

**AZERBAIJAN STATE OIL AND INDUSTRY
UNIVERSITY**

SDG – 9 REPORT



Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9) is central to national and global development as it emphasizes the importance of robust infrastructure, industrial progress, and scientific innovation. As a technical university with a strategic national role, ASOIU prioritizes alignment with SDG 9 through the integration of modern infrastructure, innovation-driven education, research capacity building, and industry collaboration.

1. Enhancing Infrastructure and Innovation Ecosystems

ASOIU entered a Memorandum of Understanding with the High Technologies Park under the Ministry of Science and Education of Azerbaijan to establish a collaborative innovation hub titled **SABAH.city**. Located on the HTP campus, this facility will support interdisciplinary innovation across participating institutions, including ASOIU, Baku State University, and Azerbaijan Technical University.

The SABAH.city hub will:

- Offer a digital and high-tech infrastructure for IT, engineering, and science students.
- Promote startup creation, prototype development, and industry engagement.
- Serve as a physical embodiment of academic-industrial collaboration.

Here you can check: https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/2903



ASOIU has established the **Digital Development and Innovation Center (DDIC)** to spearhead the university's digital transformation and foster an innovative ecosystem. The DDIC focuses on:

- **Digital Infrastructure Enhancement:** Implementing advanced information technology systems to support academic and administrative functions.
- **Innovation Ecosystem Development:** Collaborating with industry partners to integrate innovative solutions into the business environment and promote entrepreneurship among students and staff.
- **Project Support and Research:** Assisting in the development and management of projects that integrate new technologies into the economy, thereby contributing to sustainable industrialization.

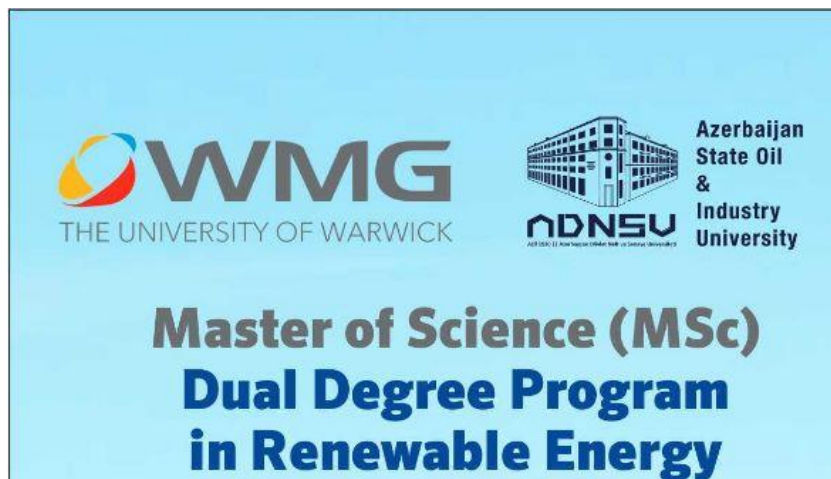
This center plays a pivotal role in transforming ASOIU into a hub for digital innovation and aligns with the objectives of SDG 9 by enhancing infrastructure and fostering innovation. Here you can check more: <https://asoiu.edu.az/ddic>

2. Promoting Sustainable Industrialization through Academic Programmes

In partnership with WMG at the University of Warwick (UK), ASOIU continues to offer a joint MSc program in **Renewable Energy**. The curriculum is tailored to support industrial modernization and energy transition priorities, including:

- Green energy generation and storage.
- Energy-efficient systems design.
- Field visits and research collaboration in the UK.

This program directly contributes to human capital development for sustainable industries in Azerbaijan.



3. Strengthening University–Industry Linkages

3.1 Technical Workshops by SLB (Schlumberger)

SLB organized technical seminars at UFAZ (a strategic component of ASOIU) for engineering students. Topics included industrial digitalization and reservoir modeling. These sessions provided early exposure to high-level oil and gas sector practices and supported employment-oriented upskilling. Here you can check:

<https://www.ufaz.az/en/news/slb-conducts-technical-training-at-ufaz/>



3.2 SOCAR Talent Programs

ASOIU-affiliated students actively participate in the **SOCAR Brightest Talents Program**, which fosters the development of technical and managerial skills through applied internships and joint training modules.

Here you can check: <https://www.ufaz.az/en/news/socar-hosted-an-info-session-on-young-talents-program/>



4. Fostering Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship

4.1 Innovation Centre at ASOIU

The **ASOIU-UFAZ Innovation Center**, serving ASOIU students, hosted several events that promote innovation and entrepreneurship, such as:

- **Moodrik Talks:** A speaker series connecting students with innovation professionals. Here you can check: <https://www.ufaz.az/en/news/moodrik-talks-session-on-the-topic-of-demand-driven-offer-took-place-at-ufaz-innovation-center/>



- Collaborations with startups like Sofcon Group on AI and smart energy. Here you can check: <https://www.ufaz.az/en/news/sofcon-group-held-an-info-session-at-ufaz-on-job-opportunities/>



4.2 Global Recognition in STEM Innovation

ASOIU students achieved international recognition for innovation:

- Winner of the **Apple Swift Student Challenge**.
- Recipient of the **Girls Rise in STEM** scholarship.



These achievements highlight the university's role in cultivating globally competitive innovators. Here you can check: <https://www.ufaz.az/en/news/ufaz-student-becomes-a-winner-of-the-humays-girls-advancement-in-stem-scholarship-program/>

4.3. Hosting of the "Secure Energy" Hackathon

Demonstrating a commitment to fostering innovation, ASOIU hosted the "**Secure Energy**" Hackathon, focusing on developing solutions for energy security and cybersecurity challenges.



Participants, including teams from ASOIU and the Azerbaijani-French University (UFAZ), collaborated to create prototypes addressing these critical issues. The event not only showcased the innovative capabilities of the students but also emphasized the university's role in promoting industry-relevant research and development.

These initiatives, alongside previously mentioned projects, highlight ASOIU's ongoing efforts to enhance infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation, thereby contributing significantly to the achievement of SDG 9. You can check here: https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/1886

5. Sustainable Campus Development and Digitalization

5.1. ASOIU Sustainability Plan

ASOIU has adopted a 7-year **Sustainability Plan** covering:

- Green campus initiatives.
- Upgrading digital education platforms and ICT labs.
- Promoting sustainability in research, curricula, and governance.

This plan directly contributes to SDG 9 by supporting the digital and environmental modernization of the university's infrastructure. Here you can check: https://asoiu.edu.az/upload/sustainability/Sustainability_Plan_ASOIU.pdf

5.2. Implementation of the Climate Action Plan

In its commitment to environmental stewardship, ASOIU has developed a comprehensive **Climate Action Plan** aimed at achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. Key components of the plan include:

- **Energy Efficiency Upgrades:** Investing in projects that enhance energy efficiency across campus facilities.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:** Incorporating renewable energy sources into the university's energy portfolio to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Sustainable Transportation Solutions:** Promoting the use of sustainable transportation methods to decrease the university's carbon footprint.

This plan underscores ASOIU's dedication to building resilient infrastructure and promoting sustainable industrialization, core tenets of SDG 9. Here you can check: https://asoiu.edu.az/upload/sustainability/pdf/CLIMATE_ACTION_PLAN.pdf

6. Future Directions and Institutional Commitments

ASOIU is committed to expanding its impact on SDG 9 through:

- Establishing new **industry-aligned laboratories** for automation, robotics, and smart manufacturing.
- Enhancing participation in **Horizon Europe** and similar international R&D frameworks.
- Scaling up the SABA.H.city ecosystem to include startup accelerators and policy think tanks.

7. Conclusion

ASOIU continues to be a national leader in aligning higher education with the priorities of industrial innovation and infrastructure development. Through robust academic offerings, international partnerships, and digital transformation, the university is actively contributing to the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 9 in Azerbaijan.