

BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 15: LIFE ON LAND

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Baku Engineering University (BEU) fully supports **Sustainable Development Goal 15: Life on Land**, which aims to protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, combat desertification, halt biodiversity loss, and promote reforestation. BEU is committed to incorporating land conservation into its operations, academic programs, and community engagement initiatives.

2. OBJECTIVES

- Promote sustainable land use and biodiversity conservation.
- Raise awareness of deforestation, land degradation, and species protection.
- Reduce BEU's ecological footprint through sustainable landscaping and resource use.
- Foster research and innovation in land restoration, agroecology, and soil health.

3. **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- **Conservation:** Support the protection and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems.
- **Biodiversity:** Promote the preservation of flora and fauna, including local species.
- **Responsibility:** Encourage responsible land use within the university and in community outreach.
- **Education and Innovation:** Inspire and train students to develop sustainable land solutions.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES

This policy aligns with:

- **Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities**, particularly "Clean Environment and Green Growth."
- National Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation (2017–2030)
- Reforestation and Land Restoration Program of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2020–2030)
- Law on the Protection of Green Areas and Forests

5. ALIGNMENT WITH BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC GOALS

This policy supports:

- **Goal 3:** "Sustainable Campus and Green Spaces"
- **Goal 5:** "Environmental Research and Ecosystem-Based Innovation"
- **Goal 7:** "Community Service and Ecological Awareness"

6. KEY STRATEGIES

6.1 Campus Greening and Sustainable Landscaping

- Increase green spaces and plant native trees and shrubs across campus.
- Use organic fertilizers and avoid pesticides in campus gardening.
- Develop eco-gardens and green roofs for educational purposes.

6.2 Education and Community Engagement

- Integrate forest conservation, land management, and soil science into curricula.
- Organize student-led campaigns on biodiversity and green space conservation.
- Partner with local schools and municipalities for tree-planting events and land restoration activities.

6.3 Research and Innovation

- Encourage interdisciplinary research in agroecology, reforestation, and desertification control.
- Support student projects related to soil health, sustainable agriculture, and carbon sequestration.
- Collaborate with NGOs and government agencies on biodiversity research and protection.

6.4 Policy Advocacy and Partnerships

- Join national programs on biodiversity and land restoration.
- Contribute to policy dialogue through academic papers and public lectures.
- Engage in international knowledge-sharing platforms on land sustainability.

7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The **Campus Sustainability Office**, along with relevant academic departments and research centers, will coordinate this policy. Key indicators:

- Number of trees planted and green areas maintained
- Participation in biodiversity and conservation activities
- Research outputs related to SDG 15 themes
- Engagement with external environmental partners

8. REVIEW AND REVISIONS

This policy will be reviewed every two years and revised based on national priorities, academic input, and sustainability reports. Continuous improvements will be made to ensure BEU's active role in protecting ecosystems and biodiversity.