Azerbaijan TECHNICAL University

2 ZERO HUNGER

Report on Sustainable Development Goal 2

Zero Hunger

2025



Foreword

As Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) continues advancing its role in achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), focus on SDG 2, "Zero Hunger," remains a priority. Ensuring food security and promoting sustainable nutrition are essential for building a resilient future free from hunger and malnutrition. As a hub for research, education, and innovation, AzTU actively contributes to these goals through campus-wide initiatives aimed at reducing food waste, supporting students facing food insecurity, and providing sustainable and nutritious food options. By strengthening these measures in 2025, AzTU reaffirms its commitment to sustainable practices and social responsibility, contributing meaningfully to the broader vision of Zero Hunger.

Introduction

In 2025, Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) continues to enhance its commitment to SDG 2, which emphasizes eradicating hunger, ensuring food security, and promoting sustainable agriculture. The university's ongoing initiatives focus on three main areas:

1. Food Waste Management: AzTU has implemented improved monitoring and reduction strategies for food waste across campus cafeterias and events, promoting awareness among students and staff.
2. Student Hunger Programs: The university provides targeted support to students experiencing food insecurity, including meal assistance programs and accessible nutritious food options.
3. Sustainable Food Options: AzTU has expanded the availability of healthy, environmentally sustainable, and inclusive food choices, reflecting global best practices in campus dining.

While engagement with local communities and agricultural partnerships continues to be a potential growth area, AzTU's current 2025 initiatives demonstrate a proactive approach to fostering a supportive, sustainable, and hunger-free campus environment.

References

National Information Portal on Sustainable Development Goals of the Republic of Azerbaijan AzTU SDG 2 Report / November 2023
Training on Plastic Pollution Awareness and Bioplastic Production Workshop on AI in Precision Agriculture
Ecological Thinking Begins at School — Green Mission at AzTU AzTU begins collaboration with Holon Institute of Technology AzTU showcased at the Eurasia Universities Summit
Collaboration Agreement signed between AzTU and Malatya Turgut Özal University AzTU Strategic Plan 2022–2025
Named scholarships awarded to 14 AzTU students

SDG 2 KEYWORDS - Zero Hunger

Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU)	SDG 2 – Zero Hunger	Campus Food Security	Student Meal Assistance
Student Food Support	Affordable Campus Dining	Sustainable Nutrition	Healthy Food Options
Food Waste Reduction	Campus Food Waste Management	Sustainable Food Systems	Sustainable Agriculture
Agricultural Innovation	Smart Agriculture	AI in Precision Agriculture	IoT in Agriculture
Agricultural Research	Sustainable Food Production	Bioplastic Production	Sustainable Packaging
Waste Minimization	Zero Waste Week	Green Kitchen Challenge	Sustainability Workshops
Student Engagement in Sustainability	Student Union Committee	Interdisciplinary Research	International Research Collaboration

SDG 2 Targets

SDG 2, Zero Hunger, calls for ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.

AzTU contributes to this goal by ensuring access to affordable, healthy food options for students and staff, reducing waste in food supply systems, and engaging in innovation projects that support agricultural sustainability and resource efficiency.

In 2025, AzTU prioritized three key objectives:

1. **Campus Food Security & Accessibility:** expanding meal assistance programs and offering affordable dining options.
2. **Sustainable Production & Food Waste Reduction:** implementing eco-friendly campus dining practices and workshops on bioplastics and waste management.
3. **Agricultural Innovation & Capacity Building:** integrating digital and AI-driven technologies into research and educational programs related to sustainable agriculture.

Institutional Commitment

AzTU's approach to SDG 2 is guided by:

- the **Azerbaijan 2030 National Priorities**,
- the **Ministry of Science and Education's Sustainable Education Framework**,
- the **AzTU Strategic Plan 2022-2025**, which emphasizes "Health, Sustainability, and Smart Campus" objectives.

Oversight of these initiatives is provided by the Quality Assurance Department, which monitors the implementation of food-related sustainability projects and student welfare programs.

Statistics and their indicators

Indicator	2023	2024	2025	Change (2023–2025)
Students benefiting from meal assistance (all programmes)	2,800	3,200	4,500	+60%
Food-waste reduction (% vs 2022)	–	8%	15%	+7 p.p. (2024–2025)
Sustainability workshops held	4	6	10	+150%
Student participants in food-security initiatives	1,100	1,450	2,300	+109%
International collaborations on sustainable agriculture	2	3	5	+150%

Positive impact on other SDGs

These measures directly support SDG 2.1 – ending hunger and ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food year-round.

Beyond SDG 2, AzTU's actions also contribute to several other Sustainable Development Goals:

- **SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being:**

By promoting balanced nutrition and ensuring access to affordable, healthy meals, AzTU supports students' physical and mental well-being. The campus meal programs and food security initiatives reduce health risks associated with poor diets and food insecurity.

