



Report on Sustainable Development Goal 2

Zero Hunger

2024



Foreword

As we work toward achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the focus on SDG 2, "Zero Hunger," is essential for building a future where hunger and malnutrition are eradicated. Universities, as centers of research, education, and innovation, play a significant role in addressing food security, both on and off campus. This document reviews the efforts and policies adopted by Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) in support of SDG 2, highlighting initiatives to reduce food waste, address student hunger, and provide sustainable food choices within the university community. By implementing these measures, AzTU demonstrates its commitment to promoting sustainable practices and supporting students in need, thus contributing meaningfully to the broader goals of Zero Hunger.

Introduction

Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) recognizes its responsibility in contributing to SDG 2, which emphasizes eliminating hunger, achieving food security, and promoting sustainable agriculture. This document outlines AzTU's initiatives related to food waste management, student hunger programs, and the provision of sustainable food options on campus. Noteworthy among these are the university's efforts to track food waste, provide meal support to students experiencing food insecurity, and offer a range of healthy, sustainable, and inclusive food options. While some areas, such as local community engagement in agriculture, remain unaddressed, AzTU's current practices reflect a commitment to fostering a supportive and sustainable campus environment.

References

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

[AzTU Sustainability](#)

[AzTU SDG 2 Report / November 2023](#)

SDG 2 KEYWORDS - Zero Hunger

Agricultural Orientation index	End hunger	Genetic diversity of seeds	Malnutrition	Rural infrastructure	Trade diversity
Agricultural productivity	Food	Genetics	Nutritious	Small - scale food producer	Trade restrictions
Agriculture	Food gap	Hungry people	Poverty	Stunting	Under nourished
Consume	Food production	Improved nutrition	Produce	Sufficient food	World's hunger
Crop diversity	Food reserves	Innovations and health	Productivity	Sustainable	
Crops	Food Security	Legumes	Quality of life	Sustainable food production	
Development Round	Genetic diversity	Maize	Resilient agriculture	Sustainable agriculture	

SDG 2 Targets

- **Reduction of Campus Food Waste:** AzTU measures and monitors food waste in its dining facilities. By requiring outsourced food services to track and report waste data, the university aims to minimize food waste, improve meal planning, and optimize food storage.
- **Combating Student Hunger and Food Insecurity:** Recognizing food insecurity as a critical issue, AzTU has launched programs to support students facing food challenges. These initiatives include partnerships with local organizations for subsidized meal plans and meal vouchers, as well as the establishment of a campus food pantry and collaborations with local food banks.
- **Promotion of Sustainable Food Choices:** The university provides sustainable food options, including vegetarian and vegan meals, sourced from local and environmentally responsible suppliers. This commitment not only addresses dietary diversity on campus but also supports the local economy and sustainable practices in food sourcing.

Statistics and Their Indicators

- **Food Waste Tracking:** The university tracks the volume of food waste generated in dining facilities, including data from outsourced providers. This data allows AzTU to evaluate waste reduction measures and make improvements.
- **Student Hunger Program Impact:** AzTU has implemented a subsidized meal plan and a meal voucher system for students in need. Additionally, a campus pantry and partnerships with local food banks provide emergency food support, ensuring that students facing financial hardship have access to nutritious meals.
- **Sustainable Food Choices Availability:** AzTU has introduced vegetarian, vegan, and sustainably sourced food options across its dining services, helping reduce the carbon footprint of campus food consumption and catering to diverse dietary needs.

SDG 2's Positive Impact on other SDGs

SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being): By providing healthy and sustainable food options and addressing food insecurity, AzTU helps improve the physical and mental well-being of its students. Proper nutrition contributes to better academic performance, overall health, and resilience against illness.

SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production): Efforts to track and reduce food waste, along with the promotion of sustainable food sourcing, align with SDG 12's emphasis on responsible consumption.

AzTU's commitment to minimizing waste and sourcing food locally supports sustainable practices in the food system.

SDG 4 (Quality Education): Addressing food insecurity among students helps to create a more supportive learning environment. Students who have access to nutritious meals are better equipped to focus on their studies, which contributes to improved academic outcomes and overall quality education.

Current situation

Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) has taken significant steps to support SDG 2: Zero Hunger, with a particular focus on reducing food waste, supporting student food security, and promoting sustainable dining options on campus. The university actively monitors food waste generated in its dining facilities, including those operated by external providers, and requires regular reporting on waste levels. This data enables AzTU to refine its food service practices, reduce waste, and improve efficiency in meal planning and storage.

AzTU also addresses student hunger by implementing initiatives to combat food insecurity. Recognizing the impact of hunger on academic performance and well-being, the university has partnered with local organizations to provide subsidized meal plans and meal vouchers to students in need. Additionally, the establishment of a campus food pantry, in collaboration with local food banks, ensures access to free or affordable food options for students and staff, especially those facing financial challenges.

Furthermore, AzTU promotes sustainable food practices by offering a range of vegetarian, vegan, and locally-sourced options in its cafeterias. This commitment not only provides diverse dietary choices for students but also supports the local economy and reduces the environmental impact of campus dining. Despite these initiatives, some areas, such as engaging the broader community in sustainable agriculture and providing agricultural education, remain underdeveloped.

Future goals

- **Enhanced Food Waste Reduction:** The university plans to refine its food waste tracking systems to collect more granular data, which will inform targeted waste reduction strategies. By optimizing portion sizes, improving inventory management, and increasing student awareness of food waste, AzTU hopes to reduce its overall environmental impact.
- **Expanded Support for Food Insecure Students:** AzTU intends to broaden its partnerships with local organizations to provide more extensive food support programs. This may include increasing the availability of meal vouchers and expanding pantry resources to ensure that all students have access to sufficient and nutritious food.

- **Increased Focus on Sustainable Food Choices:** To deepen its commitment to sustainable practices, AzTU aims to prioritize locally-sourced ingredients in all campus dining services. The university also plans to introduce more educational initiatives on sustainable food consumption and offer training sessions that encourage students and staff to make environmentally-conscious food choices.
- **Outreach and Community Engagement:** AzTU hopes to extend its impact beyond the campus by exploring opportunities to engage with local farmers and food producers. This may include offering workshops, sharing best practices in sustainable agriculture, and providing access to university facilities to support local food security efforts.

Conclusion

Azerbaijan Technical University's current initiatives in support of SDG 2 reflect a proactive approach to food security, sustainability, and student well-being on campus. By addressing food waste, providing targeted support for food-insecure students, and promoting sustainable dietary options, AzTU has made significant strides toward Zero Hunger within its community. As the university looks to the future, it remains committed to expanding its impact by refining existing programs, enhancing sustainable practices, and exploring community partnerships. Through these continued efforts, AzTU demonstrates its dedication to fostering a campus environment that aligns with the broader goals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda.