

**AZERBAIJAN STATE OIL AND INDUSTRY  
UNIVERSITY**

**SDG – 8 REPORT**



Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8) aims to promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. In the context of Azerbaijan, and specifically within the realm of higher education, achieving SDG 8 is pivotal for fostering a skilled workforce, driving innovation, and ensuring economic resilience. This report evaluates ASOIU's contributions towards these objectives, highlighting initiatives, achievements, and future plans.

ASOIU has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to SDG 8 through strategic policies and partnerships:

- **Strategic Vision Alignment:** The university's strategic plan emphasizes the development of a sustainable, competitive economy and the nurturing of competitive human capital, aligning with Azerbaijan's national priorities for socio-economic development. Here you can check: <https://research.asoiu.edu.az/az/research-areas/>
- **Sustainability Initiatives:** ASOIU has developed a comprehensive Sustainability Plan (2023–2030), addressing environmental, social, and governance challenges, and positioning the university as a leader in sustainability within the region. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/upload/sustainability/Sustainability\\_Plan\\_ASOIU.pdf](https://asoiu.edu.az/upload/sustainability/Sustainability_Plan_ASOIU.pdf)
- **Curriculum Development:** ASOIU offers a diverse range of programs across seven faculties, including Geological Exploration, Oil and Gas Production, Chemical Technology, Oil Mechanical Engineering, Information Technologies and Control, Power Engineering, and Economics and Management. These programs are designed to equip students with the skills necessary for the modern labor market.
- **Research Initiatives:** The university actively engages in interdisciplinary research, focusing on areas such as digitalization, energy systems, and economic management. Notably, ASOIU's research aligns with national priorities, fostering a sustainable and competitive economy.
- **Scientific Research Laboratories:** ASOIU has established dedicated research laboratories, such as the one focusing on Fuzzy Logic, to advance intelligent management and decision-making methods, contributing to economic productivity.
- **Graduate Employability:** According to recent surveys, 75% of ASOIU graduates secure permanent employment immediately after graduation, reflecting the university's effectiveness in preparing students for the workforce. Here you can check: <https://asoiu.edu.az/about>
- **Human Resources Policies:** ASOIU has implemented comprehensive HR policies, including a program designed to manage personal information, wage details, and various types of leaves for

employees, ensuring fair and transparent employment practices. Here you can check: <https://asoiu.edu.az/hr>

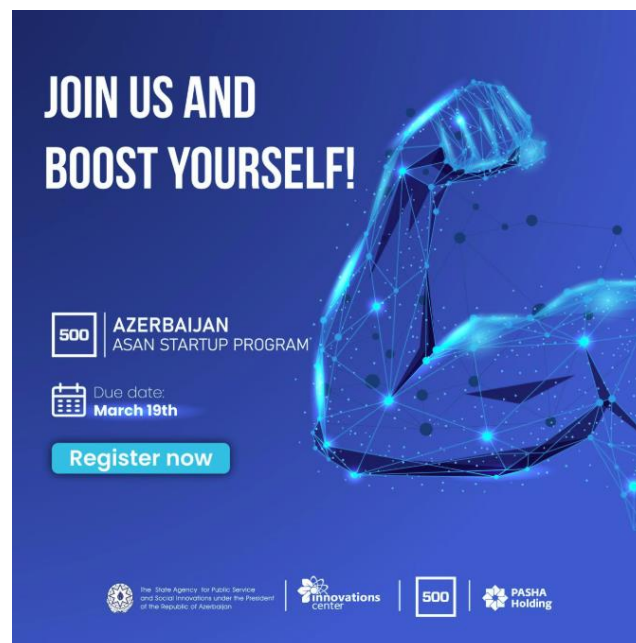
- **Anti-Discrimination Measures:** The university upholds a strict Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy, fostering a work and learning environment free from harassment and discrimination, thereby promoting decent work conditions. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/upload/sustainability/pdf/Anti-harassment\\_and\\_Anti-discrimination\\_policy.pdf](https://asoiu.edu.az/upload/sustainability/pdf/Anti-harassment_and_Anti-discrimination_policy.pdf)
- **Startup Support:** The "eazi START" Startup and Innovation Center was established to realize students' creativity and initiatives, providing training and resources for startup development. Here you can check: <https://tech.az/en/posts/quot-demo-day-quot-event-was-held-at-ufaz-4067>



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- **Incubation Programs:** The UFAZ Entrepreneurship and Innovation Center organizes the "IGNITE" incubation program, a three-month initiative designed for startups aspiring to progress from the idea stage to the minimum viable product stage. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/2468](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/2468)



- **Collaborative Projects:** ASOIU has engaged in projects like the "Azerbaijan 500 ASAN Startup Program," offering world-class programming and mentorship to aspiring entrepreneurs without tuition costs. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/1335](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/1335)



- **Economic Development Alliances:** ASOIU participates in alliances aimed at stimulating economic growth by supporting local industries, fostering entrepreneurship, and attracting investment to the region. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/sustainability\\_partnership](https://asoiu.edu.az/sustainability_partnership)

- **Sustainability Awareness:** The university actively raises awareness and knowledge of sustainable development issues among staff, students, and employees, contributing to a culture of sustainability within the community. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/sustainability\\_awareness](https://asoiu.edu.az/sustainability_awareness)
- **Research in Karabakh:** ASOIU faculty conducted scientific research in the Karabakh Economic Zone, performing hydrological and meteorological studies to assess and contribute to the region's economic redevelopment. Here you can check: [https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/2793](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/2793)



- **Graduate Employment Rate:** 75% of graduates securing permanent employment immediately after graduation.
- **Startup Initiatives:** Establishment and operation of the "eazi START" Startup and Innovation Center, supporting numerous student-led startups. Here you can check: <https://asoiu.edu.az/eazi>



- **Research Output:** Active interdisciplinary research contributing to national economic priorities, including advancements in digitalization and energy systems.
- **Policy Implementations:** Adoption of comprehensive policies promoting equality, diversity, inclusion, and anti-discrimination within the university community.

Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University (ASOIU) has made significant progress in supporting the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 8: **Decent Work and Economic Growth**. Through a multifaceted approach—ranging from high-quality education and advanced research to strategic partnerships and innovation initiatives—ASOIU continues to play a pivotal role in preparing a skilled workforce, fostering youth entrepreneurship, and contributing to national and regional economic development.

The university's strategic integration of sustainability, employment equity, and startup culture has not only improved graduate employability but has also built institutional resilience in the face of changing economic demands. The establishment of entrepreneurship centers, collaborative research labs, and innovation programs demonstrates ASOIU's active contribution to job creation and productivity.

As the university looks toward the 2025–2029 period, the commitment to enhancing labor market alignment, strengthening private-sector partnerships, and expanding support for innovation and decent work conditions will remain at the forefront. By continuing to embed the principles of SDG 8 in its academic, administrative, and community-oriented activities, ASOIU will further solidify its role as a leader in advancing inclusive and sustainable economic growth in Azerbaijan and beyond.