

BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Baku Engineering University (BEU) is committed to supporting **Sustainable Development Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**, which promotes sustained, inclusive economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. BEU plays a key role in preparing students for the labor market, supporting entrepreneurial thinking, and fostering innovation-driven development aligned with national priorities.

2. OBJECTIVES

- Equip students with skills and knowledge for productive employment.
- Promote a fair, inclusive, and safe working environment for all staff and students.
- Foster university-industry linkages that drive innovation and local economic development.
- Encourage research and activities that support sustainable economic growth.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Employability and Innovation:** Prepare graduates to thrive in evolving job markets.
- **Labor Rights and Inclusivity:** Promote decent work conditions and non-discrimination.
- Partnerships with Industry: Enhance collaboration to meet labor market needs.
- **Economic Resilience:** Support local economies through entrepreneurship and applied research.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES

This policy supports:

- **Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities**, particularly "A Competitive and Inclusive Economy."
- Strategic Road Map for Vocational and Higher Education (2016–2025)
- State Employment Strategy of the Republic of Azerbaijan (2019–2030)
- Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Development Program

5. ALIGNMENT WITH BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC GOALS

This policy contributes to:

- **Goal 1:** "Industry-Relevant, Future-Oriented Academic Programs"
- **Goal 4:** "Empowered Students and Graduates for the Job Market"
- Goal 6: "Partnerships with Industry and Local Economy Support"

6. KEY STRATEGIES

6.1 Skills Development and Career Readiness

- Integrate soft skills, digital literacy, and entrepreneurial education into curricula.
- Offer career services including job fairs, CV workshops, and mentoring programs.
- Support internship placements and work-based learning experiences.

6.2 Fair and Inclusive Employment Practices

- Ensure gender equity and inclusiveness in hiring and promotions.
- Uphold labor rights and maintain safe, supportive work conditions.
- Provide professional development and lifelong learning for university staff.

6.3 University-Industry Collaboration

- Engage with local businesses, startups, and chambers of commerce.
- Promote innovation through industrial research, consultancy, and cocreation labs.
- Facilitate spin-offs and startup incubation for students and alumni.

6.4 Research and Local Economic Support

- Support economic research relevant to Azerbaijan's regional development.
- Host conferences, workshops, and public dialogues on sustainable economic trends.
- Encourage student-led projects addressing real-world economic challenges.

7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The **Career Development Center**, along with the **Entrepreneurship and Innovation Hub**, will coordinate implementation. Key performance indicators:

- Graduate employability rates
- Number of internships and career partnerships
- Faculty and staff satisfaction and upskilling programs
- Student involvement in entrepreneurial and economic development initiatives

8. REVIEW AND REVISIONS

This policy will be reviewed every two years to align with national employment and education policies, labor market trends, and institutional feedback.