- Satisfaction among students increased notably due to improved access to nutritious food and on-campus support.

Through continuous data collection and analysis, NSU remains committed to enhancing its evidence-based approach in addressing food insecurity and supporting community resilience.

Recommendations for 2025:

- Scale up on-campus food programs and integrate nutrition education into student life
- Strengthen collaboration with national agricultural bodies and international donors
- Expand field-based research in rural areas and integrate more students into community-led projects
- Digitize monitoring tools to improve program tracking and impact measurement

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**HEALTH, WELL-
BEING, AND A
PROSPEROUS
FUTURE**

**3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING**



THE GLOBAL GOAL



Introduction

SDG 3 aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. It focuses on various aspects of health, from reducing mortality rates to combating diseases and ensuring universal health coverage. Nakhchivan State University also values the well-being of all students, staff and faculty, and strives to be a community that is committed, caring, healthy, responsive, supportive and resourceful.

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Consistent with this worldwide goal, NSU has developed programs to address:

- Support for student and staff Physical and mental well-being
- Health promotion and disease prevention initiatives
- Domestic and foreign literature of medical and social health issues
- Collaborations with the public health and foreign universities
- Engagement with high risk populations, such as adolescents with autism and school children

In 2025, NSU continued with its previous successful work, increasing the number of community health campaigns, reinforcing mental health and contributing actively to scientific forums and publications.

This report details the university's progress and accomplishments in addressing SDG 3 in the 2025 calendar year, focusing on goals and strategies implemented, results realized, and next steps.

Student Health and Wellness

Health and Wellness program in Nakhchivan State University provides comprehensive health support to foster student well-being in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 3. Services include primary care through the University Health Service, mental health counseling at the Psychology and Consultation Centre. Students have access to workshops, wellness resources, spiritual care, sexual violence support, and recreation services. Programs encourage healthy habits, community health, and peer support, aiming to create a balanced and resilient student community

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING

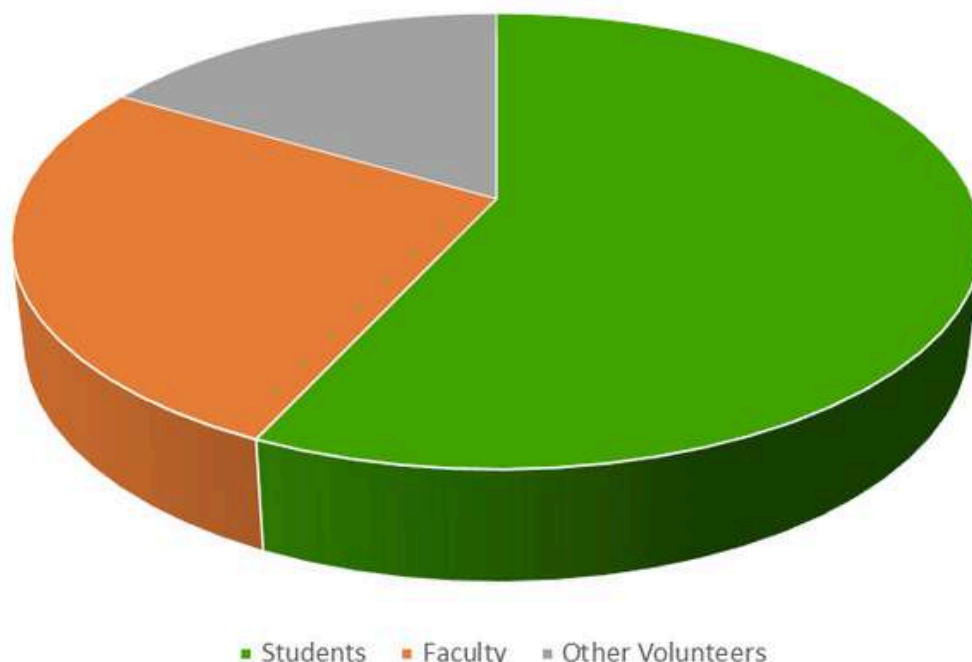


Medical service campaign

At the Nakhchivan State University Hospital (Public Legal Entity) was held free medical service campaign in 2025.



Participation breakdown in Health Campaigns



Mental Health and Well-being Support

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University further expanded its commitment to mental health by enhancing the capacity of its Psychological Support Center and increasing the availability of mental health services for students and staff.

1. Counseling Services

- A total of 330 individual psychological consultations were provided, reflecting a 32% increase compared to 2023 (250 sessions).
- The center hosted 7 mental health seminars, webinar, workshops, on topics such as:
 - Consultative Psychology (systematized methods as psychological assistance)
 - Coping with exam anxiety
 - Building resilience and emotional regulation
 - Stress and time management

These sessions reached over 410 participants, including students from all faculties.

2. Awareness Initiatives

- A campus-wide “Mental Health Awareness Week” was organized in April, featuring lectures, wellness booths, peer discussion groups, and mental health screenings.
- Drug addiction is a white death!
- The training named “Teaching a foreign language in an inclusive environment”
- I Republican Scientific Conference on “Inclusive Education: Realities, Achievements, Perspectives”
- III International Scientific Conference on “From inclusive education to inclusive society: equal opportunities and sustainable development”
- I Republican Scientific Conference on “Inclusive Education: Achievements and Future Challenges”
- International scientific-practical conference on “Innovations in Dentistry”
- I Republican Scientific Conference “Medical Education: Advanced Practices and Innovations” and International Scientific and Practical Conference “Multidisciplinary Approaches to Surgical and Obstetric-Gynecological Problems”
-





**İNKLÜZİV TƏHSİL:
NƏİLİYYƏTLƏR VƏ QARŞIDA DURAN VƏZİFƏLƏR
I RESPUBLİKA ELMİ KONFRANSI**

04 - 05 mart 2025

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Inclusive Education Centre

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University further expanded its commitment to inclusion by upgrading its Inclusive Education Center and ensures that all students receive an education tailored to their socio-cultural and individual characteristics, as well as their needs. At the center, educational programs, methods, and materials are taught with full consideration of each student's individual traits, needs, and interests. Ensuring students' access to quality education and reducing possible discrimination are among the center's main objectives. The center also aims to create the conditions necessary for the development, education, and comprehensive creative support system of students with special educational needs, as well as their rehabilitation environment. The center's specialists prepare individualized education and rehabilitation programs for students, provide them with comprehensive support, and gradually help them adapt to the university's educational process. The responsibilities of the Inclusive Education Center also include consulting with faculty deans and department heads on matters related to organizing and monitoring the teaching and rehabilitation work of students with special educational needs.

The Inclusive Education Center is tasked with the following:

- ensuring the right to receive high-quality higher education and to freely choose the higher education institution and form of study;
- creating special education, rehabilitation conditions, and a comprehensive support system;
- protecting and strengthening moral, physical, intellectual, and social well-being;
- promoting the improvement of the quality of the educational process and encouraging effective professional development;
- organizing and conducting trainings, seminars, courses, and webinars related to the education of students with special educational needs.





Diversity is our strength.



Student Laboratory Club

The Laboratory Club was established with the aim of developing young people's interest and skills in the fields of science and technology. The club covers a wide range of areas, from natural and social sciences to engineering and computer sciences. Its main purpose is to promote scientific thinking among its members and to develop their creative abilities. Various experiments, practical workshops, projects, and discussions are organized within the club.

The Laboratory Club also provides a platform for young researchers to conduct their own studies. Members gain practical experience in a laboratory environment and test themselves in the field of science. The club's activities include scientific lectures and masterclasses as well. Exchange of experience and scientific research are among the main areas of the club's work.



International Achievements:

International collaborations

A memorandum of cooperation was signed with George Washington University in the United States on February 28, 2025, and a preliminary agreement was reached on a dual degree program in "Health Management" at the master's level.

International Exchange

"Medical students of the 'General Medicine' specialty from the Faculty of Medicine of Nakhchivan State University, who are members of EMSA (the European Medical Students' Association), participated in an international exchange program at 'Carol Davila' University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, the capital of Romania in 2025.

Students of the Faculty of Medicine of Nakhchivan State University participated in the second phase of the exchange program between EMSA Nakhchivan and EMSA Uludağ. Within the framework of the program, students gained rich scientific and practical experience in the field of medicine at Bursa Uludağ University, as well as benefited from cultural exchange opportunities.

1 doctor and 16 students from the Faculty of Medicine of NSU participated in an internship program at the Faculty of Dentistry of Gazi University in Ankara.

240 professors, teachers and students from NSU began their medical internship at the Farabi Hospital of the Black Sea Technical University in Turkiye.

3 doctors, 3 teachers, 9 resident doctors and 43 students from the Faculty of Medicine of NSU are participating in an internship program at the Faculty of Medicine of Ege University in Izmir.

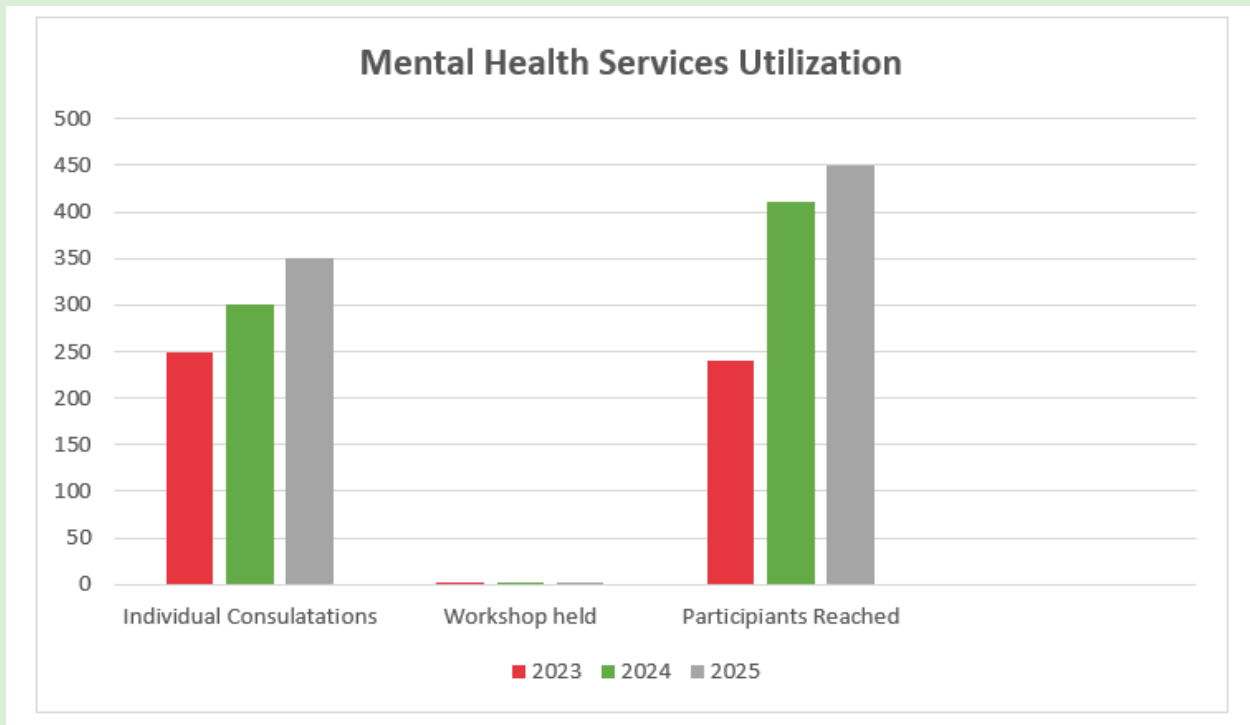
These international collaborations and exchange enhanced NSU's academic profile, fostered cross-border learning, and validated the university's contributions to global health innovation.





Figure 3. Mental Health Services Utilization (2023–2025)

The chart presents year-over-year growth in counseling sessions, workshop delivery, and total participants served through NSU's Psychological Support Center.



Student Feedback and Outcomes

According to an end-of-year student survey:

89% of participants rated the counseling services as “effective” or “very effective”

78% reported improved academic performance and concentration after receiving psychological support



Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University has demonstrated a strong and sustained commitment to advancing Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being through a combination of campus-centric initiatives, community outreach, and strategic partnerships. NSU's approach integrates health promotion, preventive care, and psychological support to enhance both physical and mental well-being among students, staff, and the broader community.

Nakhchivan State University implemented numerous health campaigns and educational programs that significantly raised awareness about preventive health practices and healthy lifestyles in 2025. These efforts helped expand health literacy across different age groups and strengthened community engagement in health-related issues.

NSU also continues to prioritize mental health support, offering counseling services and well-being workshops that promote resilience, stress management, and inclusive support structures for students. These services have yielded positive feedback, contributing not only to improved emotional health but also to better academic performance and a more supportive campus environment.

In addition, Nakhchivan State University's collaboration with local and national health institutions, along with its smoke-free campus policy and practical healthcare education through its Faculty of Medicine, reinforces a holistic culture of wellness deeply embedded within NSU's institutional mission.

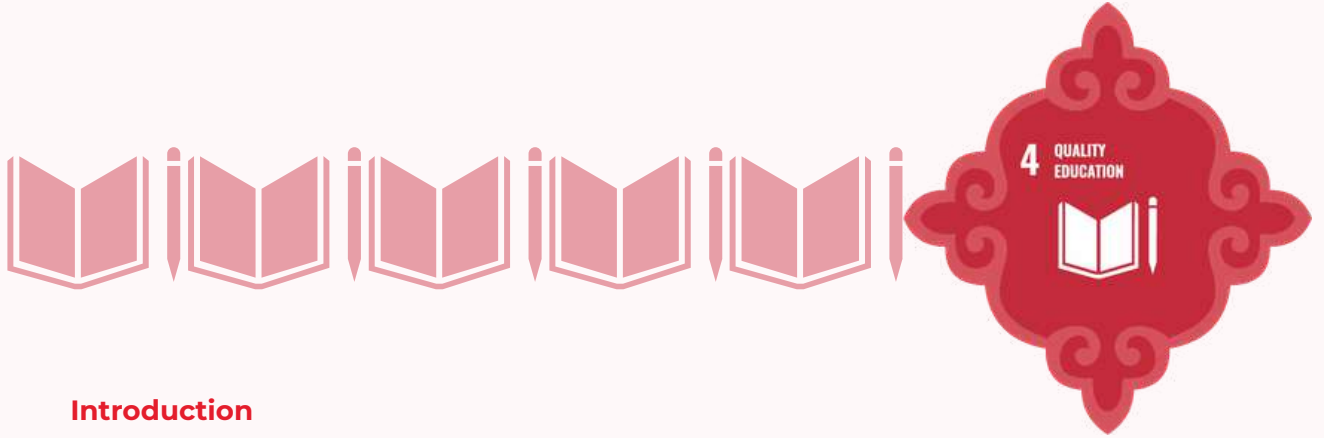
Overall, NSU's achievements in the area of SDG 3 illustrate its progressive role as an educational institution that not only educates future professionals but also actively contributes to the health and well-being of its community, aligning with both national development agendas and global sustainability objectives.

4 G D S

**BUILDING FUTURE
LEADERS
THROUGH
EXCELLENCE IN
EDUCATION**

4 **QUALITY
EDUCATION**





Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) adopted by the United Nations aims to ensure inclusive, equitable, and quality education and to promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Quality education is a cornerstone of sustainable development, contributing to social inclusion, economic growth, and the advancement of human capital.

Nakhchivan State University as a leading higher education institution in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic of Azerbaijan aligns its educational mission and institutional strategies with the objectives of SDG 4. The University is committed to providing high-quality academic programs, fostering an inclusive and student-centered learning environment and enhancing access to education for diverse groups of learners.

Nakhchivan State University continuously improves teaching and learning processes through curriculum modernization, implementation of innovative pedagogical approaches, integration of digital technologies, and development of academic staff capacity. Furthermore, Nakhchivan State University supports lifelong learning initiatives, academic mobility, and international cooperation to ensure education that meets both national priorities and global standards.

Through these efforts, Nakhchivan State University contributes to the achievement of SDG 4 by strengthening educational quality, promoting equal opportunities, and preparing competent graduates capable of contributing to sustainable development at local, national, and international levels.

Institutional Commitment to SDG 4

Nakhchivan State University is committed to advancing SDG 4: Quality Education by ensuring inclusive access to higher education, maintaining robust academic quality standards, and promoting lifelong learning through international engagement and innovation in teaching and learning.

NSU's institutional strategy explicitly integrates SDG 4 through:

- A university-wide Internal Quality Assurance Framework
- Student-centered learning and continuous curriculum review
- Capacity building for academic staff
- Internationalization, including internationalization at home
- Data-driven monitoring of teaching quality and student outcomes

These commitments are embedded in NSU's governance, academic policies, and annual performance monitoring systems.

Internal Quality Assurance Policy

NSU operates a comprehensive Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) Framework, aligned with:

- ESG 2015 – European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance
- TKTA National Accreditation Criteria

In 2025:

100% of academic units were reviewed under ESG- and TKTA-aligned procedures

Program reviews evaluated:

- Learning outcomes
- Teaching and assessment methods
- Student-centered learning approaches
- Program relevance to labor market needs

This policy ensures systematic quality monitoring and continuous improvement across all academic programs.

Student Feedback and Satisfaction Monitoring

NSU conducts annual, institution-wide student satisfaction surveys as a core component of its IQA system.

2025 Evidence:

4,561+ students surveyed (↑ 73,68% compared to 2024)

Survey areas:

- Teaching quality
- Curriculum relevance
- Digital learning access
- Academic support services
- Equity and inclusion

Student and Institutional Feedback Surveys

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University expanded its internal quality assurance mechanisms through a series of targeted surveys designed to collect feedback from students, faculty, and administrative staff. These surveys provided valuable insights into academic satisfaction, teaching effectiveness, institutional governance, and training needs.

English Title	Link
"University Leadership Assessment" survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pWi2A4PhZtj3bxBbJawmm7DWnq-zGi8z/edit
Student Satisfaction Survey on Subjects and teachers	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lx_UMs4mZJm-hhmqfGFglgcs_w_zvBpn/edit
"Quality of Education" survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PvoZ7UQRqzAEkmw2oRSO7KleF-Y9z85D/edit
"Leader's satisfaction with employees" survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/13kK9MjExqEh92tZB-DAR27BcB99K4SZN/edit
"Practice Managers' Satisfaction" Survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gP7fzXy-ykpuF17uG4D4HVQ67aiawj8r/edit
"Satisfaction with experience bases" survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nnhppcUiPHbL1gCZiJuNnzi_0-ENiDZ2/edit
"Satisfaction of pedagogical practice" survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fkPdBUwVIHA-k0rajQ-u2rsMGj7DME_9/edit
Quality Assurance Needs Assessment Survey	https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd9zfDkrKLZlgXDDI46mLRfVPmkQgzIINSLHFyEtjMCR9GT3A/viewform?usp=sf_link
Survey on the Difficulties and Development Needs of NSU Graduates in the "Recruitment of Teachers" Examinations	https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScroLTAVIY_u6yYHx9m7IPktJ8OxuvSiYPv0gL4DYH0QuceSA/viewform?usp=sf_link
Satisfaction with Foreign Teachers	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wio7-XZ6z6-V6iVu4-q3ZUdvcka7IHRi
Student Data and Information System (New LMS) satisfaction survey	https://docs.google.com/document/d/11pdOugNGZA4UyRRwYjf9pmUD01HusRK7/edit
Survey on "Quality of subject teaching and monitoring of pedagogical activity"	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DMqCd06WaCZoKMqICSKmYzhAPPhjvq1F/edit

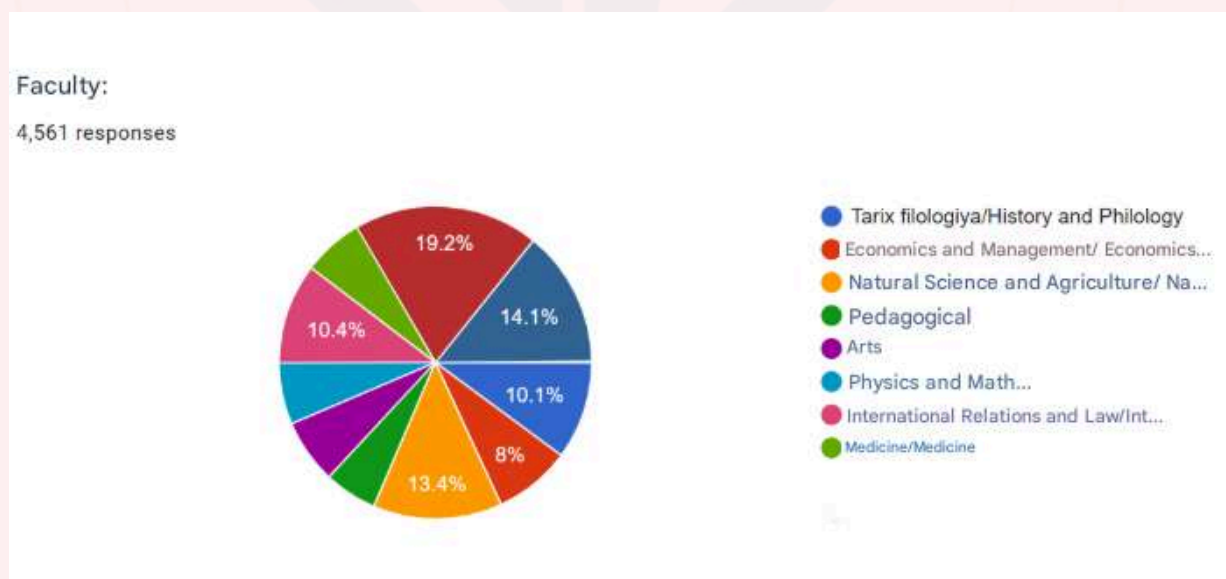
Student Satisfaction Survey Results (2025)

Indicator	Result (%)
Teaching Quality Satisfaction	+90%
Overall Academic Satisfaction	+95%
Satisfaction with Digital Tools	+92%

Key Outcomes (2025):

- 90% student satisfaction with teaching quality
- 95% satisfaction with overall academic experience
- 92% satisfaction with digital learning resources

Survey findings directly inform curriculum updates, staff development priorities, and institutional planning.



Professional Development for Teaching Staff

NSU invests in continuous professional development to enhance teaching quality and pedagogical innovation.

