

Policy on Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Use

1. Purpose

Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University (ASOIU) is fully committed to promoting environmental responsibility and energy efficiency across all academic, administrative, and operational units.

This policy outlines ASOIU's principles and actions to ensure effective energy management, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and advance the use of clean and renewable energy sources within the university's infrastructure and research ecosystem.

The policy contributes directly to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 — Affordable and Clean Energy — and supports ASOIU's long-term vision of achieving carbon neutrality by 2040.

2. Energy Efficiency in New Buildings and Renovations

ASOIU is committed to ensuring that all new buildings, renovations, and campus expansions meet the highest standards of energy efficiency and sustainability.

All design and construction projects shall comply with relevant Azerbaijani national energy codes, as well as international standards (ISO 50001) for energy management systems.

Key measures include:

- **Green Building Standards:** All new campus facilities shall incorporate passive heating, improved insulation, efficient glazing, and optimized natural lighting.
- **ISO 50001 Alignment:** New buildings and major retrofits must integrate energy-efficient technologies and monitoring systems consistent with ISO 50001 guidelines.
- **Green-Building Training Programs:** ASOIU will continue developing training programs on sustainable architecture and engineering, enabling students and faculty to apply green-building principles in practice.

3. Upgrading Existing Facilities

ASOIU has initiated a phased Energy Retrofit Program to modernize existing buildings and laboratories for higher energy performance.

This process prioritizes structures with the greatest potential for energy savings.

Main focus areas:

- **Thermal Efficiency:** Reinforcing building insulation and replacing inefficient windows.
- **Lighting Efficiency:** Transitioning all campus lighting to LED systems and motion-sensitive controls.

- **Smart Controls:** Implementing automatic timers, occupancy sensors, and power-management systems in classrooms and offices.

4. Carbon Management and Renewable Energy Integration

ASOIU recognizes its institutional responsibility to reduce CO₂ emissions and foster clean-energy transition within the university community. The Carbon Management Plan, coordinated by the Sustainability Committee, focuses on:

Action Area	Description
Carbon Footprint Assessment	Annual measurement and publication of GHG emissions across all Scopes (1–3)
Renewable Energy Projects	Integration of solar panels, geothermal systems, and other clean-energy technologies
Emission Reduction Targets	10–15 % reduction by 2028; 30 % by 2030; Net-zero by 2050

5. Energy Efficiency and Behavior Change Plan

ASOIU’s Energy Efficiency Plan complements its Climate Action strategy and aims to reduce total energy consumption per m² across all campus facilities within five years.

Key strategies include:

- **Energy-Saving Practices:** Encouraging faculty, staff, and students to switch off lights, computers, and equipment when not in use.
- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** Installing on-site solar panels, geothermal heating systems, and low-energy laboratory equipment.

6. Energy Audits and Monitoring

ASOIU conducts annual energy audits to evaluate energy consumption and detect inefficiencies. Audits are performed by internal energy specialists in cooperation with certified external consultants.

Audit Element	Objective
Building Energy Audit	Identify consumption patterns, peak loads, and wastage points
Focused Improvements	Prioritize high-traffic areas, laboratories, and legacy infrastructure
Audit Follow-Up	Track progress and verify post-retrofit savings

All audit results are reported to the Sustainability Committee and integrated into the university's Annual Sustainability Report.

7. Ethical Investment and Decarbonization

ASOIU adheres to ethical investment principles by divesting from carbon-intensive industries and redirecting funds toward sustainable and low-carbon technologies.

Main directions:

- Sustainable Investments: Focusing on renewable-energy research, clean-technology start-ups, and environmentally responsible companies.
- Annual Review: The university's investment portfolio is reviewed yearly to ensure alignment with its decarbonization and sustainability goals.

8. Responsibilities and Governance

The implementation and monitoring of this policy are overseen by:

- Sustainability Committee (Chair: Rector or appointed Vice-Rector)
- Working Group for Environmental Governance
- Facilities and Infrastructure Department
- High-Performance Computing & Research Center (for data and energy-tracking analytics)

Progress reports are compiled annually and publicly shared through ASOIU's Sustainability Report and website.

9. Review and Continuous Improvement

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure alignment with:

- The latest Azerbaijani environmental regulations,
- Global sustainability frameworks (ISO 50001, GRI, SDGs), and
- Emerging best practices in academic energy management.

Revisions will be approved by the Rector and published for the ASOIU community.