



Report on Sustainable Development Goal 1

No Poverty

2024



Foreword

This document outlines the initiatives and achievements of Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) in supporting Sustainable Development Goal 1: No Poverty. The university is deeply committed to alleviating poverty through various educational and community programs, offering significant financial support to students from low-income backgrounds. Through targeted efforts, AzTU addresses financial barriers to education and provides resources for students and local communities to thrive economically. The data and references included showcase AzTU's comprehensive approach to poverty reduction, both within its student body and the broader community.

Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. SDG 1, "No Poverty," emphasizes eradicating extreme poverty and reducing inequalities. Azerbaijan Technical University plays a crucial role in this effort by implementing programs that provide financial aid, educational opportunities, and community support. These initiatives are geared toward students from disadvantaged backgrounds, as well as local and international communities. Through scholarships, training programs, and entrepreneurial support, AzTU contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty and promoting social and economic development.

References

[National Information Portal on Sustainable Development Goals of the Republic of Azerbaijan](#)

[AzTU Sustainability](#)

[AzTU SDG 1 Report / November 2023](#)

SDG 1 keywords - No Poverty

Basic services	Financial inclusion	Poverty line
Class	Income	Quality of Life
Developing countries	Income equality	Social protection systems/social protection
Disadvantaged	Microfinance	Sustainable
Economic resources	Non - discrimination	Third World
End poverty	Poor	Vulnerable
Environment	Poor and vulnerable	Wealth distribution
Equality	Poverty	
Extreme poverty	Poverty eradication	

SDG 1 Targets

1. **Financial Aid for Low-Income Students:**

AzTU provides substantial financial aid and scholarships to students from low-income backgrounds, including refugees, disabled individuals, and families of Karabakh war veterans. In 2023, 60% of students received some form of financial assistance, making higher education more accessible. The Educational Student Loans Fund (ESLF) also plays a key role in supporting underprivileged students

2. **University Anti-Poverty Programs:**

- AzTU has specific policies aimed at admitting students from the bottom 20% of household income groups, offering government-backed scholarships and prioritizing financial support for these students.
- The university sets graduation/completion targets for students from low-income backgrounds and provides academic counseling and financial aid to ensure their academic success.
- AzTU offers additional support such as free meals, housing, transportation, and legal services for students from low-income families.
- AzTU runs initiatives like tutoring, mentorship, and financial aid packages to help low-income students complete their studies successfully.
- The university extends support to international students from low- and lower-middle-income countries, offering scholarships and grants to enable them to pursue their education.

3. **Community Anti-Poverty Programs:**

- AzTU supports local communities by providing mentorship, workshops, and resources to help start financially and socially sustainable businesses.
- The university collaborates with partners to offer financial assistance, including micro-loans and seed funding, to help local entrepreneurs establish sustainable businesses.
- AzTU organizes training programs aimed at improving access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and digital literacy for disadvantaged populations.
- AzTU participates in policymaking at local, regional, national, and global levels to implement programs that address poverty in all its dimensions.

Statistics and Their Indicators

Financial Aid for Students

- **Total students receiving financial aid:** 12,006
- **Low-income students receiving financial aid:** 246

- **Percentage of students receiving assistance (2023):** 60%

Support for Low-Income Students

- **Admission and financial aid** for students from the bottom 20% income group, with government-backed scholarships.
- **Graduation targets** for low-income students, with academic counseling and financial support.
- **Additional support:** Free meals, housing, legal services.
- **International aid:** Scholarships for students from low- and lower-middle-income countries.

Community Support and Entrepreneurship

- **Business support:** Mentorship, training, micro-loans, and seed funding

Access to Basic Services

- **Training programs** for healthcare, education, and digital literacy

SDG 1`s Positive Impact on other SDGs

SDG 4 (Quality Education): By offering financial aid and support services to low-income students, AzTU ensures equitable access to quality education, fostering lifelong learning opportunities for disadvantaged groups.

SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth): AzTU`s community programs, which support entrepreneurship and business development through training, mentorship, and financial assistance, contribute to sustainable economic growth and job creation.

SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities): The university`s policies that prioritize students from low-income backgrounds and disadvantaged groups help reduce inequalities in access to higher education and resources.

SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals): AzTU collaborates with local and international partners to provide financial and educational resources, enhancing efforts to achieve multiple SDGs through collective action.

Current situation

Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) has demonstrated a strong commitment to reducing poverty, aligning its efforts with the Sustainable Development Goal 1: No Poverty. The university offers comprehensive financial support to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, including those from low-income families, refugees, and individuals affected by the Karabakh conflict. In 2023, 60% of AzTU`s student population received some form of financial assistance, reflecting the institution`s dedication to ensuring that education remains accessible to those in need. However, only 246 students from low-income families

currently benefit from targeted financial aid programs, suggesting room for expanding the scope of support to reach more economically disadvantaged students.

AzTU implements various strategies to support low-income students, including government-backed scholarships, tuition waivers, and educational loans through the Educational Student Loans Fund (ESLF). For example, students from the most economically vulnerable 20% of households are given priority access to these financial programs, ensuring that financial barriers do not hinder their academic pursuits. Furthermore, the university has set clear graduation and completion targets for these students, providing academic counseling, mentorship, and additional financial aid to help them complete their studies. This is evident from the university's various scholarship initiatives, as highlighted on their website, including the prestigious Heydar Aliyev scholarships and special government-funded programs aimed at supporting low-income students.

In addition to addressing student needs, AzTU is actively engaged in community anti-poverty programs that extend beyond the university. It plays a key role in fostering local entrepreneurship and sustainable business development, particularly in rural areas, by offering mentorship, training workshops, and access to financial resources. These efforts are bolstered by collaborations with local and international partners, who provide grants, micro-loans, and seed funding to individuals and small businesses. For instance, the university has organized multiple training programs to enhance local business skills, including workshops on "Future Professions" and other vocational training sessions

AzTU's impact on improving access to basic services is another notable contribution to poverty reduction. The university organizes community-based training programs that focus on improving access to healthcare, digital literacy, and vocational skills for disadvantaged populations. In particular, AzTU has partnered with organizations to conduct workshops on health awareness and practical skills development, such as their collaboration with the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society and other local initiatives. These activities ensure that vulnerable communities are not only better equipped to access essential services but also empowered to lift themselves out of poverty through education and skill-building.

Moreover, AzTU is involved in policymaking at the local, national, and international levels to address poverty in a broader context. By contributing to policy dialogues and frameworks, the university helps shape strategies that aim to eradicate poverty in all its dimensions. AzTU's participation in these efforts is further supported by its internal policies and programs that encourage innovation and entrepreneurship among students, as well as its commitment to providing financial support to international students from low- and lower-middle-income countries.

Future goals

- **Increase Financial Aid Access:** AzTU aims to expand financial aid programs, including scholarships and loans, to a higher percentage of low-income and vulnerable students, ensuring broader access to higher education for those in need.
- **Strengthen Support for Graduation:** The university plans to enhance its support systems—such as mentorship, counseling, and academic assistance—to improve the graduation rates of students from the lowest income groups, fostering equitable outcomes.
- **Broaden Community Outreach:** AzTU intends to further engage in local community initiatives that support sustainable business development and provide training for improved access to basic services. This includes organizing additional workshops on entrepreneurship and essential skills for community members.
- **Expand Global Support Initiatives:** By increasing scholarships and subsidies for international students from low-income countries, AzTU will continue to support diverse economic backgrounds, promoting inclusive education globally.
- **Participate in Policy Advocacy:** AzTU seeks to strengthen its role in policymaking at multiple levels to address poverty comprehensively, contributing to frameworks that improve living conditions, access to services, and socioeconomic support in disadvantaged communities.

Conclusion

In conclusion, AzTU is actively committed to combating poverty through extensive support for low-income students, community engagement, and policy advocacy. By expanding financial aid, enhancing graduation support, and fostering sustainable development initiatives, AzTU is advancing its role in promoting equitable education and uplifting disadvantaged communities.