2025 Evidence:

74 academic staff members completed certified training programs in:

- Active and project-based learning
- Digital and blended pedagogy
- Inclusive education practices

Teaching evaluation outcomes are formally integrated into:

- Faculty performance reviews
- Promotion and development decisions
- This approach ensures high-quality teaching and alignment with international pedagogical standards.

Curriculum Relevance and Continuous Improvement

NSU operates a structured Program Evaluation and Development Committee under the Rector's Office.

In 2025:

- All programs underwent scheduled review cycles
- Employer, alumni, and student feedback were incorporated
- Programs were aligned with:
 - National qualification frameworks
 - Sectoral and labor market needs
 - International academic standards

Outcome:

7% increase in revised or updated academic programs compared to 2024

Internationalization

NSU actively promotes internationalization at home to ensure all students benefit from global academic exposure.

2025 Evidence:

41 international professors from 4 countries invited to NSU

Contributions included:

- Guest lectures and short-term teaching
- Joint academic seminars
- Curriculum co-development
- Research mentoring

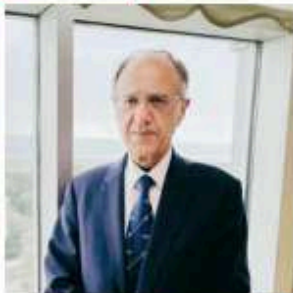
This initiative strengthened intercultural competencies, improved instructional quality, and expanded global perspectives within domestic programs.



INTERNATIONAL TRAINING MONTH

In support of local development and sustainable education quality through the exchange of global scientific knowledge, pedagogical approaches, and academic experiences.

20
25



In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) strengthened its academic internationalization by hosting 41 visiting professors and researchers within the framework of the training month. These international scholars brought expertise in diverse disciplines, contributing to a richer academic environment and a more globalized learning experience for NSU students.

Compared to 2023, the number of foreign academic staff increased by 56,09%, reflecting NSU's steady efforts to internationalize its curricula and strengthen cross-border partnerships.

Student and Staff Mobility

NSU expanded academic mobility opportunities through Erasmus+ and bilateral partnerships.

2025 Outcomes:

8% increase in student and staff mobility participation

Mobility supported:

- Teaching innovation
- Curriculum internationalization
- Research collaboration
- Graduate employability

Dual Degree Programs

A memorandum of understanding was signed with George Washington University, USA, on February 28, 2025, and a preliminary agreement was reached on a dual degree program in the “Health Management” major at the master's level. Negotiations are currently ongoing. Activities are ongoing between working groups on possible dual degree collaborations with other higher education institutions with which NSU collaborates.

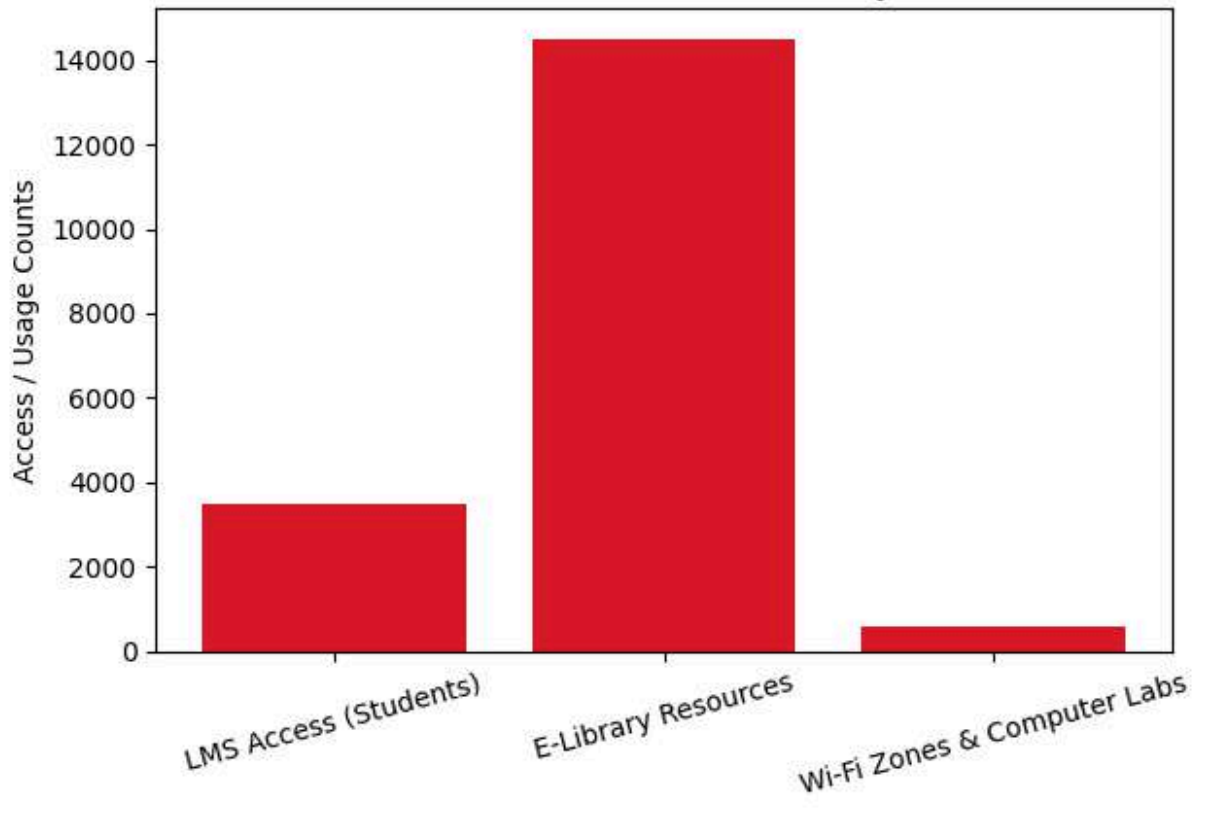
These programs provide students with the opportunity to benefit from joint academic curricula, mobility options, and mutual degree recognition between partner institutions.

Digital Tools and Access

- By 2025, all faculties had fully integrated their courses into NSU's Learning Management System (LMS), making 100% of degree program materials available in digital format.
- The digital library grew, now providing access to more than 14,000 e-books and 1,600 open-access journals — a vital resource for students and researchers alike.
- Campus-wide high-speed Wi-Fi was upgraded, and four modern computer labs remained open daily to ensure students had the tools they needed.
- Over 3,800 students actively engaged with digital platforms, including video lectures, interactive quizzes, and online discussion forums that enhanced their learning experience.

Importantly, 812 students from rural or disadvantaged backgrounds were among the most active users of these digital resources — a clear sign that NSU's efforts are making a difference where it matters most.

Projected Student Access to Digital Resources (2025) Nakhchivan State University





Building Strong Minds with Quality Education



LEARN. GROW. SUCCEED

Empowering Minds, Shaping Futures





Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) demonstrated a strong and measurable commitment to advancing SDG 4: Quality Education, underpinned by coherent governance, robust quality assurance mechanisms, and evidence-based academic practices. Nakhchivan State University's alignment with ESG 2015 and TKTA accreditation standards ensured systematic monitoring of teaching quality, learning outcomes, and program relevance across all academic units.

High levels of student satisfaction (90–95%), continuous professional development of academic staff, and structured curriculum review processes reflected NSU's dedication to student-centered learning and teaching excellence. Investments in digital learning environments and inclusive support services further strengthen equitable access to education and enhance the overall learning experience.

At the same time, NSU's expanding internationalization efforts, including internationalization and growing student and staff mobility, enrich academic quality, foster intercultural competencies, and strengthen graduate employability. The integration of employer, alumni, and student feedback into curriculum development ensures alignment with labor market needs and international academic standards.

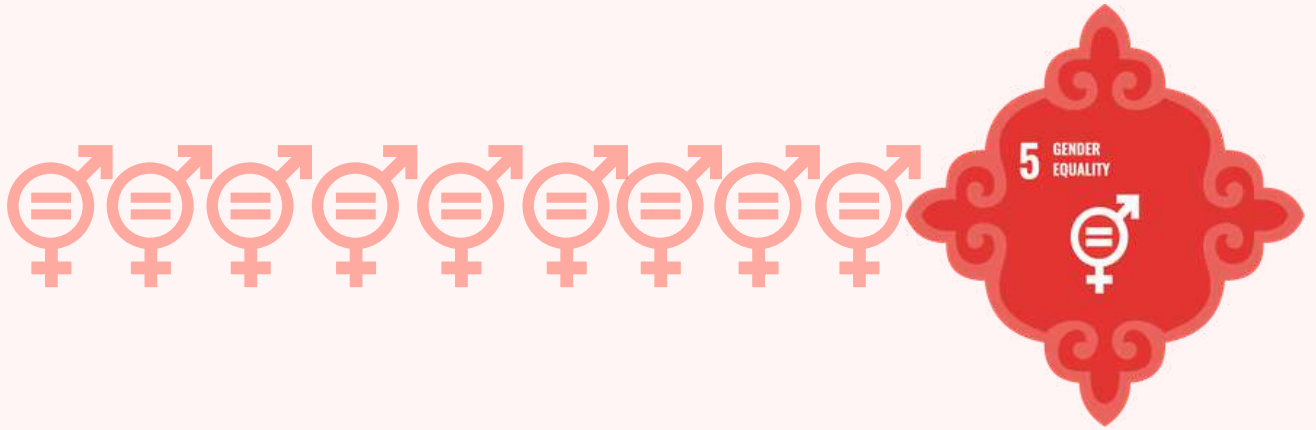
Overall, NSU's integrated approach—linking policy, practice, and measurable outcomes—demonstrates sustained progress toward inclusive, high-quality, and globally engaged education. These achievements position Nakhchivan State University as a credible contributor to the objectives of SDG 4 and align strongly with the evaluation.

5 G D S

**INVESTING IN
EQUALITY: IT'S
OUR PAST AND
IT'S OUR FUTURE**

5 GENDER
EQUALITY





Introduction

Nakhchivan State University (NSU) is committed to fostering gender equality and gender equity across all levels of its academic community. Guided by SDG 5 principles and national legal frameworks, the university integrates gender-sensitive policies, inclusive practices, and measurable outcomes into governance, human resources, teaching, research, and student life.

This report highlights NSU's 2025 achievements in gender equality across key institutional dimensions: policy and governance, staff and leadership representation, student access and success, campus climate, and awareness-raising initiatives.

Policies and Governance Supporting Gender Equality

Gender Equality Policy Framework

NSU has an institutional Gender Equality Policy that:

- Establishes gender equity as a core value in recruitment, career progression, and workplace culture.
- Mandates zero tolerance for gender-based discrimination, harassment, and bias.
- Requires equitable treatment in academic assessments, promotions, and support services for students and staff.

Governance and Oversight:

- A Gender Equality Committee (GEC) was operationalized in 2025.
- The Committee reviews trends in gender representation, pay scale equity, and gender-based concerns across academic and administrative functions.

Leadership Participation

NSU tracks gender representation in governance bodies (Senate, academic councils, administrative boards).

2025 highlights:

- 40% female representation in senior leadership roles (increase from 35% in 2024).
- Balanced gender representation in major strategic committees including curriculum, quality assurance, and research oversight.



Academic and Professional Staff

Across academic and administrative staff:

Academic Staff: Approximately 48% female, 52% male.

Administrative Staff: Approximately 55% female, 45% male.

Gender equity adjustments in recruitment practices (inclusive job ads, bias training for hiring committees) contributed to improved female representation.

Professional Development Equity:

NSU ensured equal access for male and female staff in professional development programs, mentoring, and leadership training.

Gender Equality in Student Access and Outcomes

Enrollment and Completion

Gender-disaggregated data for 2025 show:

- Undergraduate Enrollment: 53% female; 47% male.
- Graduate Enrollment: 51% female; 49% male.
- Program Completion Rates: Gender parity achieved with no statistically significant difference in graduation rates.

Scholarship and Support Programs

NSU expanded financial aid and academic support opportunities targeting underrepresented groups. Gender-balanced access was maintained, with specific mentoring programs for female students in STEM fields to strengthen retention and success.

Campus Climate, Safety, and Inclusion

Campus Safety Initiatives

NSU strengthened mechanisms to ensure campus safety and prevent gender-based violence, including:

- Mandatory training for faculty, staff, and student leaders on gender sensitivity and bystander intervention.
- Confidential reporting channels and support services for survivors.

In 2025 NSU conducted a gender-focused climate and inclusion survey:

Key findings:

- 85% of respondents reported a positive sense of inclusion.
- Concerns identified around work-life balance and awareness of support mechanisms informed targeted action plans.

Curriculum, Research, and Awareness Activities

Inclusive Curriculum

NSU integrated gender perspectives in curriculum design across relevant programs (social sciences, education, law), promoting critical engagement with gender-related topics.

Research on Gender and Society

Support for gender-related research increased, with internal grants awarded to projects analyzing gender dimensions in education, employment, and community development.

Awareness Campaigns

NSU held workshops, panel discussions, and observances for key dates (e.g., International Women's Day) to foster dialogue, awareness, and community engagement around gender equality.

INSTITUTIONAL IMPACT INDICATORS — 2025 SUMMARY

Indicator	2025 Evidence
Gender Equality Policy Implementation	Institutional Policy & active GEC
Female Leadership Representation	40% in senior roles
Gender Balance in Academic Staff	48% female academic staff
Gender Balance in Undergraduate Enrollment	53% female
Program Completion Gender Parity	Achieved
Student Perceptions of Inclusion	85% positive
Participation in Awareness & Safety Programs	Increased participation across genders
Research Initiatives with Gender Focus	Growth in gender-related research awards





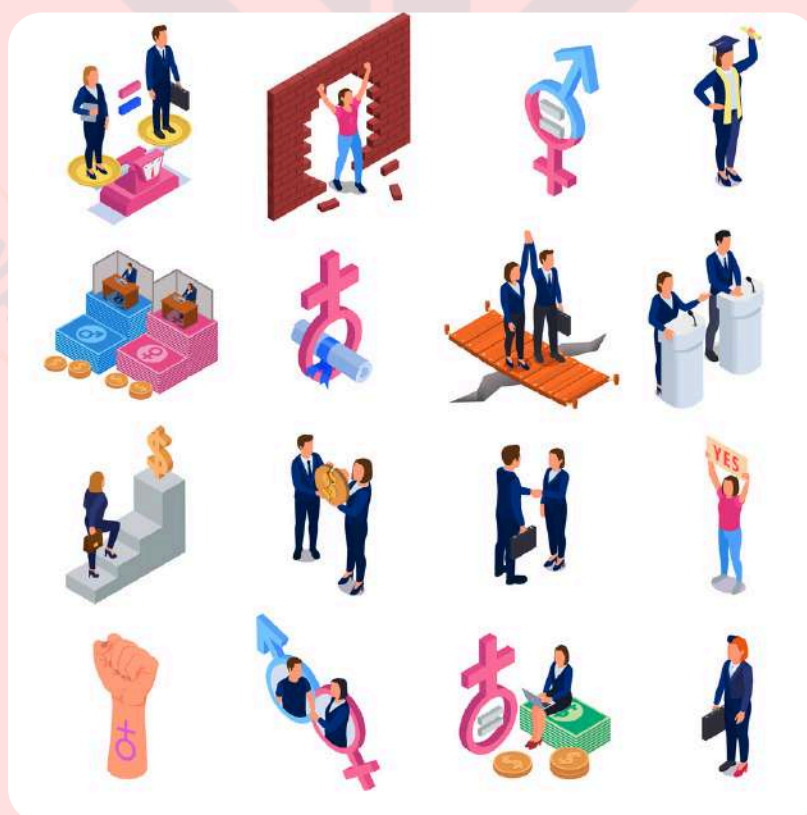
Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) demonstrated sustained progress in advancing gender equality, in alignment with SDG 5 and national higher education priorities. Gender equality principles are embedded within the university's governance, human resources policies, academic environment, and student support systems.

NSU maintained near gender parity across student enrollment and completion rates, with women comprising 53% of undergraduate and 51% of graduate students. Gender balance was also reflected in staffing, with 48% female academic staff and 55% female administrative staff. Notably, female representation in senior leadership increased to 40%, reflecting targeted efforts to promote inclusive leadership and career progression.

The university strengthened institutional mechanisms through the active operation of a Gender Equality Committee, gender-disaggregated data monitoring, and campus-wide training on inclusion, safety, and anti-discrimination. Student and staff surveys indicated a positive climate, with 85% reporting a strong sense of inclusion.

Through policy-driven action, awareness programs, equitable access to professional development, and support for gender-focused research, NSU continues to foster a safe, inclusive, and equitable academic environment. These outcomes position the university as a responsible and effective contributor to SDG 5 and international gender equality benchmarks.



6
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FOR HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES
THROUGH CLEAN
DRINKING WATER

6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION





Introduction

Access to clean water and adequate sanitation is fundamental to public health, environmental sustainability, and the effective functioning of higher education institutions. In line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6): Clean Water and Sanitation, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) recognizes its responsibility to ensure safe water access, reliable sanitation services, and sustainable water management across its campus and institutional activities.

As a leading public university in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, NSU plays an important role in promoting responsible resource management through institutional governance, campus operations, education, research, and community engagement. Water stewardship principles are embedded within infrastructure planning, environmental health and safety policies, and academic programs, contributing to institutional resilience and regional sustainability.

This report presents NSU's 2025 policies, practices, and outcomes related to clean water provision, sanitation infrastructure, water-use efficiency, wastewater management, and education and awareness initiatives.

Nakhchivan State University is committed to advancing SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation by ensuring universal access to clean drinking water, maintaining modern and inclusive sanitation facilities, promoting efficient water use, and supporting education and research related to water sustainability.

NSU integrates SDG 6 principles into:

- Campus infrastructure and facilities management
- Environmental health and safety governance
- Teaching, research, and community engagement activities
- Institutional sustainability planning and monitoring

These commitments are embedded in university governance structures, operational policies, and annual performance evaluation systems.



Water Efficiency and Conservation at Nakhchivan State University (NSU) – 2025

Nakhchivan State University (NSU), including SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation as its main goal, has been doing this by using a variety of water-efficient solutions on campus. In 2025, the university's main goal was to reduce water consumption, enhance the quality of water, and provide sustainable water practices. The outlined initiatives and accomplishments are as follows:

Water-Efficient Appliances:

Toilets: Out of the total number of toilets, 61 toilets have been upgraded along with the installation of water-efficient systems, and by doing so, the university is 60% done with the project.

Washbasins:

The 118 washbasins on the NSU campus, 83 are already fitted with water-saving taps, which means that 70% of the total is already done and ready for use.

Other Appliances: Additional measures have been taken to save water throughout the entire campus facilities.

Overall Water Efficiency:

The appliance implementation has made an average of 65% water efficiency throughout the whole campus, which is a very important action towards minimizing water wastage and increasing the sustainability of the infrastructure used for teaching, studying, and other campus activities.

Key Infrastructure Improvements:

UV purification and rainwater harvesting systems have been introduced to minimize resource reliance from the city for supply to dormitories and the main circulation of the university, especially in the areas of dormitories and heavy traffic.

The installation of digital water monitoring systems leads to the real-time monitoring of water consumption and the quick discovery of leaks, thus bringing about further conservation activities.

Impact and Future Goals:

Such projects are an inseparable part of the water conservation and sustainability program that NSU keeps on actively promoting. The university has not merely reduced its environmental impact but has also set a new standard for water management practices among higher education institutes within the area by making water efficiency its primary concern. In the future, NSU will be working on the enlargement of its rainwater harvesting systems, deployment of more water-efficient technologies, and provision of a sustainable and resilient campus that is fit for the future generation.

Sustainable Development Goal 6

ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF WATER
AND SANITATION FOR ALL

TARGET 6.1

By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

INDICATOR 6.1.1

Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.



TARGET 6.2

By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations.

INDICATOR 6.2.1

Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water.

Water Management and Environmental Safety Policy

NSU operates under an institutional Water and Environmental Sustainability Policy designed to:

- Ensure safe and continuous provision of potable water
- Maintain effective sanitation and wastewater systems
- Promote efficient and sustainable water use
- Ensure compliance with national health, safety, and environmental regulations

Policy implementation and oversight are coordinated by:

- The Facilities and Infrastructure Management Unit
- The Environmental Health and Safety Committee

These units conduct regular inspections, oversee compliance, and report outcomes to senior university leadership.

Drinking Water Infrastructure

In 2025, NSU ensured reliable access to clean drinking water for all members of the university community.

2025 Evidence:

- 100% of academic buildings, laboratories, administrative facilities, and student residences connected to regulated potable water systems
- Routine water quality testing conducted in accordance with national public health standards
- Clearly designated and maintained drinking water access points across campus

Emergency response procedures are in place to ensure continuity of water supply during disruptions.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Campus Sanitation Facilities

NSU maintains comprehensive sanitation infrastructure that supports health, dignity, and accessibility.

2025 Outcomes:

- Sanitation facilities available in all campus buildings
- Gender-separated restrooms maintained in accordance with hygiene standards
- Accessible sanitation facilities for persons with disabilities
- Regular cleaning, inspection, and preventive maintenance schedules

These measures ensure a safe, inclusive, and hygienic learning and working environment.

Water Efficiency Measures

NSU promotes responsible water consumption through infrastructure upgrades and operational practices, including:

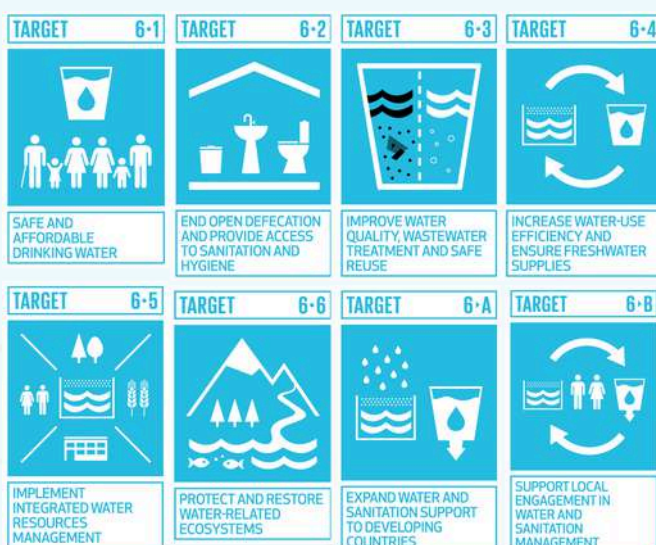
- Installation of water-efficient fixtures in renovated and newly constructed buildings
- Preventive maintenance programs to reduce leakage and system losses
- Optimization of water use in laboratories and student residences
- Landscaping and outdoor maintenance practices designed to reduce unnecessary water use

2025 Outcome:

Improved water-use efficiency and reduced water wastage compared to previous operational benchmarks, monitored internally.

Alignment with SDG 6 Targets

- 1.NSU's activities in 2025 aligned with the following SDG 6 targets:
- 2.Target 6.1: Safe and affordable drinking water
- 3.Target 6.2: Access to adequate sanitation and hygiene
- 4.Target 6.3: Improved water quality and wastewater management
- 5.Target 6.4: Increased water-use efficiency
- 6.Target 6.5: Sustainable and integrated water resource management
- 7.Target 6.b: Community participation and awareness



National and Regional Context on SDG 6

Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic is characterized by limited freshwater resources and climatic water stress, making efficient water management a strategic priority. Nakhchivan State University plays a key role in advancing sustainable water use through innovation, education, and leadership.

Nakhchivan State University contributes to national SDG 6 priorities by:

- Promoting responsible water consumption
- Supporting research on water efficiency
- Training future professionals in sustainable resource management

Strategic Goals and Plans for 2026–2030

To strengthen SDG 6 implementation, NSU plans to:

- 1.Introduce digital monitoring of water consumption to support data-driven decision-making.
 - 2.Expand water recycling and reuse practices, where feasible.
 - 3.Formalize a University Water Sustainability Policy.
 - 4.Increase interdisciplinary research and student involvement in SDG-related projects.
- Strengthen partnerships with public institutions and environmental organizations.

Conclusion

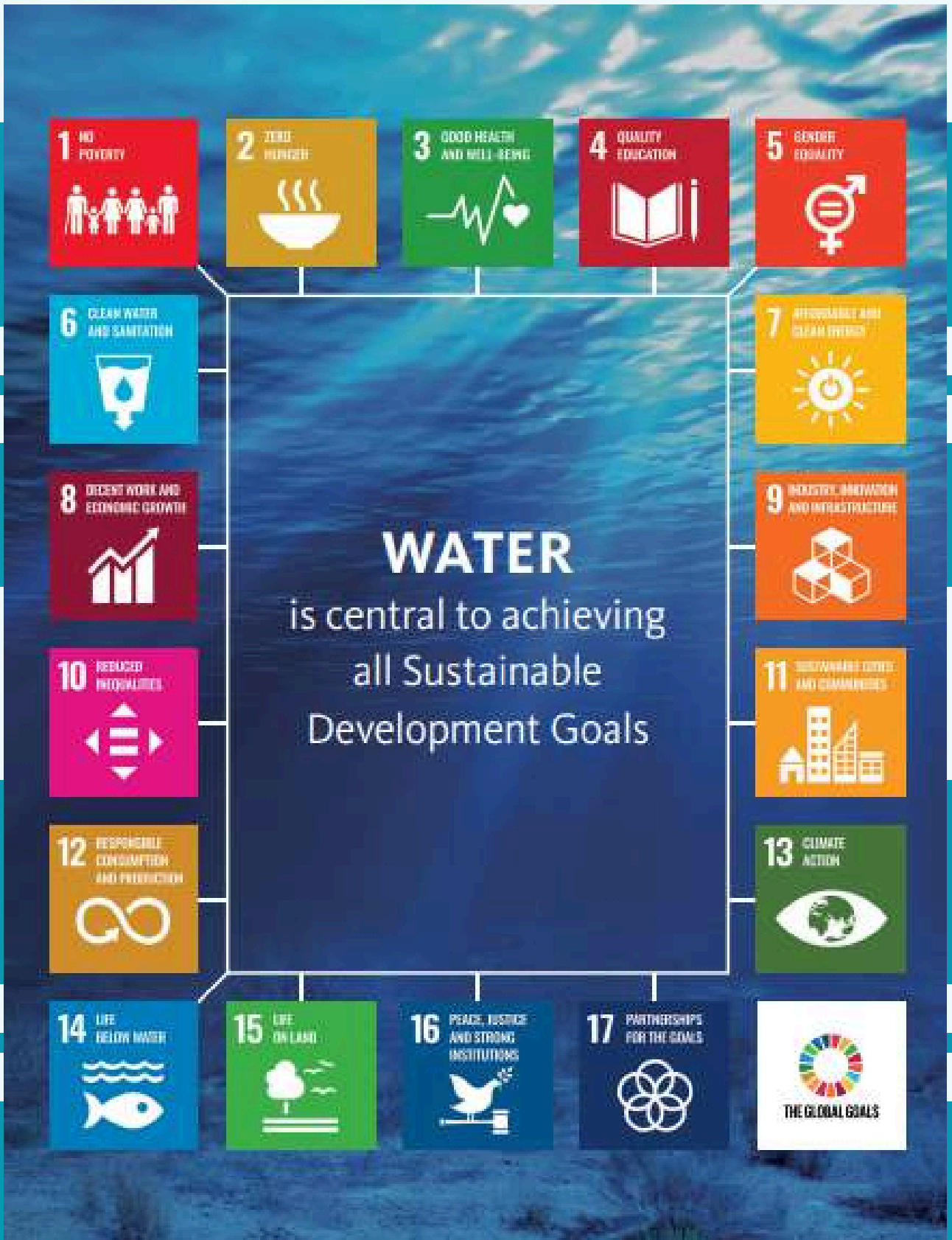
In accordance with the principles and objectives set forth in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in alignment with national priorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Nakhchivan State University hereby affirms its continued commitment to the implementation and advancement of Sustainable Development Goal 6, concerning the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation.

During the 2025 reporting period, the University has undertaken and maintained measures to ensure uninterrupted access to safe drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities across all academic, administrative, and residential premises. These measures have been implemented in compliance with applicable national regulations, institutional standards, and internal governance procedures, thereby safeguarding public health, environmental protection, and the welfare of all members of the University community.

Nakhchivan State University further confirms that water use efficiency, sanitation management, and hygiene standards have been integrated into its operational policies and practices. Regular oversight, maintenance activities, and awareness measures have been conducted to ensure conformity with established sustainability objectives and institutional responsibilities. Such actions demonstrate NSU's due diligence in the responsible management of natural resources within its jurisdiction.

In the area of education and research, Nakhchivan State University has fulfilled its academic mandate by incorporating sustainability and water-related subjects into relevant curricula, research initiatives, and scholarly activities. These efforts support capacity building, knowledge dissemination, and the preparation of qualified specialists capable of contributing to sustainable water management at local, national, and international levels.



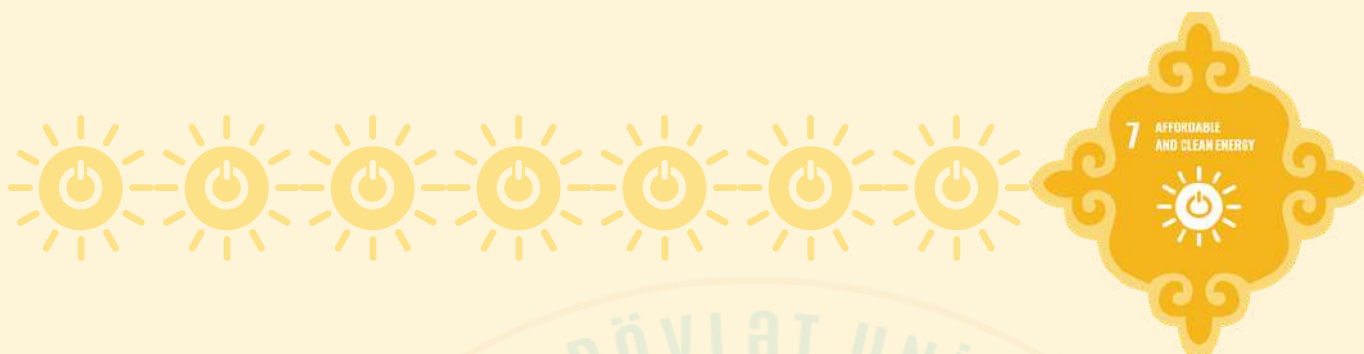


7 SDG S

**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY,
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE**

**7
AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY**





Introduction

Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy remains a central objective of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7). In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) strengthened its institutional commitment to clean and efficient energy systems through the continued expansion of renewable energy production, systematic improvements in campus-wide energy efficiency, and enhanced engagement of students and academic staff in energy-related research and innovation.

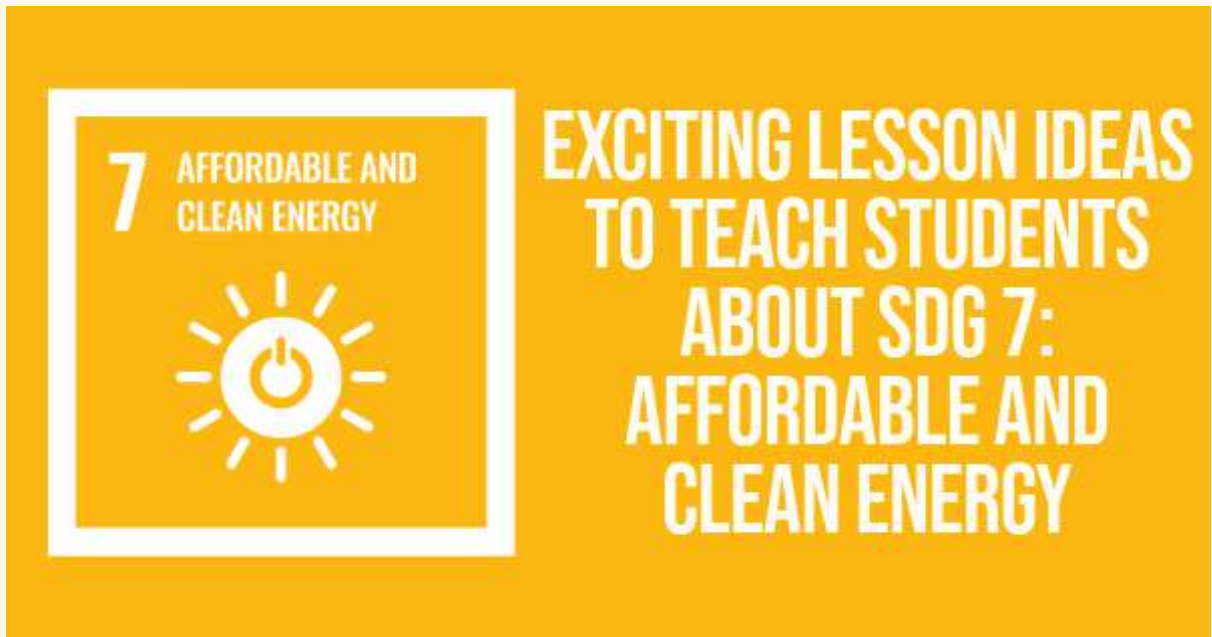
Building upon the infrastructure, monitoring systems, and educational initiatives established in previous years, NSU further integrated solar and wind technologies into its campus operations while reinforcing awareness, capacity building, and applied learning in sustainable energy. The University's activities are aligned with SDG 7 targets 7.1 (universal access to modern energy services), 7.2 (increased share of renewable energy), and 7.3 (improved energy efficiency).

This 2025 report highlights NSU's measurable progress toward a greener and more sustainable energy model through technical advancements, academic contributions, and student engagement in sustainable energy initiatives.

Energy Infrastructure and Efficiency Improvements

In 2025, NSU continued to modernize its energy infrastructure with a focus on reducing environmental impact, lowering operational costs, and improving system efficiency. Energy efficiency measures were implemented across academic buildings, dormitories, and administrative facilities through smart design, automation, and technology integration.

Solar-powered lighting systems installed in previous years were expanded to additional outdoor areas, further reducing reliance on grid electricity. Motion-sensor LED lighting and automated HVAC controls were extended campus-wide to optimize energy use during non-peak hours and low-occupancy periods.



Key Achievements in Campus Energy Efficiency (2025)

- Full replacement of indoor lighting systems with LED units across all classrooms, libraries, and laboratories (100% coverage)
- Thermal insulation upgrades completed in three major faculty buildings, resulting in an estimated 16% reduction in winter heating demand
- Deployment of automatic lighting sensors in corridors, restrooms, and low-traffic areas across nine buildings
- HVAC system optimization in administrative and academic blocks, achieving an average energy-use reduction of 13.1%

Energy Monitoring and Management

To support data-driven energy management, NSU expanded its monitoring systems in 2025:

- Real-time electricity monitoring dashboards were installed in six campus buildings, doubling coverage from the previous year
- Smart scheduling systems were refined to minimize unnecessary lighting and equipment operation during evenings and weekends
- Monthly energy performance reviews were institutionalized to evaluate system efficiency and user behavior

These measures strengthened accountability and enabled timely operational adjustments.

Renewable Energy Initiatives

NSU continued to expand its renewable energy portfolio in 2025, further reducing dependence on fossil fuels and supporting the transition toward a low-carbon campus.

Solar Energy Projects

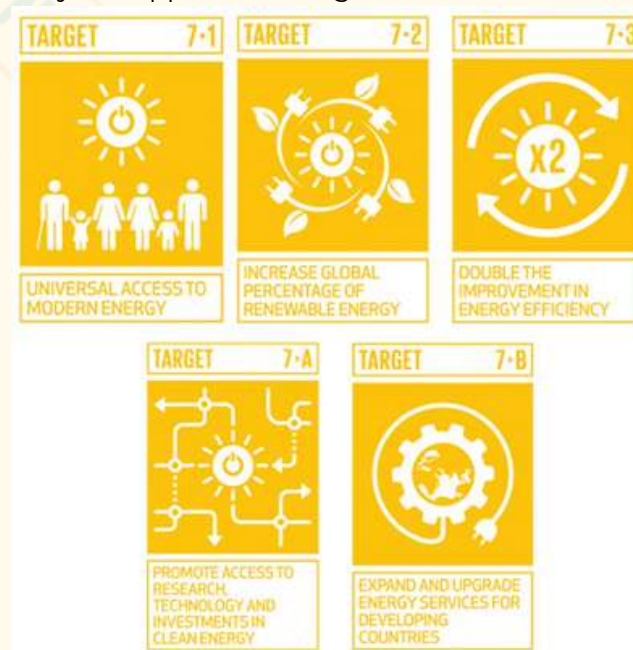
- Total installed solar capacity increased by 25 kW, bringing overall campus capacity to 110 kW
- Rooftop photovoltaic systems across five faculty and administrative buildings supplied approximately 21% of daytime electricity demand
- Technical staff received advanced training in photovoltaic performance monitoring and preventive maintenance

Wind Energy Integration

- The 5 kW wind turbine located near the Faculty of Engineering continued stable operation
- Wind energy contributed an average of 2.6% of monthly electricity consumption, with peak performance during winter months

Hybrid Microgrid Expansion

- The pilot hybrid energy system (solar + wind + battery storage) launched in 2024 was successfully maintained and optimized
- Battery storage capacity was expanded to 15 kWh, reducing evening grid demand for the dormitory block by 15%
- The project involved 18 students and 4 faculty advisors, functioning as a permanent “living laboratory” for applied learning





Impact of Clean Energy Transition (2025)

- Renewable energy sources (solar and wind) supplied approximately 23.8% of NSU's total annual electricity demand
- Estimated CO₂ emissions reduction increased to ~41 tons per year
- Strengthened institutional research capacity and expanded student engagement in renewable energy planning, monitoring, and system optimization

Training Programs and Public Awareness on Energy

Alongside infrastructure development, NSU prioritized education, training, and public engagement related to clean energy in 2025.

Academic Highlights

- The elective "Climate and Energy Systems" module continued for engineering and natural science students, with expanded content on:
 - Renewable energy technologies
 - Energy economics and policy
 - Regional and global energy transition strategies
- 67 students were enrolled during the academic year
- A structured guest lecture series featured experts from:
 - National energy regulatory institutions
 - Regional power utilities
 - Renewable energy companies

Topics included grid integration, smart energy systems, solar architecture, and energy transition governance.

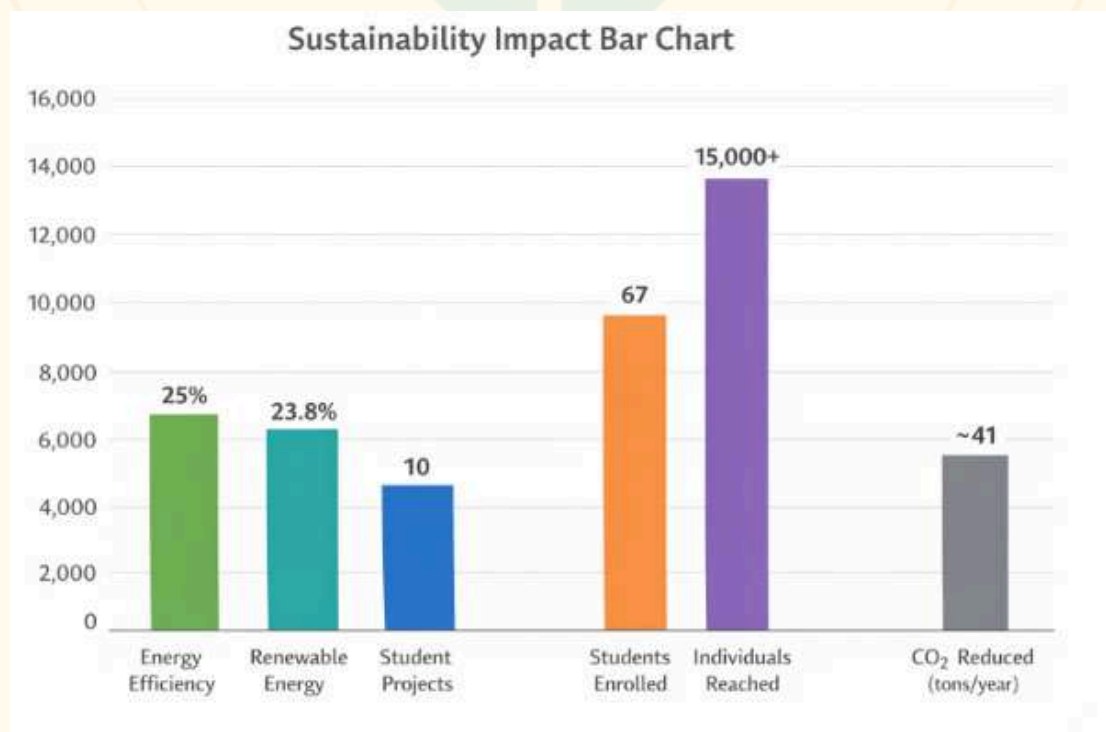
Monitoring and Evaluation

In 2025, NSU consolidated its integrated energy monitoring framework to ensure transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement.

Monitoring Highlights

- Six buildings equipped with smart meters transmitting daily consumption data
- Quarterly energy audits conducted to identify inefficiencies and behavioral patterns
- Results indicated a 12.4% year-on-year reduction in total electricity consumption

Key Achievements Summary (2025)	
Area	Progress Highlights
Energy Efficiency	25% reduction through LED, insulation, and HVAC optimization
Renewable Energy	23.8% of energy demand met by solar and wind
Research & Education	10 student projects; 67 students enrolled
Awareness Campaigns	Over 15,000 individuals reached
CO ₂ Emissions	~41 tons reduced annually



For Future (2026–2028)

- Expansion of rooftop solar installations to four additional buildings
- Introduction of AI-based load balancing and predictive maintenance systems
- Launch of a Green Energy Certificate Program for students and staff
- Hosting of an International Sustainable Campus Energy Forum at NSU



INCREASE GLOBAL PERCENTAGE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY



Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University has demonstrated a sustained and holistic commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 7, which emphasizes affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. Building on prior achievements, NSU has systematically advanced its renewable energy portfolio, implemented comprehensive energy efficiency measures, and expanded student engagement and research in sustainable energy technologies. These initiatives reflect the University's recognition of energy as a fundamental driver of academic excellence, environmental stewardship, and regional development.

Through the expansion of solar photovoltaic systems, the ongoing operation of campus wind turbines, and the pilot hybrid microgrid program, NSU has made measurable progress in reducing its carbon footprint, diversifying its energy sources, and ensuring operational resilience. The total contribution of clean energy to campus electricity demand has increased significantly, resulting in a notable reduction of CO₂ emissions, while simultaneously fostering applied learning opportunities for students and strengthening institutional research capacity in renewable energy systems.

NSU has also demonstrated leadership in energy efficiency, with extensive upgrades to LED lighting, HVAC systems, thermal insulation, and automated monitoring tools across academic, administrative, and residential buildings. The implementation of real-time energy monitoring dashboards and smart scheduling systems has enabled evidence-based decision-making, enhanced accountability, and encouraged responsible energy use among staff and students. These practices reflect NSU's integration of technological innovation with operational management to achieve sustainable outcomes.

In conclusion, Nakhchivan State University's 2025 SDG 7 accomplishments exemplify a comprehensive and integrated approach to sustainable energy management. By combining infrastructure advancement, technological innovation, rigorous monitoring, research excellence, and educational engagement, NSU positions itself as a regional model for sustainable energy leadership in higher education. The University's commitment to clean energy, operational efficiency, and student empowerment not only contributes to the reduction of environmental impact but also strengthens the institutional capacity to foster a sustainable, equitable, and resilient future. NSU's efforts reaffirm the institution's dedication to the United Nations 2030 Agenda and to the broader pursuit of environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and academic excellence for generations to come.



SDG 7:

Affordable and Clean Energy

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



SDG 7 IS...

about ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, with targets focusing on universal access, increased renewable energy, and improved energy efficiency



THE TARGETS OF SDG 7:

- UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY
- INCREASE GLOBAL PERCENTAGE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
- DOUBLE THE IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY
- PROMOTE ACCESS TO RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY, AND INVESTMENTS IN CLEAN ENERGY
- EXPAND AND UPGRADE ENERGY SERVICES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



THE GLOBAL ENERGY CRISIS

A global energy crisis refers to a significant disruption or shortage in the supply of energy resources that affects a large portion of the world, leading to rising prices, economic instability, and potentially, fuel shortages.



