

#### **1.4.4 - Does your university as a body participate in policy making at local, regional, national and/or global level to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its dimensions?**

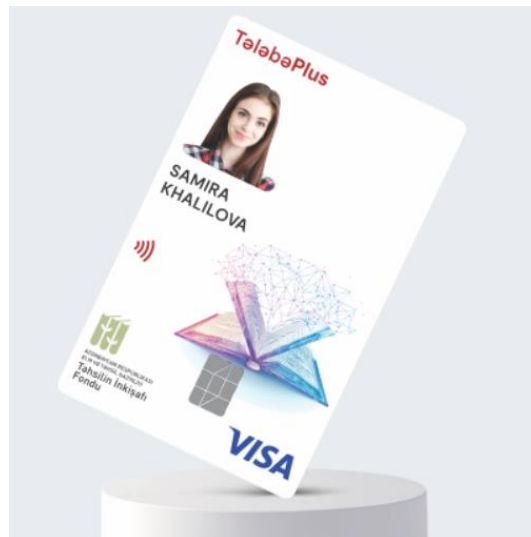
Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University (ASOIU) acknowledges the essential role that higher-education institutions play in shaping evidence-based policies for sustainable development and poverty eradication. In alignment with the United Nations SDGs ASOIU integrates education, research, and civic engagement to influence social and economic policies at local, regional, national, and global levels.

Through the Sustainable Development Center and institutional collaboration with governmental bodies, international networks, and NGOs, ASOIU acts not only as an educational institution but as a policy-making stakeholder in promoting inclusive growth and sustainable livelihoods.

##### **Local Level – Social Inclusion and Educational Access**

At the local level, ASOIU undertakes targeted measures that directly alleviate poverty by removing barriers to education and supporting disadvantaged groups:

- Tuition Fee Exemption Scheme for Low-Income and Vulnerable Groups – ASOIU exempts tuition fees for internally displaced persons (IDPs), children of martyrs, orphans, students with disabilities, and those from low-income families. This policy aligns university practice with Azerbaijan’s social-protection legislation.
- Student Support and Welfare Initiatives – The Student Trade Union Committee manages dormitory housing, affordable meals, and the StudentPlus Card programme providing discounts on essential services.



- Community Engagement Projects – The “Empowering the Smiles of the Future” initiative mobilises volunteers to assist underprivileged children in Baku through mentoring and creative education.



<https://www.ufaz.az/en/news/ufaz-organized-a-social-project-titled-empowering-the-smiles-of-the-future/>

### **National / Regional Level – Research-Based Policy Engagement**

ASOIU contributes to Azerbaijan’s national poverty-reduction and sustainable-development strategies through policy consultation, evidence-based research, and partnership programmes:

- Integration with State Policy – ASOIU’s financial-aid and inclusion policies mirror government social-support systems for IDPs, war-affected families, and persons with disabilities, thus acting as an institutional extension of national policy.
- Campaigners Project Partnership – ASOIU serves as a national partner in the EU-supported Campaigners Project, which empowers youth to advocate for social inclusion, responsible consumption, and community resilience. The project produces actionable recommendations for social-policy reform shared with local municipalities and national stakeholders.



[https://azertag.az/xeber/adnsu\\_emekdaslari\\_campaigners\\_beynelxalq\\_layihesinin\\_muzakiresinde\\_istira\\_k\\_edibler-2158832](https://azertag.az/xeber/adnsu_emekdaslari_campaigners_beynelxalq_layihesinin_muzakiresinde_istira_k_edibler-2158832)

- Policy Briefs and Research Outputs – The SDC and the Work4CE team prepare reports on the future of work, green employment, and social resilience, informing governmental labour-market and sustainability policies.



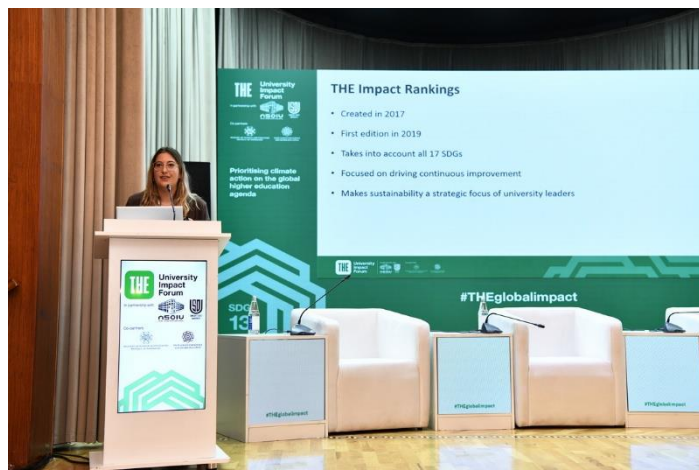
[https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/2507](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/2507)

Through these engagements, ASOIU contributes substantively to the formulation and evaluation of national strategies addressing poverty, employment, and social inclusion.

### **Global Level – International Policy Networks and Leadership**

ASOIU extends its influence internationally by engaging with global policy platforms and multilateral initiatives addressing poverty, sustainability, and education:

- Host of THE Impact Forum (Azerbaijan) – ASOIU hosted the Times Higher Education Impact Forum, bringing together regional universities, policymakers, and UN representatives to discuss higher-education policy for the SDGs. By coordinating the forum, ASOIU positioned Azerbaijan as a regional voice in the global discourse on how universities can tackle poverty, inequality, and sustainability challenges.



[https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/2694](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/2694)

<https://www.timeshighered-events.com/impact-climate-forum-2024/page/3815714/location>

- Global Commitments and Alliances – ASOIU is a signatory to the CANIE Accord (Climate Action Network for International Educators), linking climate responsibility with social justice and economic equity.



[https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/3019](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/3019)

- International Conferences and Policy Dialogue – By hosting events such as RISK-2025, ASOIU brings global experts together to generate policy insights on energy efficiency, economic resilience, and sustainable resource management—all vital to global poverty reduction.



[https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/3343](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/3343)

- Strategic University Partnerships – Collaborations with the University of Warwick, University of Strasbourg, and UAE University enhance policy exchange on sustainability education and equitable access to higher education.



[https://asoiu.edu.az/single\\_news/3103](https://asoiu.edu.az/single_news/3103)

Through these international collaborations, ASOIU acts as a policy convenor and thought leader, transforming research outcomes into actionable strategies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation.

ASOIU's integrated participation in policy-making at local, national, and global scales demonstrates its institutional commitment to ending poverty in all dimensions.

- Locally, it implements direct social-support and education-access policies.
- Nationally, it partners with government bodies to co-create frameworks for inclusion and employment.
- Globally, it engages in policy forums, EU-funded projects, and international networks advancing sustainable development.