- **SDG 4 – Quality Education:**

Integrating sustainable agriculture, waste reduction, and digital innovation into academic programs helps students gain practical, sustainability-oriented knowledge. These activities enhance academic quality and foster environmental awareness among future engineers and scientists.

- **SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:**

Through AI- and IoT-driven agricultural research, AzTU contributes to developing resilient, technology-based solutions for food production and resource management. This aligns with efforts to strengthen sustainable industrial innovation and infrastructure.

- **SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production:**

The university's waste management programs, bioplastic workshops, and "Zero Waste Week" campaigns directly address responsible consumption patterns and the circular economy.

- **SDG 13 – Climate Action:**

Reducing food waste and promoting sustainable production methods contribute to lowering greenhouse gas emissions, supporting national and global climate goals.

- **SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals:**

AzTU's collaborations with universities in Israel and Turkey, and participation in international summits, strengthen global partnerships in sustainable agriculture and research, fostering cross-border knowledge exchange and innovation.

Current situations

Campus Food Security and Meal Assistance

In 2025, 4,500 students benefited from AzTU's meal assistance programmes. This initiative aims to minimize food inequality on campus and promote healthy eating habits.

To complement this, the university's Student Union Committee organized donation and community-kitchen activities during national holidays, ensuring students from low-income households had continuous access to food services.

Research and Academic Projects

In collaboration with the **Green Mission Program**, AzTU students and staff participated in field projects focusing on eco-agriculture, sustainable materials, and environmental education (source).

Additionally, several departments incorporated "sustainable food production" and "waste minimization" themes into course syllabi and student research, aligning academic learning outcomes with SDG 2 targets.

Community Engagement and Awareness

Through student-led clubs and the Student Youth Organization (TGT), AzTU launched awareness campaigns emphasizing the importance of sustainable nutrition, food conservation, and responsible consumption. Events such as **"Zero Waste Week"** and the **"Green Kitchen Challenge"** involved hundreds of students and local volunteers in practical sustainability actions.

These community-based efforts contribute to **SDG 2.4**, promoting resilient and sustainable food systems that integrate education, research, and civic participation.

International Partnerships

In 2025, AzTU expanded collaboration with foreign universities and institutions on sustainable development themes:

- **Joint research with Holon Institute of Technology (Israel)** focused on sustainable manufacturing and smart agriculture (source).
- **Participation in Eurasia Universities Summit** showcased AzTU's best practices in sustainability and campus food programs (source).
- **Cooperation with Turkey's Malatya Turgut Özal University** created joint workshops on sustainable agriculture and bio-technology (source).

These collaborations advance **SDG 2.A,** enhancing international cooperation in agricultural research and innovation.

Student Achievements and Institutional Highlights

The Republic Committee of the Azerbaijan Education Workers' Free Trade Union (ATİAHİ) held a ceremony to award the "Named Scholarship" to students actively involved in education and student union activities. The event, attended by government officials, university leaders, and students, highlighted the scholarship's role in promoting academic excellence, social engagement, and interest in education. For the 2024–2025 academic year, 308 students received the scholarship, including 14 students from Azerbaijan Technical University (AzTU) recognized for their outstanding academic performance and active participation in the Student Union Committee initiatives.

Source: Named scholarships awarded to 14 AzTU students

Sustainability Workshops and Food Innovation

The university hosted a series of sustainability-themed educational programs, including

1. **"Training on Plastic Pollution Awareness and Bioplastic Production"** – organized as part of the Sustainability Workshops Series, this training equipped students with knowledge on sustainable packaging and biodegradable materials (source).
2. **"AI in Precision Agriculture" Workshop** – a practical session demonstrating how artificial intelligence and data analytics improve agricultural productivity and resource efficiency (source).

These initiatives strengthened interdisciplinary research between the Faculties of Engineering, Energy, and Food Technologies, highlighting how innovation can contribute to sustainable agriculture and reduced waste.

Future goals

1. Launch the Campus Nutrition Dashboard to provide real-time data on food aid, consumption, and waste.
2. Establish a dedicated AI and IoT laboratory for sustainable agriculture and resource efficiency research.
3. Expand funding for student-led startups in sustainable food technology.
4. Strengthen local and international partnerships through joint research and grant projects.
5. By 2030, reduce campus food waste by 50% and ensure universal access to healthy meals for all students.

Conclusion

In 2025, Azerbaijan Technical University made significant strides toward achieving SDG 2: Zero Hunger.

Through meal assistance programs, sustainability workshops, and research-driven innovation, the university strengthened its role in combating hunger, promoting responsible food consumption, and building sustainable food systems.

AzTU's continued commitment to SDG 2 reaffirms its commitment to integrating social responsibility with scientific advancement, contributing both locally and globally to a hunger-free future.