CALL TO ACTION

To end the dilemma around the global energy crisis, fulfilling our duty to our environment is a key factor for improvement. Thus, we must commit to actions such as:

- Supporting Renewable Energy Sources (invest in cleaner alternatives)
- Saving Electricity (simple habits that help reduce energy consumption)
- Speaking Up for Change (push for better energy policies)
- Aiding Far-flung Communities (bring solar energy to remote areas)



"THE ENERGY CRISIS IS A GLOBAL ISSUE THAT DEMANDS COLLECTIVE ACTION."

If we start today, we can save the world. Let us promote sustainability, build our present, and preserve our future, together.

8

G

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S

**FOR BALANCED
AND ACCESSIBLE
ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITIES**

8

**DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH**





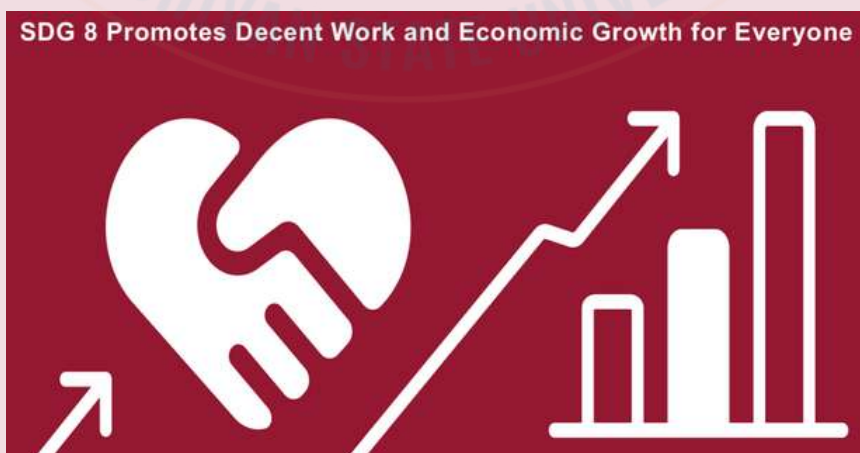
Introduction

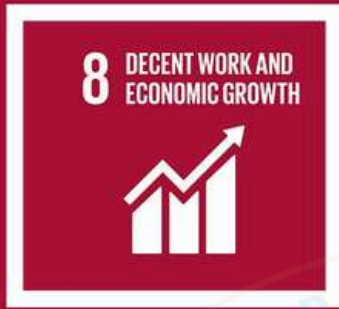
Nakhchivan State University is a public higher education institution serving the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic and contributing to national development priorities through education, research, and community engagement.

Nakhchivan State University integrates SDG principles into institutional strategy, academic delivery, research priorities, and administrative operations. SDG 8 is addressed through workforce development, economic engagement, and responsible employment practices.

Nakhchivan State University (NSU) reaffirms its commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recognizes its institutional responsibility to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, productive employment, and decent work for all in alignment with SDG 8.

This Progress Report presents a structured overview of NSU's policies, governance mechanisms, initiatives, and outcomes related to SDG 8 during the 2025 reporting year. Nakhchivan State University's activities focused on enhancing graduate employability, supporting entrepreneurship and innovation, strengthening labor market engagement, and ensuring fair and decent working conditions for all employees in 2025.





Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Career Development and Employment Support

During 2025, NSU implemented structured career development activities, including career fairs, employer engagement events, and individual career counseling services. Students received support in CV preparation, interview skills, and job search strategies, strengthening their transition to employment.

Entrepreneurship and Innovation

NSU promoted entrepreneurial competencies through student startup initiatives, innovation competitions, and awareness programs focused on business development and economic growth. These activities supported innovation-driven employment pathways.

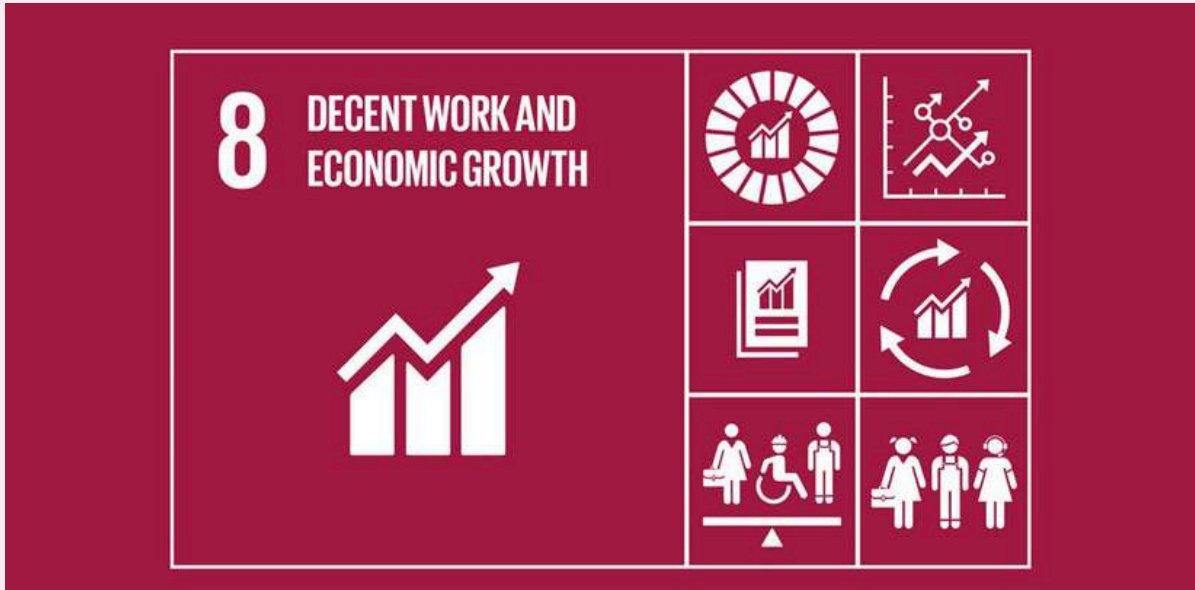
Decent Work and Human Resources Practices

NSU maintained compliance with national labor laws and institutional regulations, ensuring:

- Fair and transparent recruitment and promotion procedures;
- Safe and healthy working conditions;
- Access to professional development and lifelong learning for staff.

Contribution of NSU to Regional and National Economic Development

NSU contributes to economic development by supplying qualified human capital, supporting workforce development in priority sectors, and fostering innovation aligned with regional needs. Nakhchivan State University's graduates play a significant role in the socio-economic development of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.



NSU pursued the following strategic objectives in 2025:

- Strengthen graduate employability and labor market readiness;
- Promote entrepreneurship, innovation, and self-employment;
- Expand cooperation with public and private sector employers;
- Ensure decent, safe, and inclusive working conditions;
- Support equal access to employment and professional development opportunities.



Career Fair and Employment Outcomes

Nakhchivan State University (NSU) organized its annual Career Fair in 2025 to connect students and graduates with potential employers and to provide insight into current labor market trends. The event aimed to facilitate professional networking, internships, and full-time employment opportunities for students across all faculties.

Career Fair 2025 – Highlights

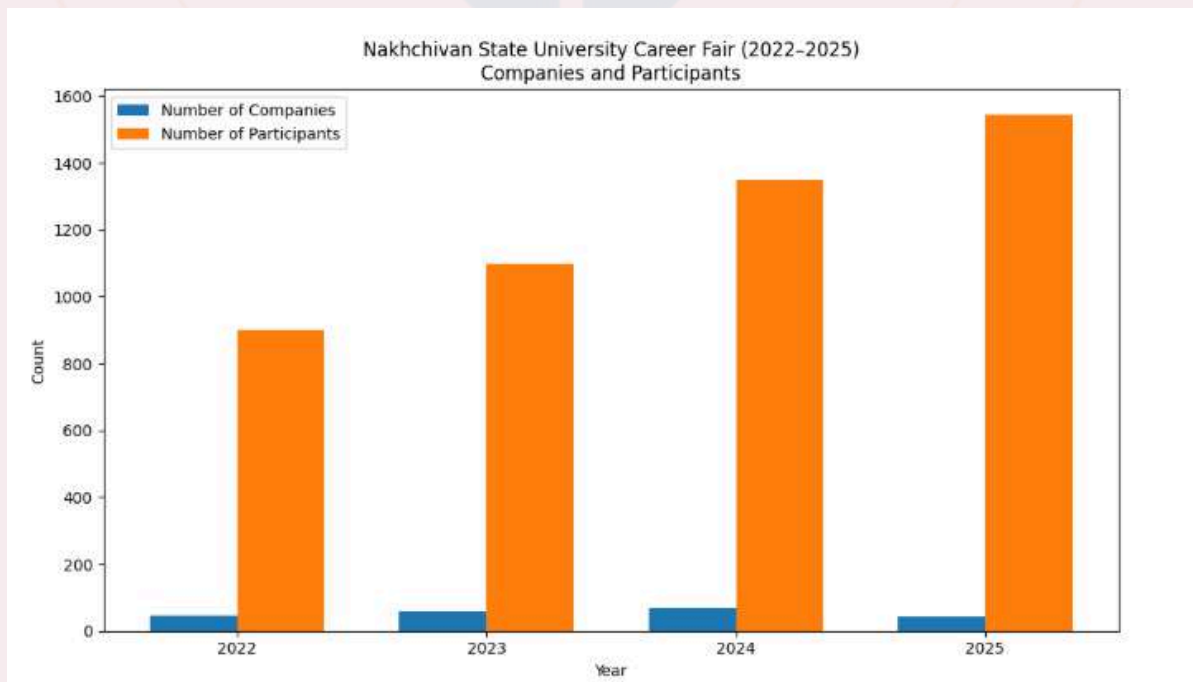
Nakhchivan State University presented vacant positions at the fair through a total of 42 organizations, including 28 state institutions and 14 private enterprises.

Employment Outcomes

The preliminary outcomes of the Career Fair are as follows:

- Student Engagement: High participation from NSU students, with many attending interviews and submitting applications.
- Job Offers & Internships: Several students secured internships and full-time positions directly during the fair.
- Employer Feedback: Employers highlighted the professionalism and preparedness of NSU graduates, indicating that university training aligns well with labor market demands.
- Skills Insights: Employers provided feedback on skills in demand, helping the university tailor curricula and training programs.

The 2025 Career Fair at Nakhchivan State University successfully connected students with employment opportunities, strengthened ties with both public and private sector employers, and showcased the professional capabilities of NSU graduates. The event reinforced NSU's role in fostering career development and promoting employment readiness among its students.



Field Experience and Work Experience Programs

In the second semester of the 2024–2025 academic year, a total of 1,544 students from the university were sent for internships to 43 organizations. Of these, 443 students completed pedagogical internships, while 1,101 students undertook industrial (production) internships. For the internships to be held in the second semester of the 2025–2026 academic year, negotiations were conducted and agreements were signed with 38 public and private institutions of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.

Recruiters conducted 29 on-the-spot job interviews, offering immediate opportunities for qualified candidates. In addition to networking, students joined a series of practical panels and workshops covering:

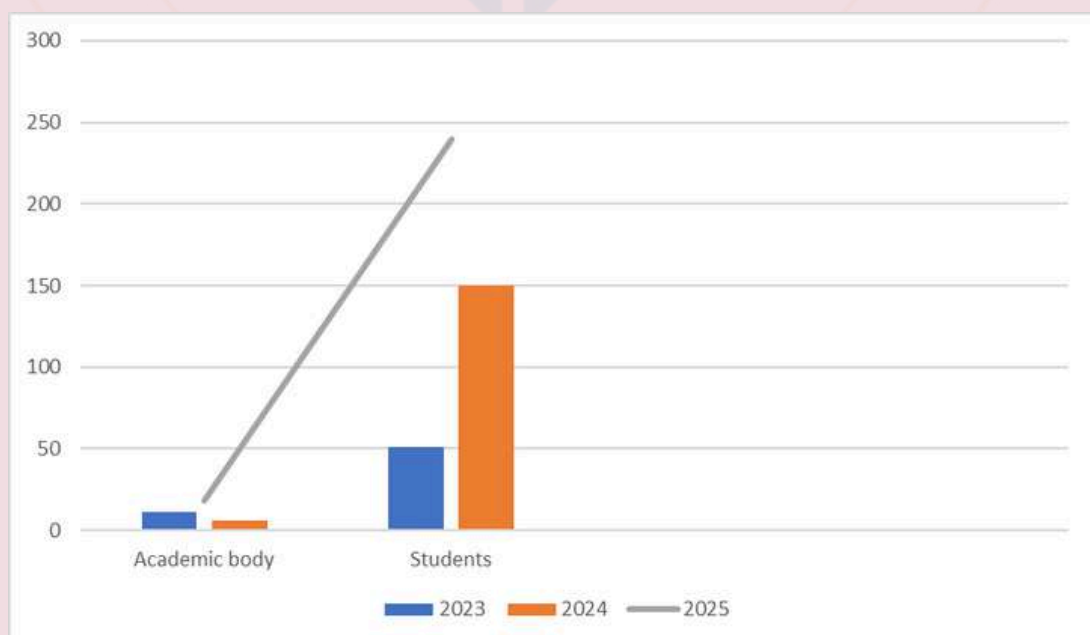
- CV and cover letter writing
- Remote work tools and soft skills
- Women in tech and inclusive hiring practices

Internships and Practical Training

Nakhchivan State University expanded internship and practical training opportunities through cooperation with government institutions, private enterprises, and other stakeholders. Practice-based learning was embedded in academic programs to ensure alignment with labor market requirements.

Key Outcomes in 2025:

Within the framework of the signed bilateral cooperation memoranda and ERASMUS agreements, 18 teachers and 240 students participated in mobility and internships.



Graduate Employment Trends

- Increasing employer engagement, particularly from state institutions
- High demand for graduates with practical experience, especially those who completed industrial internships
- Positive employer feedback regarding graduates' professional skills, adaptability, and discipline
- Growing opportunities for employment through internship-to-job pathways

These trends indicate that NSU graduates are competitive in the regional labor market and well-prepared for professional integration.

Training for Students

It's common for NSU to hold training sessions, seminars, and workshops under broader SDG or sustainability rubrics. These sessions frequently cover topics.

The following trainings were held in 2025:

"Journey to Success - Career Marathon"

"The role of education and innovation in the career development of young people"

"Ethical principles and transparency in career"

"Recruitment to the civil service"

As well, the project named "The best center of the month (Career center)" and "An open mic project titled 'Doctor of the Future: Career and Development'" were held at Nakhchivan State University for SDG8 in 2025.















8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Decent work and economic growth helps to facilitate sustainable development

Economic growth and employment enables investment in healthcare, education and infrastructure



Decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation provides new opportunities



Decent, well-paid and fulfilling jobs boosts development and well-being



Sustainable and resilient economies are achieved through:

Reduced consumption of natural resources (e.g., minerals, water)



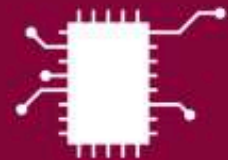
Improved understanding of the complex interactions between the environment and society



Economic diversification, reducing the impacts of economic and environmental shocks



Technological upgrading, knowledge exchange and research to improve economic productivity



Decent work boosts economic growth, which helps to sustain livelihoods:

Job creation is critical to meet growing demand, particularly in the Global South



More jobs will support environmental sustainability, decarbonisation and the circular economy



Sustainable geotourism also provides new jobs



Workplaces must be safe and secure, and free of violence and harassment of all kinds

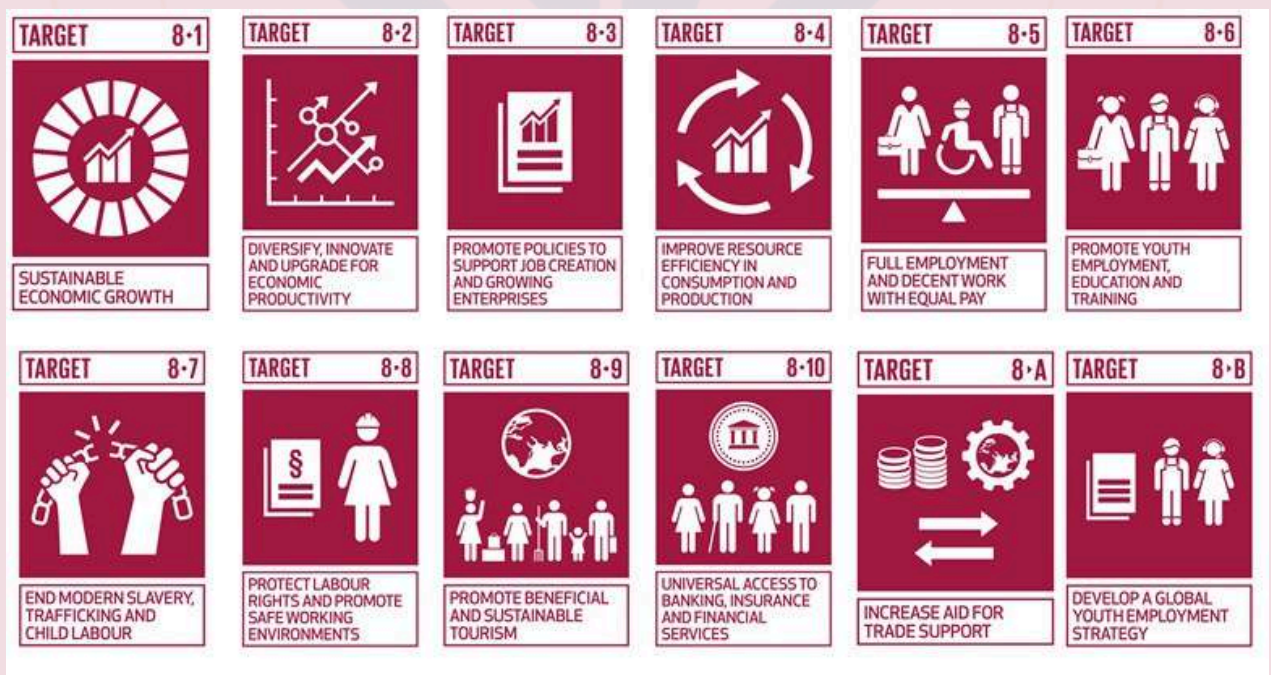


Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University demonstrated strong commitment to SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth by integrating employability, entrepreneurship, and skills development into its institutional strategy. Through career services, industry partnerships, practical training, and student-centered initiatives, the university enhanced graduates' readiness for the labor market and supported sustainable economic development in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic.

NSU's efforts contributed to inclusive employment opportunities, strengthened links between education and the economy, and promoted innovation and lifelong learning. By embedding SDG 8 principles into teaching, research, and community engagement, the university not only improved student outcomes but also reinforced its role as a key driver of regional economic growth.

Moving forward, continued expansion of digital skills training, international collaborations, and inclusive access to decent work opportunities will further strengthen NSU's impact and ensure sustained progress toward the objectives of SDG 8.



9 G D S

**A COMMITMENT
TO A
SUSTAINABLE
AND INNOVATIVE
INDUSTRY**

**9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE**





Introduction

SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) emphasizes the development of resilient infrastructure, the promotion of inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and the advancement of innovation.

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) further strengthened its position as a regional hub for science, technology, and applied research by:

- Expanding innovation-oriented infrastructure
- Deepening industry and international research partnerships
- Enhancing student engagement through technology-driven and entrepreneurial learning
- Advancing applied education in engineering, architecture, digital technologies, and robotics

These initiatives continue to equip students with future-ready skills while supporting regional economic resilience and sustainable development.

These efforts aim to prepare students for the demands of a rapidly evolving technological landscape while also contributing to regional economic resilience and sustainable growth.

Technopark and Infrastructure Development

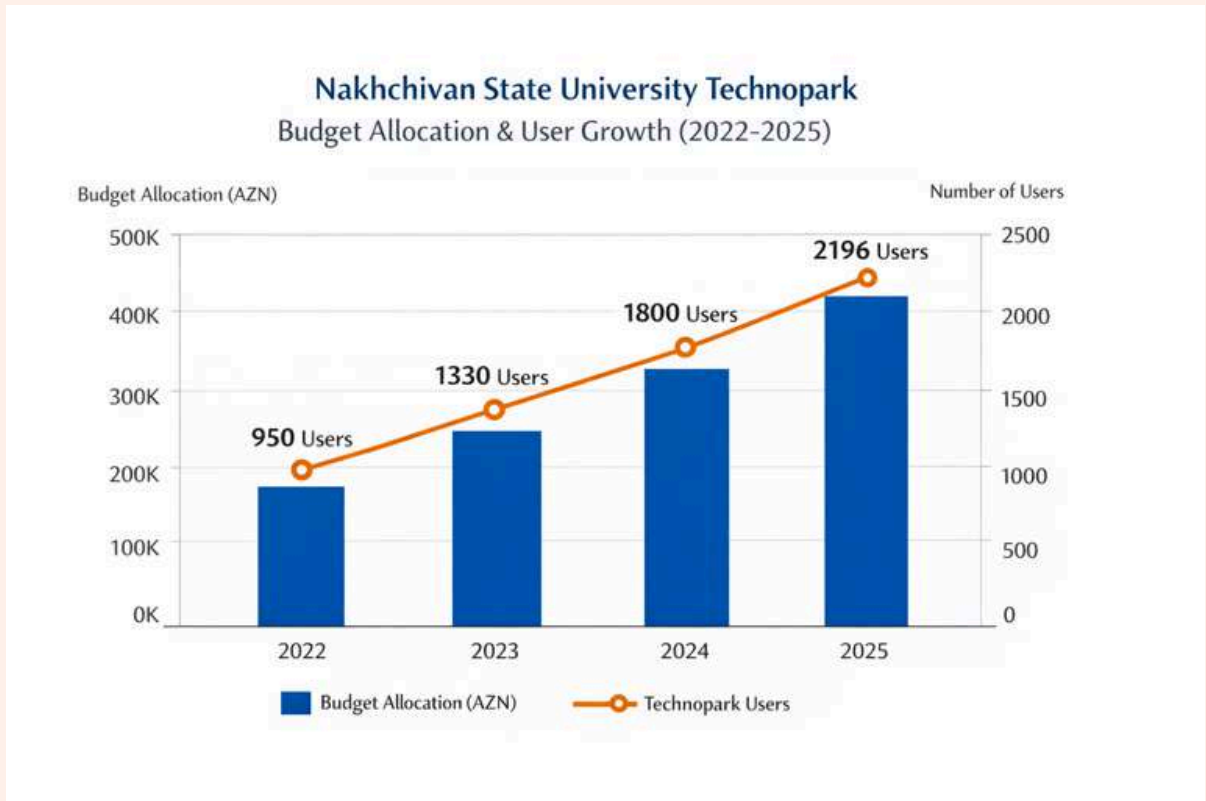
In 2025, NSU continued strategic investments in physical and digital infrastructure to support innovation, research commercialization, and student entrepreneurship.

