

16.3.2 - Does your university as a body provide outreach, general education, upskilling and capacity-building to policy- and law-makers on relevant topics e.g. economics, law, technology, migration and displacement, and climate change?

Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University (ASOIU) provides targeted training, education, and capacity-building initiatives aimed at strengthening the skills and knowledge of policy-makers, government officials, and public-sector professionals in Azerbaijan and internationally.

Through its specialized centers, joint programs, and expert faculty, ASOIU plays an active role in bridging academia and governance, equipping decision-makers with up-to-date knowledge on technology, energy policy, climate change adaptation, digital transformation, and sustainable economic development.

1. Institutional Programs and Partnerships

ASOIU carries out structured upskilling and policy-education programs in collaboration with government bodies, ministries, and international organizations:

- **Ministry of Energy Collaboration:**

ASOIU experts regularly organize and deliver policy workshops and training modules on topics such as *energy efficiency, renewable integration, and carbon reduction*. These sessions target ministry officers and energy sector regulators.

- **SOCAR and Industrial Governance Training:**

Joint initiatives between ASOIU and SOCAR include capacity-building programs for safety regulation, production optimization, and environmental management, attended by both company executives and ministry representatives.

- **Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources Cooperation:**

The university provides training on climate change impact assessment, sustainable waste management, and environmental monitoring systems for government employees and municipal leaders, contributing to SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

- **Ministry of Science and Education Collaboration:**

ASOIU faculty contribute to digital transformation and higher education policy training, including seminars on e-learning systems, governance in education, and curriculum reform in line with *Work 4.0 and Industry 4.0* frameworks.

2. ASOIU Sustainable Development Center (SDC) Activities

The Sustainable Development Center (SDC) operates as a central hub for outreach and education under the university's SDG strategy. It organizes:

- Policy Dialogue Sessions between ASOIU researchers and government departments on climate resilience, renewable energy, and smart infrastructure.
- Capacity-building bootcamps under the “SDG Learncast” initiative, which include:
 - Azad Mirzajanzada Development Program — informative sessions for public institutions and municipal bodies.
 - Healthy Life Initiative — integration of SDG-based health awareness in workplace governance.
 - Women in STEM and Leadership Seminars — targeted at women policymakers and engineers in public service.
 - Parla for Girls Bootcamp — joint initiative with the Committee for Family, Women and Children's Issues.

Each of these programs enhances policy awareness, cross-sector understanding, and leadership capacity aligned with SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

3. Outreach to Policy and Law-Makers through Conferences and Public Events

ASOIU actively organizes and hosts:

- International Conferences on Sustainable Energy, Artificial Intelligence, and Industry 4.0, where government officials, regulators, and legislators participate in expert-led discussions.
- Public lectures and open forums for civil servants, parliament advisors, and policymakers on:
 - Digital economy and governance.
 - Climate change mitigation technologies.
 - Sustainable water and waste management.
 - Smart urban planning and green infrastructure.
- Short-term executive courses and certificate programs in:
 - Energy economics and environmental law.
 - Data governance and cybersecurity policy.
 - Artificial intelligence for governance systems.

4. International and Regional Policy Engagement

ASOIU's outreach extends beyond national borders:

- University experts contribute to regional education and sustainability networks (e.g., Work4CE project, EU Erasmus+ capacity-building programs).
- Collaboration with universities and ministries in Uzbekistan, Vietnam, and Türkiye through joint workshops for policy modernization.
- Participation in European SDG policy dialogues on sustainable industry, energy governance, and academic cooperation.

These activities are implemented through institutional collaborations with ministries, industrial partners, and international organizations, demonstrating ASOIU's direct contribution to policy learning, institutional strengthening, and good governance in alignment with SDG 16.3.2.