

BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Baku Engineering University (BEU) fully supports **Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities**, which aims to reduce inequality within and among countries. BEU is committed to creating an inclusive, fair, and supportive environment where all students and staff—regardless of gender, disability, nationality, socioeconomic status, or background—can thrive and participate fully in academic and campus life.

2. OBJECTIVES

- Promote equity, accessibility, and diversity across all university operations.
- Ensure equal opportunities in admissions, employment, and leadership roles.
- Provide targeted support for underrepresented and vulnerable groups.
- Foster a culture of tolerance, respect, and social cohesion.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Inclusion:** Every student and staff member has the right to equal treatment and respect.
- **Accessibility:** Physical and digital environments must be inclusive and usable by all.
- **Equity:** Special support should be provided where systemic disadvantages exist.
- **Participation:** Encourage diverse voices in decision-making and governance.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES

This policy aligns with:

- Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development, particularly "Inclusive and Dynamic Society."
- State Program on Inclusive Education for Persons with Disabilities (2018–2024), promoting educational access and equity.
- Youth Policy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which supports social inclusion and youth empowerment.

5. ALIGNMENT WITH BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC GOALS

This policy supports BEU's strategic commitment to:

- Goal 1: "Inclusive Education and Equal Access for All"
- **Goal 4:** "Empowering Youth and Ensuring Student Success"
- Goal 7: "Strengthening Institutional Culture and Social Responsibility"

6. KEY STRATEGIES

6.1 Inclusive Admissions and Scholarships

- Provide scholarships and fee waivers for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Implement outreach initiatives for rural, low-income, and minority students.
- Monitor admissions processes to ensure fairness and transparency.

6.2 Campus Accessibility and Support

- Upgrade physical infrastructure to ensure accessibility for students with disabilities.
- Offer inclusive teaching materials and digital tools compatible with assistive technologies.
- Provide psychological and academic support services tailored to vulnerable groups.

6.3 EDiversity and Anti-Discrimination Training

- Deliver workshops on diversity, equity, and inclusion for students, faculty, and staff.
- Enforce a zero-tolerance policy against any form of discrimination or harassment.
- Celebrate cultural and international diversity through events and student clubs.

6.4 Representation and Participation

- Involve students from diverse backgrounds in university governance and committees.
- Support student-led initiatives focused on equity, inclusion, and community building.

7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The **Office of Student Affairs, Equal Opportunity Office**, and relevant academic units will co-lead implementation. Progress will be monitored using indicators such as:

- Representation data in admissions, staffing, and leadership
- Student satisfaction and participation from underrepresented groups
- Accessibility upgrades and utilization of support services

8. REVIEW AND REVISIONS

This policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure continued progress toward inclusivity and alignment with national laws and global best practices. Updates will be informed by campus feedback and external evaluations.