NSU Technopark Development (2025)

- Additional expansion: +800 m² (total expansion since 2023: 2,000 m²)
- New facilities added:
 - 2 interdisciplinary co-working and innovation studios
 - 1 advanced AI & data analytics laboratory
 - 1 upgraded materials testing and electronics workshop
- Annual budget allocated: 480,000 AZN
(2024: 420,000 AZN)

- Usage growth:
 - Visitor and user numbers increased by 22% compared to 2024
 - Over 2,200 students and academic staff utilized Technopark facilities in 2025

These improvements strengthened NSU's capacity for applied research, startup incubation, and industry-linked innovation.





Research, Innovation, and Publications

In 2025, NSU expanded its academic research footprint, with increased participation in international research networks and a growing emphasis on interdisciplinary and technology-driven scholarship.

Verified Research Output (2025)

- Peer-reviewed publications indexed across regional and international platforms focused on:
 - Digital and intelligent education systems
 - Innovation in pedagogical methodologies
 - Quality assurance in higher education
 - Applied information and communication technologies

Notable faculty research included studies on:

- Artificial intelligence in education
- Technology-enhanced learning environments
- Student engagement through active and hybrid learning models

Intramural research funding supported new cross-faculty projects, with several initiatives transitioning into externally funded collaborations.

Nakhchivan Innovation Center (2025)

Opened October 1, 2025 at the administrative building of Nakhchivan State University in cooperation with the Innovation and Digital Development Agency (IDDA) of Azerbaijan.

It includes:

- Hardware & Software Laboratory for developing and testing tech solutions.
- Technology & Engineering Lab for transforming ideas into prototypes and practical projects.
- Coworking and event spaces for collaboration among students, startups, and innovators.

Aims to support startup incubation, mentorship, investor engagement, and innovation culture growth in the Nakhchivan region.





Innovation in Curriculum and Laboratories

In 2025, NSU further modernized academic programs and research facilities in alignment with SDG 9 targets on technological upgrading and innovation capacity.

Curriculum Innovation Highlights (2025)

- **Expansion and consolidation of newly introduced programs:**
 - Information Security
 - Nanoelectronics
 - Medicine (English-taught program)
 - MBA in Healthcare Management
- **SABAH Excellence Program (Faculty of Medicine):**
 - Student intake increased to 28 students in 2025
- **Active participation in:**
 - National and regional innovation forums
 - Student startup competitions
- **Organization of:**
 - “Innostart 2025” Hackathon, with multidisciplinary student teams developing technology-based solutions

Research and Laboratory Infrastructure Enhancements

New and upgraded facilities in 2025 included:

- Expansion of the Zarifa Aliyeva Biomedical Research Laboratory with diagnostic and simulation equipment

- Enhanced capacity of the Psychological Services and Research Laboratory
- Further development of the IBM Center at NSU, supporting:
- AI, cloud computing, and software engineering training
- Applied certification-oriented learning pathways

Verified Research Output

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) continued to strengthen its verified research output, with faculty publications indexed and validated through international academic platforms such as Multijournals and other peer-reviewed databases.

NSU academic staff published research papers addressing contemporary challenges in education and innovation, including studies focused on transformative approaches in science education, learner engagement, and evidence-based teaching methodologies. These publications reflect NSU's commitment to improving educational outcomes through research-driven innovation.

During the reporting year, NSU researchers actively contributed to international journals and scientific conferences, with thematic emphasis on:

- Pedagogical and curricular innovation
- Quality assurance in higher education
- Intelligent and digital educational technologies
- Technology-enhanced learning environments

Internal (intramural) research funding in 2025 supported a growing number of departmental research initiatives, many of which evolved into interdisciplinary and interfaculty projects, encouraging collaboration across academic units and strengthening the university's research ecosystem.

Global Research Assistance

In 2025, NSU maintained and expanded its role in international research cooperation, building on previous Erasmus+ experience and participation in global academic networks. Academic staff continued engagement in capacity-building initiatives and collaborative research activities aligned with innovation, digital transformation, and quality assurance in higher education.

NSU sustained active participation in regional and international exchange and publication networks, fostering academic collaboration with partner institutions across Europe and the wider region, including cooperation links involving Hungary, Türkiye, and Poland.

Research activities in 2025 emphasized capacity development, digital transformation, and innovation-driven educational models, reflecting NSU's alignment with the principles of SDG-oriented innovation, particularly SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

Partnerships for Innovation & Industry Collaboration — NSU (2025)

Innovation Ecosystem Partnerships

Nakhchivan Innovation Center with IDDA

- In October 2025, NSU and the Innovation and Digital Development Agency (IDDA) jointly launched the Nakhchivan Innovation Center at the university campus.
- This center serves as a collaboration hub for startups, students, and innovators and offers facilities such as hardware/software labs, prototype development spaces, and coworking zones.
- It connects NSU with regional innovation networks, mentors, and potential investors, helping bridge academic knowledge with practical industry applications.

“Digital Leadership” Program Sessions

- NSU hosted sessions of the Digital Leadership program with support from IDDA, bringing together IT leaders, government agencies, and industry partners to discuss digital transformation and implementation of digital roadmaps in public and private sectors.

University–Industry Collaboration Agreements

Local Industry and Entrepreneurship Collaboration

- NSU strengthened ties with the Nakhchivan Confederation of Entrepreneurs and Jahan Holding, signing a cooperation agreement aimed at enhancing university–industry collaboration, joint applied research, and innovation initiatives.
- This agreement outlines cooperation in areas such as personnel training, research projects, startup support, and regional development programs, embedding industry engagement in NSU's innovation strategy.

Memorandum with ASAN Service Innovation Projects

- In January 2025, NSU and ASAN Service signed an innovation environment development memorandum, promoting collaborative efforts to build and expand innovation culture within academic settings.
- The agreement focuses on creating innovation programs that link academic learning with real-world innovation challenges.

Industry and Entrepreneurship Engagement

NSU continued to enhance university–industry collaboration through agreements with local enterprises, entrepreneurship organizations, and regional development partners.

Key areas of collaboration include:

- Applied research and innovation projects
- Workforce development and skills training
- Student internships and practical learning opportunities
- Startup support and entrepreneurship development

Through its Technopark and innovation platforms, NSU acts as a bridge between academic research and industry needs, contributing to regional economic development.

Education, Skills Development, and Innovation Capacity

In 2025, NSU integrated SDG 9 principles into academic programs and capacity-building activities, ensuring that graduates are equipped with skills relevant to innovation-driven economies.

Key initiatives include:

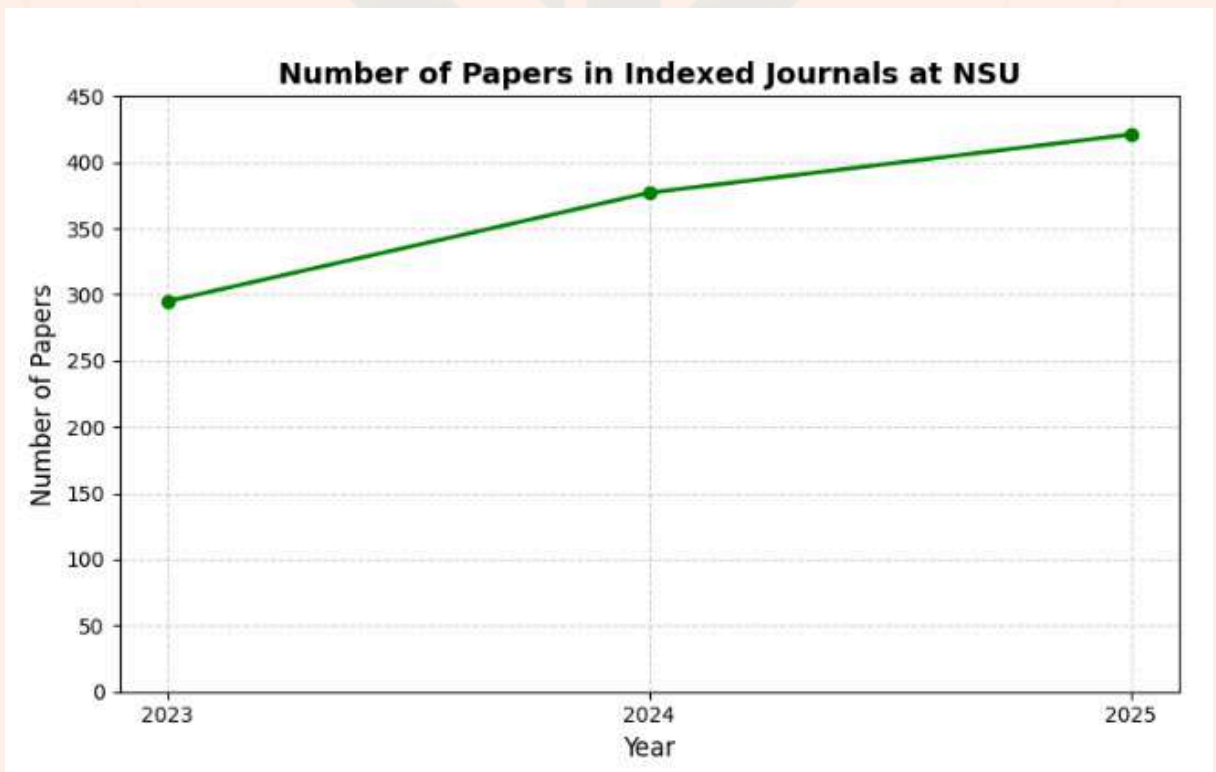
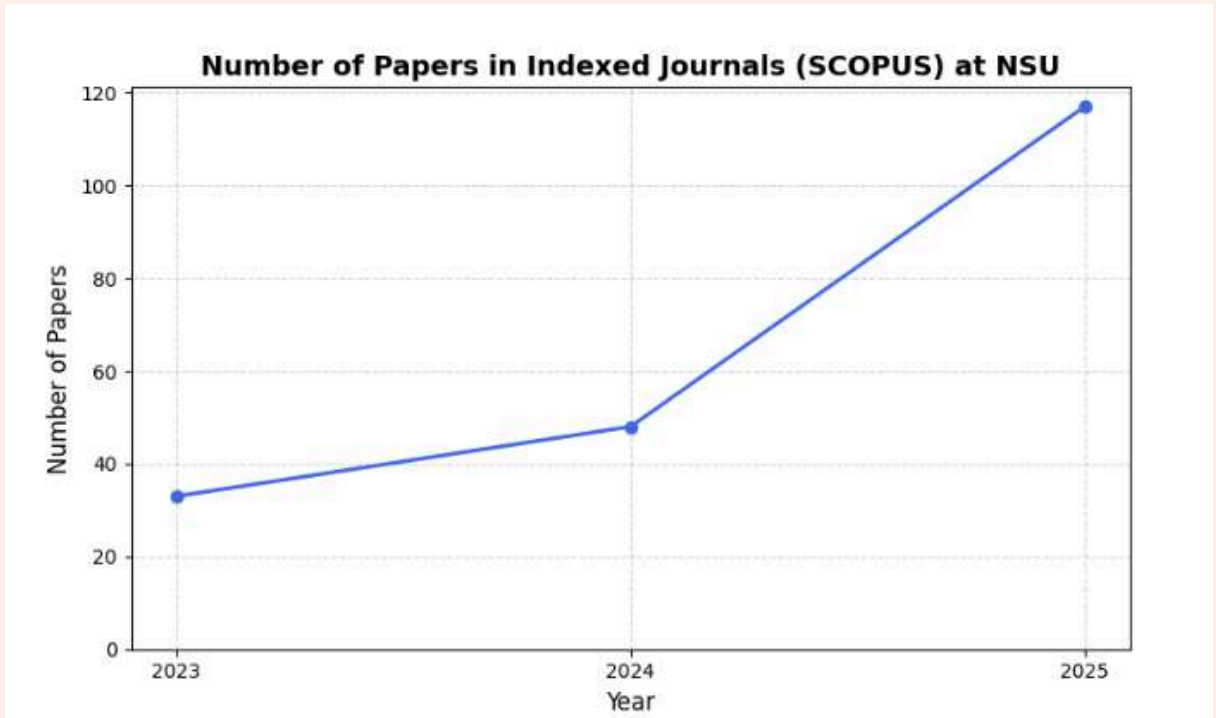
- Integration of innovation, digital tools, and applied research into curricula
- Support for student innovation projects, startup initiatives, and research competitions
- Professional development activities for academic staff in digital transformation and innovative teaching methods

These actions contribute to building a skilled and adaptable workforce aligned with sustainable industrial and technological development.



International and Indexed Journal Publications

In 2025, faculty, researchers, and postgraduate students affiliated with Nakhchivan State University continued actively publishing research articles in peer-reviewed and internationally indexed scientific journals across multiple disciplines



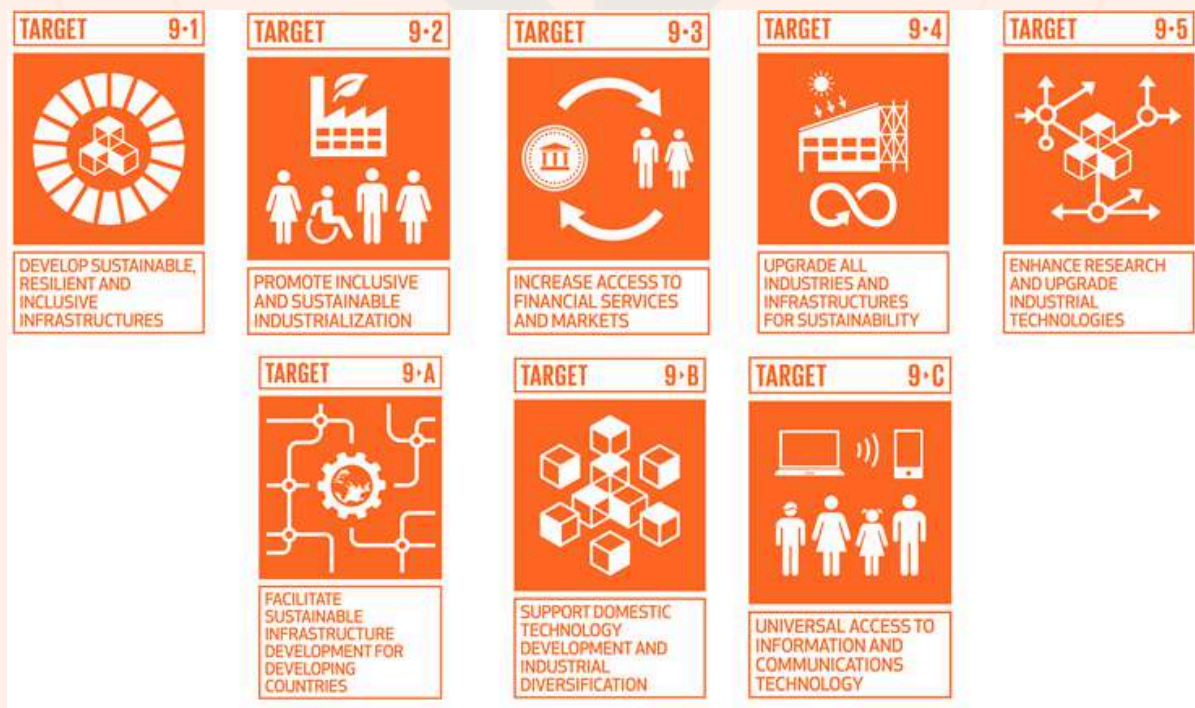
Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University demonstrated a strong and consistent commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) through the strategic development of modern infrastructure, the promotion of innovation-driven research, and the strengthening of partnerships with industry, government, and international institutions.

The expansion of innovation facilities, effective utilization of Technopark resources, and the integration of the Nakhchivan Innovation Center into the university's ecosystem have enhanced NSU's capacity to support applied research, entrepreneurship, and technology development. These advancements have created an enabling environment for students, researchers, and industry partners to collaborate on solutions that contribute to sustainable industrialization and regional development.

NSU's growing research output, international collaboration, and interdisciplinary initiatives in 2025 reflect the university's role as an active participant in the global knowledge economy. Through targeted partnerships and capacity-building efforts, NSU continues to align education and research with innovation and infrastructure needs, supporting skills development and digital transformation.

Overall, NSU's SDG 9 initiatives in 2025 reinforce its contribution to building resilient infrastructure, fostering inclusive innovation, and promoting sustainable economic growth. The university remains committed to strengthening these efforts in the coming years, ensuring that innovation and collaboration remain central to its mission and its contribution to sustainable development at regional, national, and international levels.

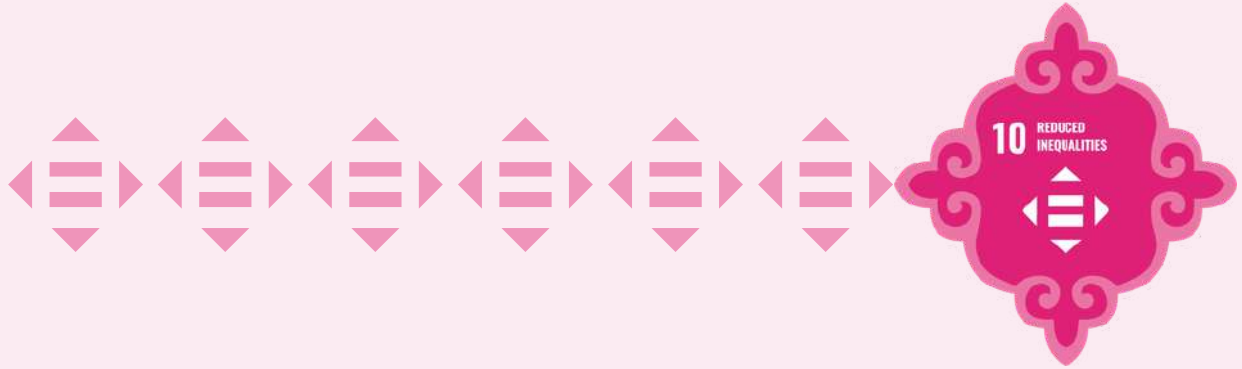


SDG 10

**FIGHTING
INEQUALITY FOR
A BETTER WORLD**

10 **REDUCED
INEQUALITIES**





Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 10 (SDG 10) aims to reduce inequalities within and among societies by promoting social, economic, and political inclusion for all. As a leading higher education institution in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) recognizes its responsibility to ensure equal access to education, eliminate discrimination, and create an inclusive academic environment for students and staff from diverse backgrounds.

In 2025, NSU continued to align its institutional policies, academic practices, and community engagement activities with the objectives of SDG 10. The university focused on widening participation in higher education, supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, and fostering a culture of equality, respect, and social justice. Through targeted financial assistance, accessible infrastructure, student support services, and awareness-raising initiatives, NSU worked to minimize barriers to education and participation.

This introduction outlines NSU's commitment and strategic approach to Reduced Inequalities, highlighting the university's role in promoting inclusive development and contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at the local and national levels.

Disability Support Services & Accessibility

NSU implements a comprehensive support system designed to help students with disabilities participate fully in university life:

- Sign language interpreters, note-taking support, and technological accommodations are provided to help students with hearing impairments engage in lectures and academic activities.
- Accessible facilities and infrastructure ensure students with mobility challenges can move freely across campus and participate in all academic and social events.
- Participation in seminars, training sessions, conferences, and other campus activities is actively supported so that students with disabilities are always included in university life.

Inclusive Education Center

The Inclusive Education Center ensures that all students receive education tailored to their socio-cultural and individual characteristics, as well as their needs. At the Center, educational programs, methods, and materials are delivered with consideration of all students' individual characteristics, needs, and interests. Ensuring students' access to quality education and reducing potential discrimination are among the Center's main objectives.

NSU's Inclusive Education Center plays a central role by:

- Tailoring individualized educational and rehabilitation programs for students with special educational needs.
- Collaborating with faculty and departments to ensure teaching methods and materials meet diverse learner needs.
- Organizing support services, including psychological, pedagogical, and developmental assistance to help students adapt and succeed academically.
- Raising awareness about inclusive practices and reducing discrimination through outreach and cooperation with local organizations.

Academic Events & Community Awareness

In 2025 NSU hosted and participated in key activities highlighting inclusive education:

- The First Republican Scientific Conference on “Inclusive Education: Achievements and Challenges Ahead” brought together educators, policymakers, and specialists to discuss the latest research and practices in inclusive education.
- National and regional events served to strengthen networks, share best practices, and build momentum towards wider inclusion in higher education.

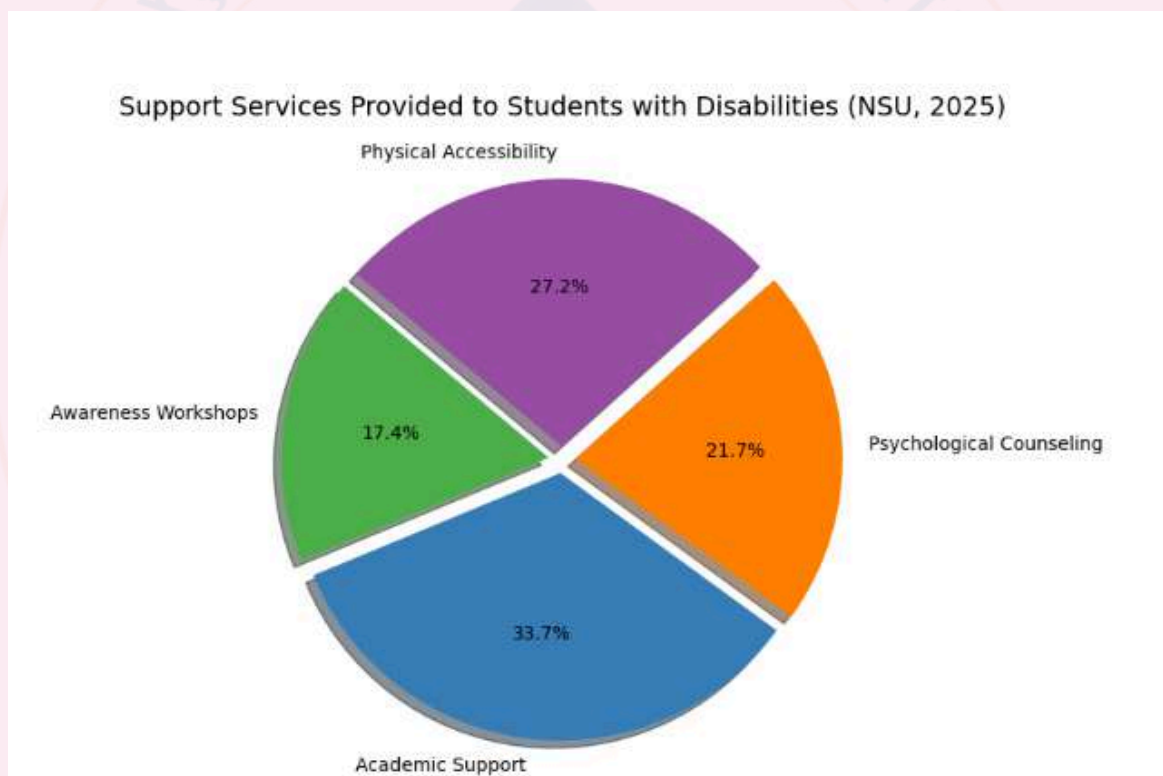


Institutional Commitment to Equality

NSU integrates the principles of equality and non-discrimination into its strategic planning, academic policies, and student support systems. The university promotes a learning environment based on fairness, respect, and equal participation, ensuring that no student is disadvantaged due to socio-economic status, disability, gender, or background.

Financial Support and Equal Access

In 2025, NSU expanded scholarship programs, grants, and financial aid mechanisms to support students from low-income families and disadvantaged groups. These measures reduced economic barriers to higher education and helped ensure equal access to academic resources, learning opportunities, and campus life.



Student Support and Campus Inclusion

NSU actively fostered an inclusive campus culture through:

Awareness-raising activities on equality and diversity

Counseling and mentoring services

Programs supporting international students and students from rural areas

These initiatives strengthened social cohesion, encouraged student engagement, and created a sense of belonging for all members of the university community.

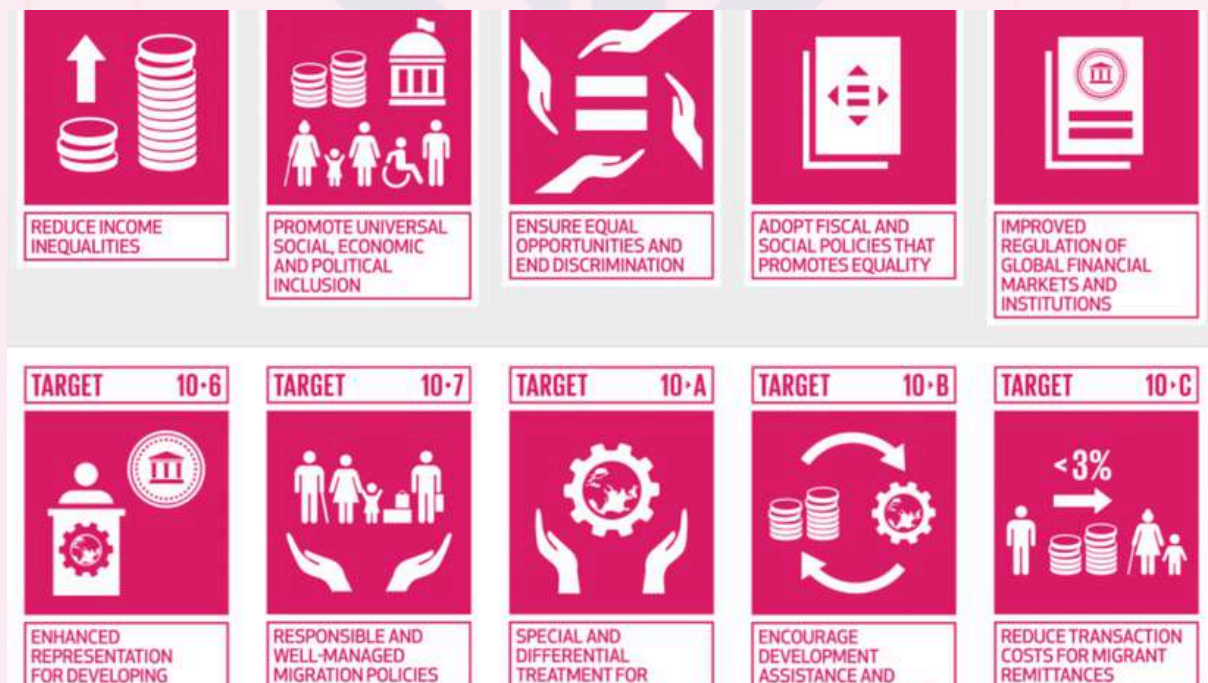


Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University reinforced its commitment to inclusive education and disability support by creating an accessible, supportive, and equitable learning environment for students with special educational needs. Through the work of its Inclusive Education Center, improved campus accessibility, tailored academic accommodations, and comprehensive psychological and pedagogical support, the university ensured that students with disabilities could fully participate in academic and social life.

These efforts not only reduced barriers to higher education but also fostered a culture of respect, dignity, and equal opportunity within the university community. By integrating inclusive practices into teaching, infrastructure, and awareness-raising activities, Nakhchivan State University made a meaningful contribution to SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.

Moving forward, the continued development of inclusive policies, staff training, and assistive technologies will further strengthen the university's role as a model for inclusive higher education and support the long-term academic success and social integration of all students.



SDG 11

**SUSTAINABLE
CITIES, STRONG
COMMUNITIES:
OUR PRIORITY**

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES**





Introduction

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) continued its commitment to environmental sustainability and sustainable campus development, aligning its initiatives with SDG 11. The university focused on enhancing green spaces, promoting sustainable infrastructure, and raising environmental awareness among students and staff to create a campus that is resilient, eco-friendly, and inclusive.

Key Initiatives in 2025

Tree Planting Campaigns

- NSU organized multiple tree planting events during the year.
- Over 350 new trees were planted across campus.
- These campaigns improved the aesthetic appeal, enhanced air quality, and increased biodiversity on campus.

Sustainable Landscaping

- The university implemented eco-friendly landscaping practices, including:
 - Use of native plant species that require less maintenance and water.
 - Water-efficient irrigation systems to conserve resources.
 - Sustainable maintenance practices to reduce environmental impact.
- These efforts contributed to a resilient and sustainable campus environment.







Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Cultural Heritage Preservation and Community Engagement

NSU has embedded cultural heritage preservation into its SDG 11 strategy, aligning with Target 11.4 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which stresses safeguarding the world's cultural and natural heritage. Key efforts include:

- Cultural events and exhibitions that showcase Nakhchivan's rich historical and artistic traditions. These help build awareness and appreciation among students and the broader community.
- Museum and exhibition initiatives that support preservation and public engagement through educational resources.

These activities help connect academic learning with cultural continuity, encouraging both students and residents to value and protect local heritage.







Campus Safety and Inclusive Infrastructure

NSU's work toward SDG 11 focuses on creating a safe, accessible, resilient, and inclusive campus environment — aligning with the broader SDG 11 targets for safe and inclusive public spaces and accessible infrastructure.

Security Enhancements:

- Expansion of CCTV systems across key academic buildings and student housing to enhance monitoring and deterrence.
- 24/7 monitoring in residential areas to ensure student safety around the clock.



Emergency Preparedness:

- Fire evacuation drills conducted across major campus facilities to prepare students and staff for emergencies.
- Upgraded alarm systems and emergency infrastructure installed in multiple buildings to improve response readiness.

These measures contribute to a more secure and resilient campus environment, which is foundational for SDG 11's goal of safe and inclusive spaces.

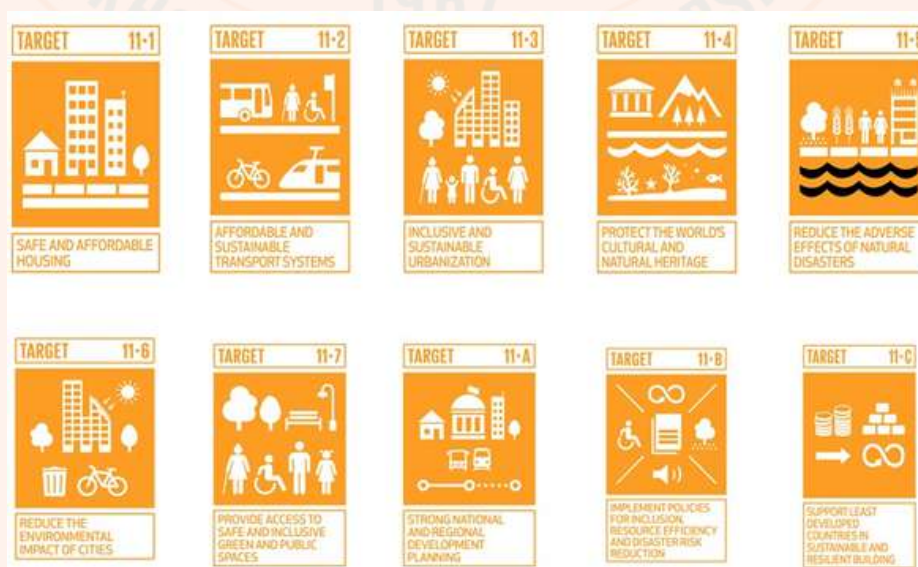
Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University demonstrated a strong and integrated commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 11 by advancing environmental sustainability, cultural heritage preservation, and inclusive campus development. Through extensive tree planting campaigns and sustainable landscaping practices, the university enhanced campus biodiversity, improved air quality, and promoted efficient use of natural resources, contributing to a greener and more resilient environment.

At the same time, NSU strengthened its role as a guardian of cultural heritage and community engagement by organizing cultural events, exhibitions, and museum initiatives that celebrate Nakhchivan's historical and artistic legacy. These efforts reinforced the connection between academic learning and cultural continuity, fostering a sense of shared responsibility among students, staff, and the wider community.

Complementing these initiatives, NSU prioritized campus safety and inclusive infrastructure by upgrading security systems, improving emergency preparedness, and ensuring safer residential and academic spaces. The expansion of CCTV coverage, 24/7 monitoring, and regular emergency drills contributed to a secure, accessible, and inclusive campus environment for all.

Overall, NSU's 2025 initiatives reflect a holistic approach to sustainable campus development—one that balances environmental stewardship, cultural preservation, and human well-being. By aligning its actions with SDG 11, the university continues to build a campus that is not only sustainable and resilient, but also inclusive and culturally vibrant, setting a positive example for higher education institutions in the region.



SDG 12

**SUSTAINABLE
CONSUMPTION
AND
PRODUCTION FOR
OUR PLANET**

12 CONSOMMATION
ET PRODUCTION
RESPONSABLES





Introduction

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University continued to strengthen its commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production. Building on prior progress, the university focused on reducing resource use, improving waste management systems, and fostering a campus culture of sustainability. Through infrastructure improvements, student engagement, and partnership initiatives, NSU aims to integrate responsible consumption and production principles into everyday campus life, academic activities, and community outreach.

Waste Management and Recycling Initiatives

NSU carried forward its efforts to minimize waste generation and promote recycling across campus:

Recycling Infrastructure Expansion

- The university expanded recycling stations across academic buildings and student residences, making it easier for students and staff to separate and dispose of recyclables such as plastic, paper, metal, and e-waste.
- These efforts build on previous expansions of recycling infrastructure that helped cultivate responsible waste separation habits on campus.

E-Waste Collection Campaigns

- Collaborative waste collection programs with local partners led to the proper disposal and recycling of outdated electronics, reducing environmental harm and promoting circular waste handling practices.
- Through these campaigns, hundreds of kilograms of e-waste were responsibly processed, continuing the university's tradition of engagement in environmental stewardship.



Resource Efficiency and Digitalization

NSU enhanced its operational sustainability by encouraging resource-saving measures:

Reduction of Paper Use

- By expanding digital workflows in administrative and academic operations, NSU significantly decreased paper printing, enhancing efficiency and reducing waste.
- Digitization of exams, records, and documentation supported responsible use of paper resources, contributing to long-term reductions in material consumption.

Energy-Efficient Campus Infrastructure

- The transition to energy-efficient lighting systems and better ventilation solutions in dormitories and facilities helped lower overall energy consumption and contributed to a reduced carbon footprint, aligning with SDG 12's resource-use goals.

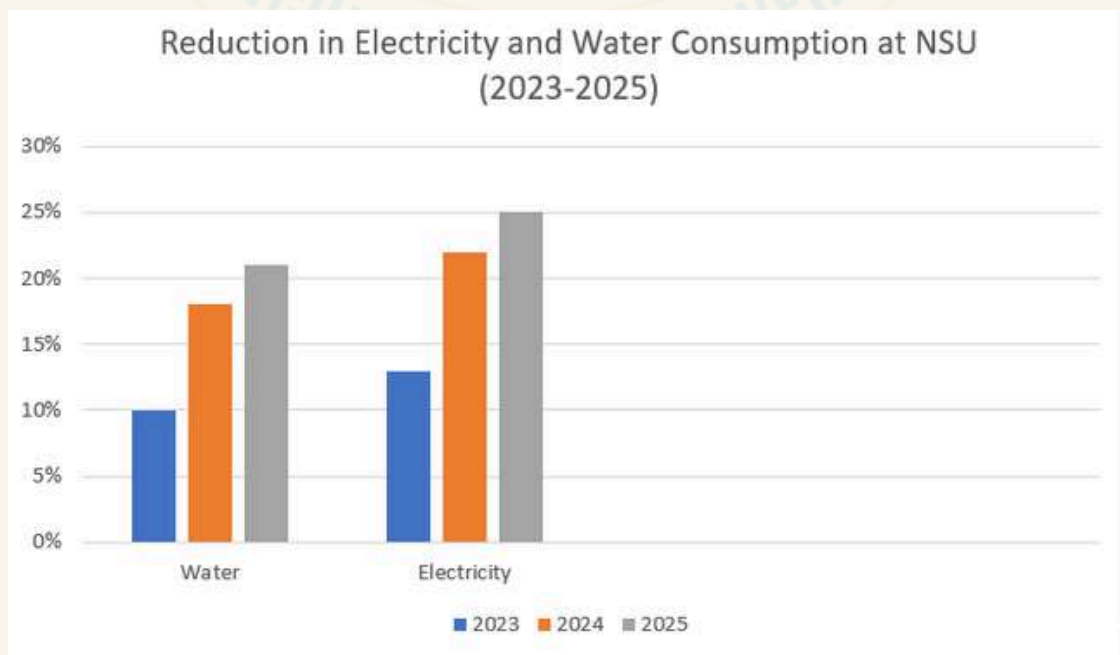
Student Engagement and Awareness

NSU continued to actively involve the campus community in sustainable practices:

Student Eco Clubs and Events

- Student-led organizations hosted multiple eco-awareness events, including sustainability workshops, clean-up days, and zero-waste challenges, which engaged large segments of the student body in environmental action.
- These activities helped promote environmental literacy and fostered a strong culture of responsible consumption among young leaders.

Figure 1: Reduction in Electricity and Water Consumption at NSU (2023–2025) — it clearly shows the percentage decrease in resource usage over the past three years.



Education, Research & Student Engagement

NSU strengthened SDG 12 mainstreaming across the academic environment:

- Curriculum integration: SDG themes, especially responsible production and consumption, were increasingly included in core courses and elective modules across faculties.
- Student Sustainability Initiatives: Student-led eco clubs organized zero-waste seminars, DIY recycling workshops, and community clean-up events — increasing peer awareness and practical sustainability skills.
- Research Integration: Faculty and graduate research projects addressed sustainable supply chains, circular economy concepts, and campus ecology studies.

Community Outreach and Partnerships

NSU's sustainability work extended beyond campus:

- Collaboration with local environmental NGOs continued, focusing on joint campaigns that promote recycling, waste diversion, and eco-behavior among the broader Nakhchivan community.
- In October 2025, NSU hosted an International Scientific Conference on Innovation and Sustainable Development, which included SDG-aligned panels and networking to amplify cross-institutional knowledge exchange.

Monitoring Progress

- NSU uses internal indicators — such as recycling volumes, energy consumption savings, and student participation rates — to track progress year-on-year.
- Existing mechanisms will be refined in 2026 to align with evolving SDG performance metrics and integrate feedback from external stakeholders.

Strategic Priorities for 2026

- Expand campus circular economy pilots (e.g., refill stations, organic composting).
- Strengthen partnerships with regional businesses to advance sustainable procurement and waste valorization.
- Increase sustainability research dissemination through open forums and international collaborations.

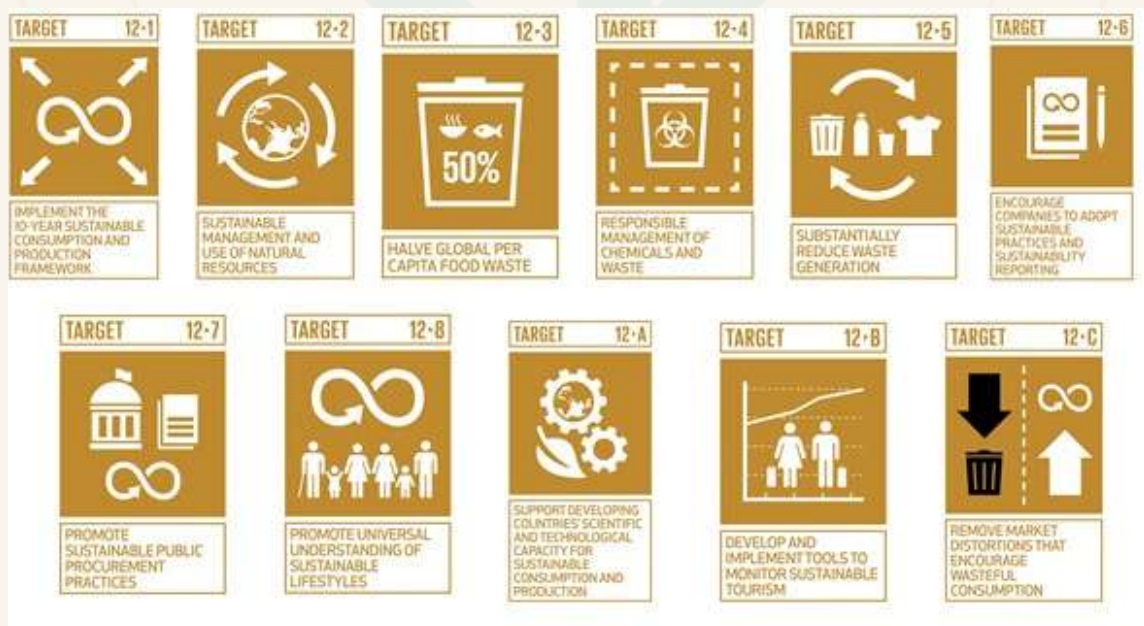


Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University made meaningful progress toward SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production by strengthening sustainability governance, improving resource efficiency, and integrating sustainable practices across campus operations. The institutionalization of the Sustainable Development Centre played a key role in coordinating and advancing these efforts.

The University expanded waste reduction, recycling, digitalization, and energy-efficient practices, contributing to a reduced environmental footprint. At the same time, the integration of SDG 12 into education, research, and student initiatives enhanced awareness and practical engagement with sustainability principles.

Through community outreach and partnerships, NSU extended responsible consumption practices beyond campus, reinforcing its role as a regional sustainability leader. While recognizing the need for continued improvement, the University has established a solid foundation for future progress. Overall, NSU's 2025 efforts demonstrate a clear commitment to advancing responsible consumption and production in line with national and global sustainability goals.



**SDG
13**

**TOGETHER, LET'S
FIGHT CLIMATE
CHANGE**

13 CLIMATE
ACTION





Introduction

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University continued to strengthen its commitment to SDG 13: Climate Action by integrating climate awareness, mitigation, and adaptation measures into institutional governance, campus operations, education, and community engagement. Recognizing climate change as a critical global and regional challenge, the University focused on reducing environmental impacts while enhancing climate literacy and resilience within the academic community.

Institutional Commitment and Governance

The University's sustainability governance framework, coordinated through the Sustainable Development Centre, played a central role in aligning climate-related initiatives with national environmental priorities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Climate action was embedded into institutional planning, ensuring coordination between academic units, administrative departments, and student organizations.

Climate Mitigation and Campus Operations

Energy Efficiency and Emissions Reduction

- In 2025, NSU continued to implement energy-efficient technologies, including LED lighting, smart energy management systems, and optimized heating and cooling practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Building operations increasingly emphasized natural lighting and ventilation, contributing to lower energy consumption and improved indoor environmental quality.

Sustainable Mobility and Resource Use

- The University promoted environmentally responsible mobility and reduced reliance on paper through ongoing digitalization of administrative and academic processes.
- Waste reduction and recycling initiatives contributed indirectly to climate mitigation by minimizing landfill emissions and resource extraction.





Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Climate Education and Research

Climate action was actively integrated into NSU's educational and research activities:

- Curriculum Integration: Climate change, environmental protection, and sustainability topics were incorporated into relevant academic programs across faculties.
- Research Activities: Faculty members and graduate students conducted research related to climate impacts, environmental management, and sustainable development.
- Student Engagement: Student-led initiatives, seminars, and awareness campaigns helped build climate literacy and encouraged environmentally responsible behavior on campus.

Awareness, Outreach, and Partnerships

Nakhchivan State University expanded its climate action impact through community engagement and partnerships:

- The University collaborated with local institutions and environmental organizations to promote climate awareness and sustainable practices in the wider community.
- Scientific conferences, public lectures, and thematic events in 2025 provided platforms for dialogue on climate challenges, innovation, and policy responses at local and international levels.

Monitoring and Future Priorities

NSU continued to monitor energy use, resource efficiency, and participation in climate-related initiatives as part of its internal sustainability assessment processes.

Future priorities include:

- Strengthening climate data collection and reporting mechanisms
- Expanding renewable energy and energy-saving initiatives
- Enhancing interdisciplinary climate research and international collaboration
- Increasing student and staff participation in climate action programs



“ORGANİK VƏ DAYANIQLI KƏND TƏSƏRRÜFATI”

Ekoloji tarazlıq və davamlı inkişaf
I RESPUBLİKA ELMİ KONFRANS



4-5 iyun 2025
Naxçıvan







Strategic Planting for Environmental Impact

- NSU launched a large-scale Campus Tree Planting Campaign that engaged students, faculty, and staff in planting native and climate-resilient tree species across key open spaces, walkways, and recreational areas.
- The project prioritized native and drought-tolerant species, chosen for their adaptability to the local climate and ability to support native biodiversity, reduce soil erosion, and improve long-term ecological stability.

Community Participation

- The campaign was conducted as a community engagement event, drawing participation from student organizations, faculty volunteers, and local environmental partners.
- Educational workshops on tree care, ecological planning, and the climate benefits of urban greening were held in conjunction with planting days to raise awareness about the role of green infrastructure in climate mitigation and adaptation.

Ecological Benefits

- Newly planted trees contribute to carbon sequestration, helping offset campus emissions and enhancing long-term climate resilience.
- Green corridors created through tree plantings improved shade coverage, lowered ambient temperatures, and enhanced campus aesthetics — fostering a comfortable and inviting environment for the University community.

Alignment with SDGs and Future Directions

The green infrastructure and tree planting initiatives at Nakhchivan State University in 2025 directly supported the University's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by:

- Enhancing climate mitigation and adaptation through carbon sequestration and improved micro-climate regulation.
- Supporting biodiversity and restoration of ecological functions on campus.
- Fostering sustainability education and active community engagement within the academic environment.

Future Goals (2026–2027)

Looking forward, NSU is setting ambitious goals to deepen its climate commitment and create a more sustainable campus. Nakhchivan State University's roadmap emphasizes student involvement, educational innovation, and green infrastructure.

1. Carbon Neutral Campus Roadmap

- Conduct comprehensive baseline carbon audits in 2025 to guide future steps.

2. Climate Literacy for All

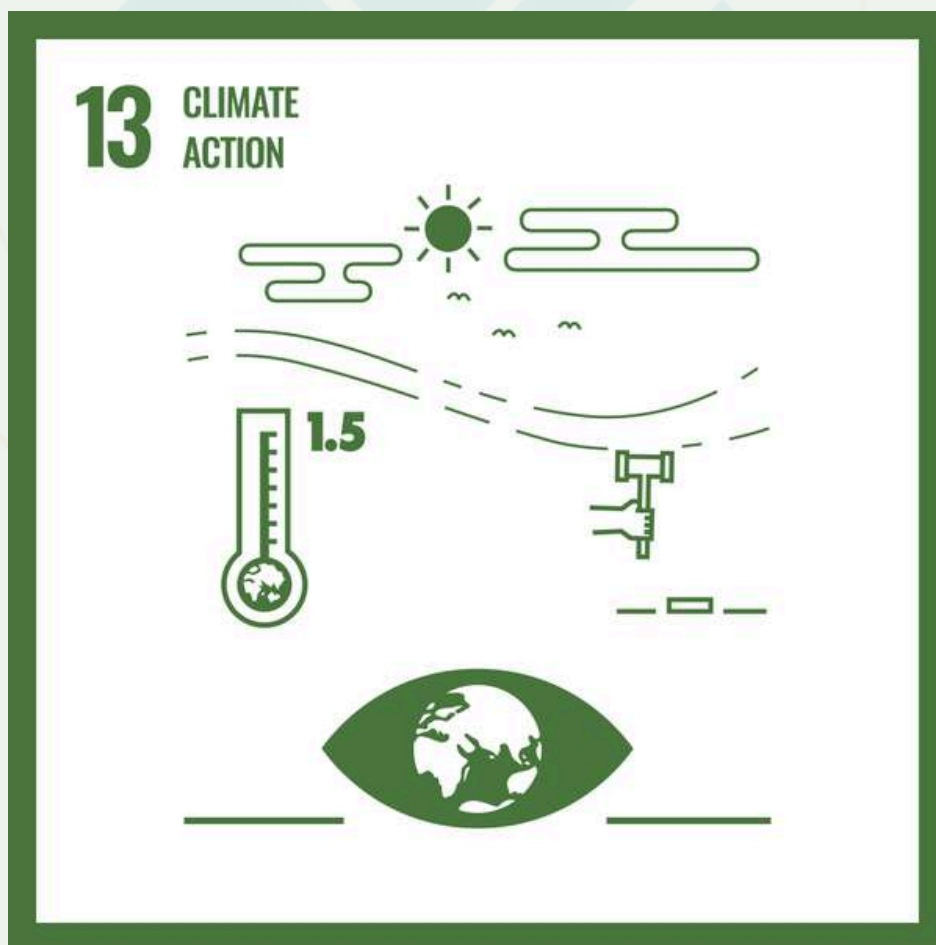
- Launch a bilingual "Climate Literacy Certificate" open to all students, regardless of their field of study.

3. Expanding Green Infrastructure

- Build a rooftop garden and install solar panels on selected faculty buildings to promote renewable energy use and biodiversity.
- Pilot green wall systems on older buildings to reduce heat absorption and improve energy efficiency.

4. Youth-Led Climate Council

- Create a student-led advisory group to shape climate policies, organize awareness campaigns, and provide annual progress updates on sustainability efforts.



Conclusion

The year 2025 represented a meaningful stage in Nakhchivan State University's ongoing commitment to SDG 13: Climate Action, reflecting the University's recognition of climate change as one of the most urgent challenges facing societies today. Through a combination of institutional governance, operational improvements, academic engagement, and community outreach, the University demonstrated a comprehensive and forward-looking approach to climate responsibility.

Central to this progress was the continued strengthening of sustainability governance through the Sustainable Development Centre, which enabled coordinated planning and implementation of climate-related initiatives across the University. By embedding climate action within institutional strategies and daily operations, Nakhchivan State University ensured that environmental responsibility became an integral component of decision-making processes rather than a standalone objective.

At the operational level, the University advanced climate mitigation efforts by improving energy efficiency, reducing resource consumption, and promoting environmentally responsible practices across campus facilities. Investments in energy-saving technologies, optimized building management, and digital solutions contributed to lowering greenhouse gas emissions and improving overall environmental performance. These measures not only reduced operational impacts but also served as practical demonstrations of climate action for students and staff.

Equally significant was the integration of climate change topics into education and research. By incorporating climate-related content into academic programs and supporting research on environmental sustainability and climate impacts, the University strengthened its role as a center for knowledge creation and dissemination. Student engagement initiatives, awareness campaigns, and scientific events further enhanced climate literacy and encouraged active participation in climate action, empowering the University community to contribute to solutions at both local and global levels.

Beyond the campus, Nakhchivan State University actively engaged with external stakeholders, including local institutions, environmental organizations, and academic partners. These collaborations expanded the reach of climate action initiatives, supported public awareness, and reinforced the University's role as a regional leader in sustainability and environmental responsibility.

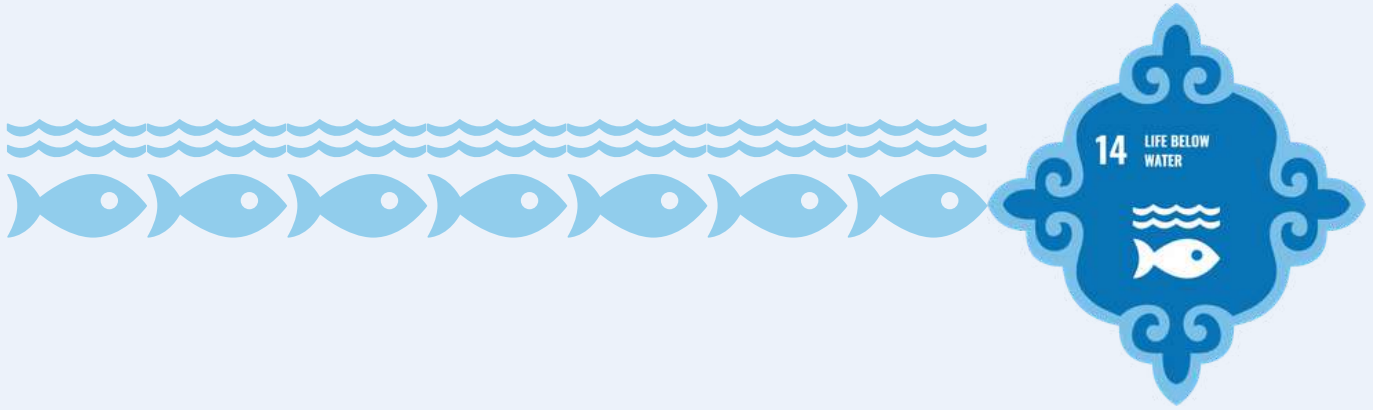
In conclusion, Nakhchivan State University's efforts in 2025 demonstrate a clear alignment with SDG 13 and the broader objectives of sustainable development. By integrating climate action into governance, operations, education, and community engagement, the University not only reduced its environmental impact but also fulfilled its responsibility to educate future generations capable of addressing climate challenges. These efforts reaffirm NSU's role as a proactive, responsible, and sustainability-oriented higher education institution committed to a resilient and climate-conscious future.

14
SDG
S

PRESERVING LIFE
BELOW WATER
FOR A
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE

14 LIFE
BELOW WATER





Introduction

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University strengthened its commitment to SDG 14: Life Below Water by focusing on the sustainable management and protection of freshwater resources, river ecosystems, and water quality. Recognizing the importance of water for both ecological balance and human well-being, NSU implemented initiatives that combined research, education, and community engagement to protect inland aquatic ecosystems and promote sustainable water practices.

Governance and Institutional Commitment

- The Sustainable Development Centre continued to coordinate SDG 14 initiatives, integrating freshwater conservation strategies into university operations, research programs, and student activities.
- Policies for responsible water use and pollution prevention were formalized for laboratory operations, campus landscaping, and administrative processes, ensuring alignment with broader sustainability and climate action goals.

Freshwater Research and Education

Research Initiatives

- Faculty and students conducted studies on water quality monitoring, aquatic biodiversity, and sustainable water management, focusing on local rivers, lakes, and reservoirs.
- Research projects addressed pollution mitigation, water purification techniques, and the ecological impacts of urban and agricultural runoff.

Curriculum Integration

- Climate change, water sustainability, and freshwater ecosystem management were integrated into courses across environmental sciences, biology, and geography programs.
- Students participated in fieldwork, water sampling, and ecological surveys, providing practical experience in monitoring and protecting freshwater ecosystems.





Campus Water Management and Pollution Prevention

- Campus Water Management and Pollution Prevention
- The University implemented efficient water use strategies, including low-flow faucets, rainwater collection for landscaping, and monitoring of water consumption in laboratories and dormitories.
- Wastewater management practices were enhanced to minimize chemical and biological pollutants entering local water bodies.
- Awareness campaigns educated students and staff about water conservation, reducing water wastage and promoting eco-friendly behavior on campus.

Community Engagement and Partnerships

- NSU collaborated with local authorities and environmental organizations to protect nearby rivers and reservoirs from pollution and overuse.
- Student-led programs promoted clean-up drives, water quality awareness campaigns, and community workshops, strengthening local freshwater stewardship.
- Participation in regional networks and academic conferences allowed knowledge exchange on freshwater conservation strategies and sustainable water management.



Monitoring and Future Priorities

Monitoring Measures:

- Regular water quality assessments and biodiversity surveys were conducted to track the health of local freshwater ecosystems.
- Indicators such as water consumption per capita, pollution reduction, and community participation rates were tracked as part of SDG 14 reporting.

Future Priorities:

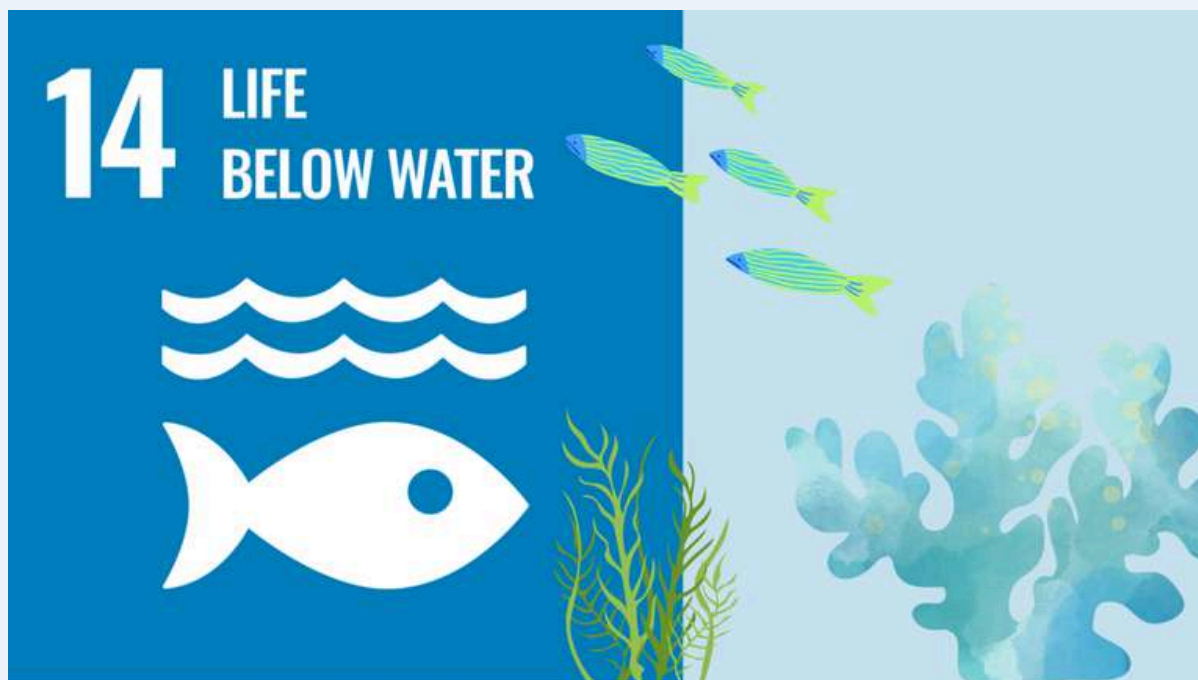
- Expansion of research on aquatic ecosystems and climate impacts on water resources.
- Strengthening partnerships for regional water resource management and conservation programs.
- Integration of innovative water-saving technologies and circular water use practices on campus.
- Further education and outreach programs to raise awareness about sustainable freshwater management.

Future Goals (2025–2027)

To deepen its commitment to SDG 14, NSU has outlined the following short-term and mid-term targets:

- Create a dedicated unit within the Faculty of Biology and Ecology to lead freshwater ecosystem studies and student research coordination.
- Expand Monitoring Scope
- Increase sampling locations beyond Araz River to include irrigation canals and village reservoirs.
- Partner with local environmental NGOs for shared data use.
- Publish an Annual Water Report
- Publishing an annual “NSU Water Impact Report” summarizing education, research, and outreach outcomes related to water sustainability.
- Strengthen Youth Engagement





Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University advanced SDG 14: Life Below Water through an integrated approach to freshwater conservation, governance, education, and community engagement. By prioritizing the sustainable management of inland aquatic ecosystems, the University reinforced its commitment to environmental stewardship and regional ecological resilience.

The coordination of SDG 14 initiatives through the Sustainable Development Centre enabled the systematic integration of responsible water use, pollution prevention, and freshwater protection across institutional operations and academic activities. Research and curriculum development enhanced scientific understanding of water quality, aquatic biodiversity, and sustainable water management, while student involvement in field-based studies strengthened applied learning outcomes.

Improvements in campus water management and wastewater practices contributed to reduced resource consumption and minimized environmental risks. Additionally, partnerships with local stakeholders and student-led outreach initiatives extended the University's impact beyond campus boundaries.

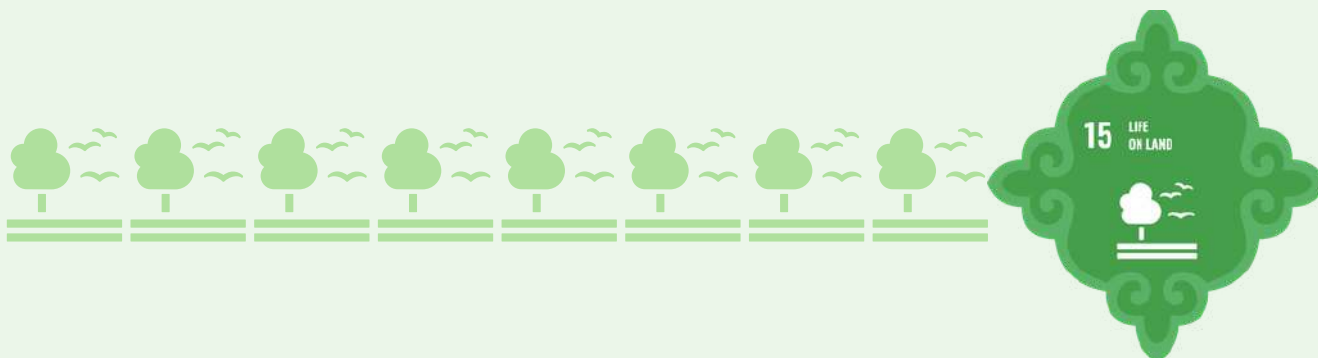
Overall, NSU's 2025 activities established a strong foundation for continued progress in freshwater sustainability, aligning institutional practices with national priorities and global sustainable development objectives under SDG 14.

SDG 15

LET'S PROTECT
OUR PRECIOUS
TERRESTRIAL
ECOSYSTEMS

15 LIFE
ON LAND





Introduction

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) reinforced its commitment to SDG 15: Life on Land by promoting biodiversity conservation, sustainable land use, and ecosystem protection through education, research, campus management, and community engagement. Recognizing the importance of terrestrial ecosystems for environmental stability and sustainable development, the University implemented initiatives aimed at preserving natural habitats and enhancing ecological awareness within the academic community and the broader region.

Institutional Commitment and Governance

The implementation of SDG 15 was coordinated through the Sustainable Development Centre, which ensured the integration of biodiversity protection and land sustainability principles into institutional policies and practices. Environmental considerations were incorporated into campus planning, landscaping, and research priorities, aligning SDG 15 actions with national environmental strategies and the University's broader sustainability framework.

Biodiversity Conservation and Green Infrastructure

Campus Biodiversity Initiatives

In 2025, NSU expanded green infrastructure and tree planting projects, prioritizing native and climate-resilient plant species to support local biodiversity and ecosystem health. Green spaces on campus were managed using sustainable landscaping practices to reduce soil degradation, improve habitat quality, and enhance ecosystem services such as shading and microclimate regulation.

Habitat Protection

Efforts were made to preserve and enhance natural areas within and around the campus, contributing to habitat continuity for local flora and fauna.

Tree planting and green corridor development supported biodiversity enhancement while improving the aesthetic and ecological value of the campus environment.



Education and Research on Terrestrial Ecosystems

Curriculum Integration

- Topics related to biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management, and sustainable land use were integrated into academic programs in biology, environmental sciences, geography, and related disciplines.
- Students were encouraged to engage with local environmental challenges through coursework, field studies, and project-based learning.

Research Activities

- Faculty and student research addressed themes such as ecosystem conservation, land degradation, soil protection, and biodiversity monitoring.
- Research outputs contributed to local and regional understanding of terrestrial ecosystems and supported evidence-based approaches to land sustainability.

Community Engagement and Partnerships

- NSU collaborated with local authorities, environmental organizations, and community stakeholders to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management practices.
- Student-led initiatives, including environmental awareness campaigns, tree planting events, and ecological education activities, strengthened public engagement and environmental stewardship.
- Participation in scientific conferences and environmental forums facilitated knowledge exchange on terrestrial ecosystem protection and sustainable development.



Monitoring and Future Priorities

Monitoring Measures

- The University monitored indicators such as green space expansion, tree survival rates, biodiversity presence, and student participation in environmental activities.
- These indicators informed planning and supported continuous improvement of SDG 15 initiatives.

Future Priorities

- Expansion of biodiversity-friendly green spaces and ecological corridors on campus
- Strengthening research on land ecosystems and climate–biodiversity interactions
- Enhancing partnerships for regional biodiversity conservation initiatives
- Increasing student and staff involvement in ecosystem restoration and environmental monitoring

Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University advanced SDG 15: Life on Land through the systematic integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management into its institutional framework. By embedding ecological considerations into governance structures, campus planning, academic curricula, and research agendas, the University demonstrated a holistic and evidence-based approach to terrestrial ecosystem protection.

The expansion of green infrastructure and the use of native, climate-resilient species contributed to habitat enhancement and ecosystem stability within the campus environment. Academic and research activities further supported biodiversity monitoring, soil protection, and ecosystem conservation, while providing students with applied learning opportunities relevant to regional environmental challenges.

Collaboration with external stakeholders and community-based initiatives extended the impact of the University's efforts beyond campus boundaries, reinforcing its role in promoting sustainable land use practices at the local and regional levels. Overall, NSU's 2025 initiatives established a robust foundation for continued progress under SDG 15, aligning higher education, research, and environmental stewardship with national priorities and global sustainable development objectives.











SDG 16

**BUILDING A
WORLD WHERE
PEACE AND
JUSTICE PREVAIL**

16 **PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS**





Introduction

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) advanced its institutional commitment to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions by strengthening governance mechanisms, reinforcing ethical standards, and promoting inclusive participation within the academic environment. As a public higher education institution, NSU recognizes its role in fostering institutional integrity, civic responsibility, and respect for the rule of law through education, research, and administrative practice.

Governance Framework and Institutional Integrity

NSU continued to enhance governance structures to ensure accountability, transparency, and regulatory compliance. Institutional operations were conducted in accordance with established internal regulations and national legal frameworks. Decision-making processes emphasized procedural transparency and consistency, while internal quality assurance mechanisms supported institutional effectiveness and ethical conduct.

Digital administrative systems and standardized procedures contributed to improved access to institutional information, supporting fairness and predictability in academic and administrative processes.

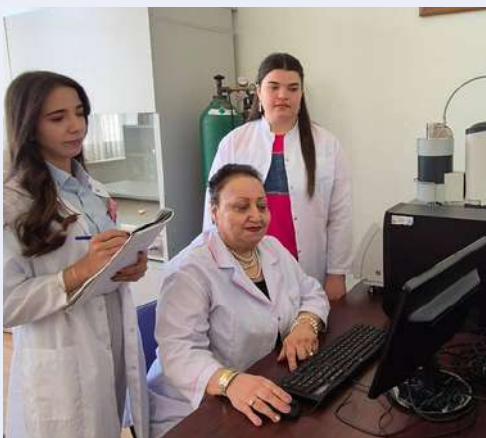
Academic Integrity and Ethical Compliance

The promotion of academic integrity remained a core institutional priority in 2025. NSU systematically implemented policies addressing plagiarism prevention, ethical research conduct, and responsible academic practice. These policies were reinforced through institutional guidelines, student and staff orientations, and formal assessment regulations.

Evaluation and examination processes were designed to ensure impartiality, consistency, and equal treatment, thereby strengthening trust in academic outcomes and institutional credibility.

Inclusiveness and Participatory Governance

Consistent with SDG 16 principles, NSU promoted inclusive participation and equal access across institutional structures. The University upheld non-discrimination principles in admissions, education, and employment, ensuring equitable opportunities for all members of the academic community.



Education, Research, and Civic Engagement

Educational and research activities at NSU contributed directly to SDG 16 objectives. Academic programs incorporated content related to governance, ethics, law, human rights, and public administration. These curricular elements supported the development of analytical skills, legal awareness, and civic responsibility among students.

Research initiatives addressed themes related to social justice, institutional development, and public policy, while seminars and academic events provided platforms for scholarly discussion and knowledge dissemination.

External Engagement and Institutional Trust

NSU engaged with public institutions, civil society organizations, and academic partners to promote institutional trust and social cohesion. Collaborative initiatives supported capacity building, legal culture, and civic awareness within the broader community. Student-led volunteerism and outreach activities further reinforced principles of peaceful engagement and social responsibility.

Monitoring and Strategic Outlook

Institutional monitoring mechanisms were employed to assess governance effectiveness, ethical compliance, and inclusiveness. Feedback from stakeholders informed continuous institutional improvement.

Strategic priorities include:

- Further development of transparent and digital governance systems
- Expansion of ethics education and academic integrity training
- Strengthening participatory mechanisms within institutional decision-making
- Supporting interdisciplinary research on peace, justice, and governance

Goal	Description	Target Year
Expand digital student elections	All faculties to implement e-voting	2026
Launch Legal Research Center	Focused on human rights and justice innovation	2026
Increase outreach campaigns	At least 3 major legal awareness events annually	2026–2027
Strengthen whistleblower systems	Introduce formal whistleblower protection policy	2026







Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University advanced the principles of SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through the systematic strengthening of governance, ethical standards, and inclusive institutional practices. By aligning administrative procedures, academic regulations, and quality assurance mechanisms with principles of transparency, accountability, and rule of law, the University reinforced institutional integrity and organizational effectiveness.

The consistent implementation of academic integrity policies and ethical compliance frameworks enhanced trust in teaching, learning, and research processes. At the same time, participatory governance mechanisms and non-discriminatory access to education supported inclusiveness and stakeholder engagement within the academic community. Through curriculum development, research activities, and scholarly dialogue, the University contributed to the advancement of knowledge on governance, civic responsibility, and social justice.

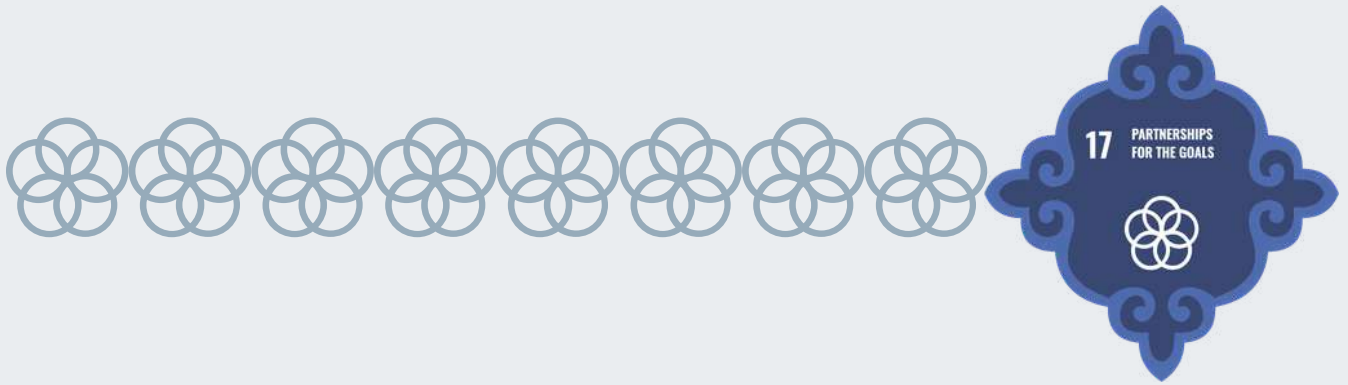
Overall, Nakhchivan State University's 2025 initiatives reflect a coherent and institutionalized approach to SDG 16 implementation. By embedding peace, justice, and strong institutional values into its educational mission and operational structures, the University has established a sustainable foundation for continued institutional development in alignment with national governance priorities and global sustainable development objectives.

**SDG
17**

**STRENGTHENING
PARTNERSHIPS
FOR A BETTER
FUTURE**

17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS





Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) strengthened its commitment to SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals by expanding national and international collaborations, promoting knowledge exchange, and fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance sustainable development. Recognizing that global challenges require coordinated efforts, NSU focused on leveraging institutional expertise, academic networks, and community engagement to contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sustainable Development Goal 17 (SDG 17), Partnerships for the Goals, serves as a cornerstone for achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Nakhchivan State University (NSU) recognizes that meaningful and inclusive partnerships are essential to advancing education, research, innovation, and community development.

In 2025, NSU strengthened its commitment to SDG 17 by expanding institutional cooperation, enhancing internationalization, mobilizing resources, and promoting knowledge exchange across sectors. Through collaboration with government institutions, academic partners, the private sector, and civil society organizations, Nakhchivan State University has reinforced its role as a regional hub for sustainable development.

This report outlines NSU's progress, challenges, and future priorities related to SDG 17 in 2025.

Strategic Alignment with SDG 17

NSU's approach to SDG 17 focused on:

- Strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships
- Supporting policy coherence for sustainable development
- Mobilizing financial and non-financial resources
- Enhancing institutional capacity and knowledge sharing

Nakhchivan State University emphasize collaboration as a key mechanism for educational quality, research excellence, and social impact.

Dual Degree Programs and MoUs

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU / NDU) significantly expanded its dual diploma (also called dual degree) agreements with reputable foreign universities. These programs allow students to study part of their education at NSU and part at a partner institution abroad, earning diplomas from both universities upon successful completion. This initiative aligns with NSU's strategic internationalization goals and enhances academic mobility, quality, and global competitiveness

John von Neumann University (Hungary) – Bachelor's Dual Diploma in Computer Engineering

Programme Overview

- NSU initiated a dual diploma program with John von Neumann University in Hungary, especially in the field of Computer Engineering (English-taught).
- The program arrangement follows an agreement between the universities and is supported by regional development planning.

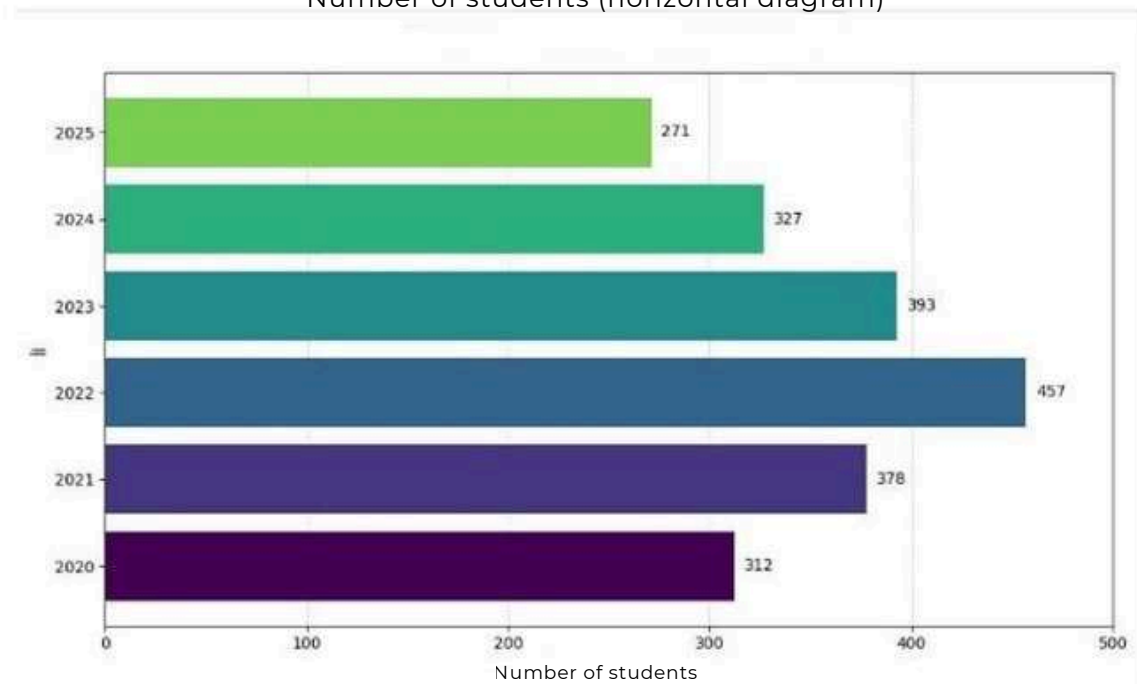


Key Achievements Implemented by the International Relations Department in 2025

- A total of 40 cooperation agreements were signed, including 14 with local institutions and 26 with foreign institutions.
- NDU was elected as a member of TÜRKÜNİB.
- The country diversity of international students increased from 14 to 22.
- 12 international students were admitted through the “Heydar Aliyev International Education Grant” Program.
- For the first time, an international student was admitted through the Intergovernmental Scholarship Program.
- 97 candidates took exams at the NDU IELTS Registration and Examination Center.
- 68 candidates took exams at the SAT Registration and Examination Center.
- 56 students participated in exchange programs.
- 252 students and faculty members participated in internship / traineeship programs.
- Through the TIES International Scholarship Program, a one-semester exchange of 10 students to Hacettepe University was carried out.
- Through the EMSA student organization, an exchange of 26 students was implemented.

ADMISSION DYNAMICS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY YEAR

Number of students (horizontal diagram)









Global Research Projects and Cooperation

NSU pursues a variety of global research partnerships and activities that support the development of knowledge, international collaboration, and contribution to regional development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Notable Research Collaboration Areas:

- International Scientific Conferences
 - NSU serves as a host and organizer of international scientific events. For example, the 1st International Scientific Conference on “Innovation and Sustainable Development: New Ideas and Solutions” held in October 2025 brought together researchers and institutions from Azerbaijan, Turkiye, Russia, Uzbekistan, and other countries to exchange research findings and address thematic areas such as innovation, artificial intelligence, and sustainable development.
- Memoranda of Cooperation with Research Organizations
 - NSU deepened national research cooperation through a memorandum with the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS) in June 2025. This agreement supports joint research projects, exchange of scientific personnel, cooperation in organizing scientific conferences and seminars, and shared access to academic resources, strengthening both national and international research links.
- Bilateral and Multilateral Academic Agreements
 - Beyond Erasmus+ projects, NSU signed cooperation memoranda and research agreements with international universities such as Istanbul University — that include provisions for joint research, faculty mobility, and scientific projects. These partnerships enhance academic networking and facilitate collaborative research initiatives with global partners.
- Regional Research Collaboration Networks
 - NSU’s linkages within regional research consortia — including connections with Hungarian institutions like John von Neumann University — create opportunities for coordinated research efforts, joint training programs, and research forums that support innovation and international academic exchange.

Future Directions for SDG 17

As the implementation period of the 2030 Agenda progresses, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) recognizes the necessity of transitioning from partnership expansion to partnership consolidation, quality enhancement, and measurable impact. Future directions for SDG 17 at NSU will therefore prioritize strategic depth, sustainability, and alignment with national and global development frameworks.

1. Strategic Deepening of International Partnerships

NSU aims to move beyond traditional bilateral cooperation toward long-term, mission-oriented international partnerships. Future collaborations will emphasize:

- Multilateral research consortia addressing cross-border challenges such as climate adaptation, food security, and digital transformation.
- Joint doctoral supervision and co-funded research laboratories with international universities.
- Increased participation in global university networks aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

These initiatives will enhance NSU's global academic integration while ensuring reciprocal knowledge exchange.

2. Integration of SDG Metrics into Partnership Governance

To strengthen accountability and transparency, NSU plans to embed SDG-aligned performance indicators into all new partnership agreements. This includes:

- Explicit alignment of partnership objectives with SDG 17 targets (particularly Targets 17.16 and 17.17).
- Annual monitoring and evaluation of partnership outcomes using quantitative and qualitative indicators.
- Systematic reporting aligned with international frameworks such as the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

This approach will enable evidence-based decision-making and continuous improvement.

3. Expansion of Private Sector and Innovation Partnerships

Recognizing the role of the private sector in sustainable development, NSU will expand engagement with industry partners by:

- Establishing innovation and entrepreneurship hubs that connect students, researchers, and businesses.
- Developing co-funded applied research projects focused on regional economic priorities.
- Enhancing internship and work-based learning opportunities through public-private partnerships.

Such initiatives will support knowledge transfer, graduate employability, and regional innovation ecosystems.

4. Strengthening Regional and Cross-Border Cooperation

Given its geographic and socio-economic context, NSU will intensify partnerships that address regional development challenges. Future efforts will include:

- Cross-border academic and research collaboration with neighboring regions.
- Joint initiatives with local authorities to support evidence-based policymaking.
- Community-focused partnerships addressing education access, environmental sustainability, and public health.

These actions will reinforce NSU's role as a regional development catalyst.

5. Digitalization and Virtual Partnerships

To overcome geographic and logistical constraints, NSU plans to expand digital cooperation mechanisms, including:

- Virtual mobility programs and online joint courses.
- Digital research collaboration platforms.
- Hybrid international conferences and knowledge-sharing forums.

Digital partnerships will ensure inclusivity, resilience, and continuity of collaboration.

6. Capacity Building and Institutional Learning

Future SDG 17 implementation will emphasize internal capacity building through:

- Professional development programs on partnership management and grant acquisition.
- Training in international project administration and compliance.
- Strengthening the role of the Center for Sustainable Development as a coordination and knowledge hub.

This will enhance institutional readiness for complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives.

7. Student and Youth Engagement in Partnerships

NSU will continue to empower students as active contributors to SDG 17 by:

- Expanding student-led SDG initiatives and international youth networks.
- Embedding partnership-based learning into curricula.
- Supporting student participation in international forums and collaborative projects.

Student engagement ensures the sustainability and intergenerational impact of partnerships.





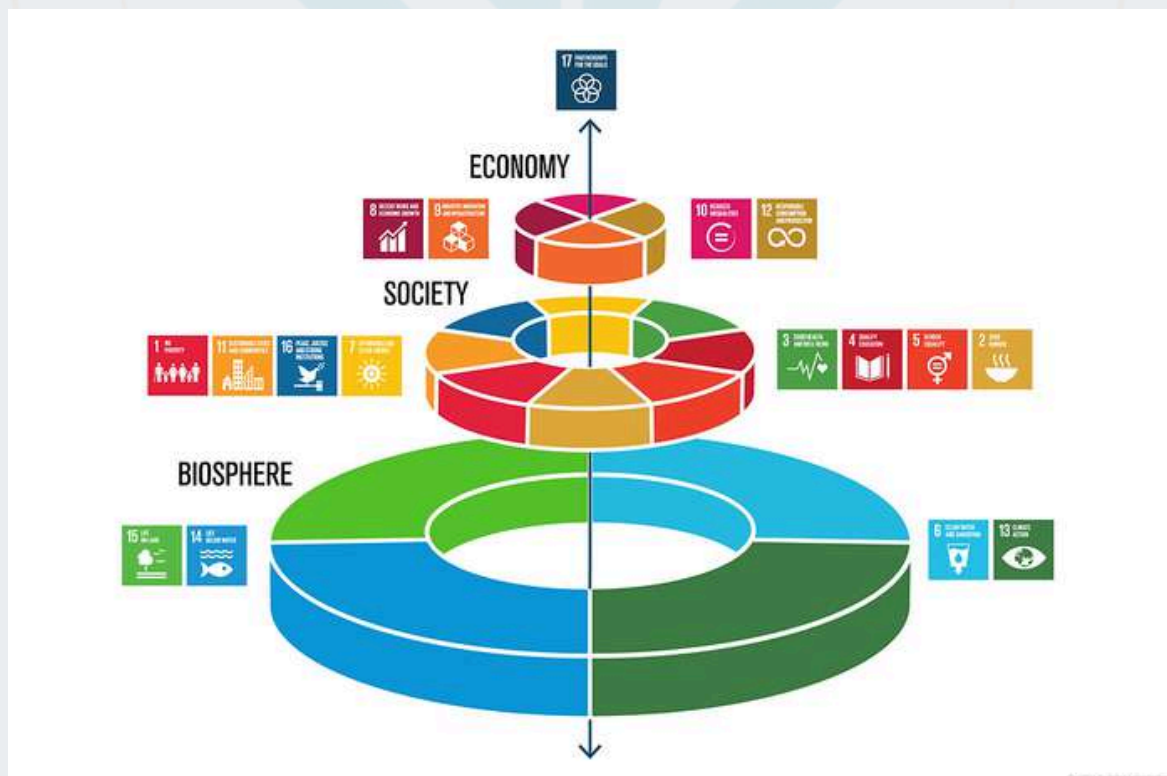


Conclusion

In 2025, Nakhchivan State University (NSU) made significant progress in advancing internationalization, research, and partnerships through Erasmus+ programs, dual diploma initiatives, and global research projects. These efforts align closely with SDG 17 — Partnerships for the Goals, highlighting the importance of collaboration across borders, sectors, and disciplines.

Through dual diploma agreements with institutions like Istanbul University and John von Neumann University, NSU offered students unique opportunities to gain international exposure, earn multiple qualifications, and develop skills for a competitive global environment. Participation in Erasmus+ initiatives further strengthened mobility, professional development, and institutional capacity, while engagement in global research projects expanded collaborative research, publications, and contributions to sustainable development priorities.

These initiatives enhanced academic quality, research output, and institutional infrastructure, while providing students and staff with valuable international experience. Challenges such as financial limitations and administrative complexities remain, but NSU's strategic focus on expanding partnerships, interdisciplinary collaboration, and SDG-aligned research positions the University as a regional leader and global partner in education and sustainable development.



KEYWORDS

No.	Keywords	Description
1	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Global framework guiding NSU's initiatives
2	Nakhchivan State University (NSU)	Institution committed to sustainable goals
3	Education Access and Equity	Efforts to ensure inclusive education
4	Financial Support and Scholarships	Financial aid to support student access
5	Poverty Alleviation (SDG 1)	Programs to reduce economic barriers
6	Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture (SDG 2)	Initiatives for food support and agriculture
7	Health and Well-being Initiatives (SDG 3)	Campaigns and healthcare programs
8	Quality Education (SDG 4)	Access to quality educational resources
9	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (SDG 5)	Support for equal opportunities
10	Clean Water and Sanitation (SDG 6)	Water conservation and sanitation programs
11	Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG 7)	Green energy and efficiency projects
12	Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8)	Job and internship support for students
13	Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9)	Technopark and infrastructure development
14	Reduced Inequalities and Inclusivity (SDG 10)	Programs for diversity and inclusion
15	Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11)	Urban planning and green campus initiatives
16	Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12)	Recycling and waste reduction practices
17	Climate Action and Environmental Awareness (SDG 13)	Environmental campaigns and research
18	Life Below Water and Water Conservation (SDG 14)	Water conservation and sustainable usage
19	Life on Land and Biodiversity Conservation (SDG 15)	Ecosystem protection and reforestation
20	Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16)	Governance and legal framework for equality
21	Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17)	Local and international collaborations
22	Environmental Sustainability	Campus-wide sustainable practices
23	Green Campus and Renewable Energy	LED lighting, solar panels, and wind turbines
24	LED Lighting and Energy Efficiency	Energy-saving infrastructure upgrades
25	Ecosystem Conservation	Programs to protect local flora and fauna
26	Inclusive Education Center	Support for diverse student needs
27	Legal and Governance Transparency	Transparent communication and governance
28	Technological Innovation and Technopark	Hands-on tech and innovation experience
29	Robotics and STEAM Education	Student engagement in science and technology
30	Student Internships and Career Development	Practical work experiences for students
31	Strategic Partnerships (Local, National, International)	Collaborative projects for SDG goals
32	Cultural Heritage Preservation	Initiatives to protect local culture
33	Community Engagement and Volunteerism	Student involvement in community projects
34	Resource Management and Recycling	Waste reduction and recycling initiatives
35	Tree Planting and Reforestation	Tree planting to support green spaces
36	Climate Change Mitigation	Measures to combat climate impacts
37	Sustainable Procurement Policies	Sourcing practices that support sustainability
38	Sustainable Urban Planning	Planning for resilient and green infrastructure
39	Water Quality Monitoring	Projects to ensure clean water resources
40	Biodiversity Protection	Protection of native species and habitats
41	Academic Excellence and Research	Promoting academic contributions to SDGs
42	Environmental Law and Awareness	Educating on environmental regulations
43	Digital Security and Information Protection	Cybersecurity training and resources
44	SDG Education and Integration	Curriculum aligned with SDG principles
45	Youth Empowerment and Leadership	Student leadership and empowerment programs
46	Inclusivity in Higher Education	Accessibility and equity in education
47	International Collaboration and Exchange	Erasmus+ and global partnerships
48	Student Health Campaigns	Initiatives for student health and wellness
49	Waste Management Initiatives	Programs to reduce and repurpose waste
50	Agricultural Research and Development	Research in sustainable farming and food security



NAXÇIVAN DÖVLƏT
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2025 Times Higher Education Impact Ranking

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