

BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Baku Engineering University (BEU) supports **Sustainable Development Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**, which aims to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation. As a leading technical university, BEU plays a vital role in shaping a knowledge-based economy by promoting engineering excellence, research, and collaboration with industry.

2. **OBJECTIVES**

- Strengthen the university's role as a center of innovation and industrial research.
- Enhance university-industry partnerships to support sustainable development.
- Foster entrepreneurship, startup culture, and technology transfer.
- Develop modern, sustainable infrastructure on campus to support research and learning.

3. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Innovation-Led Growth:** Support economic growth through research and technological advancement.
- **Collaboration:** Build strong links between academia, industry, and government.
- **Sustainability:** Develop resilient infrastructure that is environmentally sustainable.
- **Capacity Building:** Empower students and faculty with skills in design, innovation, and commercialization.

4. ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL STRATEGIES

This policy aligns with:

- Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development, particularly "Competitive Economy" and "Inclusive Society."
- The Strategic Roadmap for the Development of Heavy Industry and Machinery (2016), emphasizing innovation, export-oriented production, and public-private partnerships.
- National Innovation Strategy (2023–2030), which aims to foster R&D and commercialization of science and technology in Azerbaijan.

5. ALIGNMENT WITH BAKU ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY STRATEGIC GOALS

This policy supports BEU's strategic transformation by aligning with:

- Goal 2: "Strengthening Industry-Academia Linkages"
- Goal 5: "Enhancing Research, Development, and Innovation"
- **Goal 6:** "Creating an Entrepreneurial Ecosystem on Campus"

6. KEY STRATEGIES

6.1 Research and Innovation

- Expand university research centers focused on advanced manufacturing, AI, and digital infrastructure.
- Support interdisciplinary research projects and international collaborations.
- Provide funding and mentorship for innovation-driven research initiatives.

6.2 Industry Engagement

- Establish Industry Advisory Boards for curriculum alignment and joint R&D.
- Partner with local and international companies on product development, prototyping, and testing.
- Facilitate internships, industrial placements, and applied student projects in industry settings.

6.3 Entrepreneurship and Startups

- Expand support for the university's startup incubator and accelerator programs.
- Offer training in business development, design thinking, and patent filing.
- Connect student innovators with funding agencies and investors.

6.4 Smart and Sustainable Campus Infrastructure

- Upgrade labs, classrooms, and IT infrastructure to support high-tech learning.
- Adopt digital tools and platforms for teaching, research, and administration.
- Apply green building standards in new construction and renovations.

7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Office of Research and Innovation, in collaboration with the Technology Transfer Office, will lead implementation. Monitoring will involve:

- Number of industry partnerships and joint projects
- Research output (publications, patents, prototypes)
- Number of startups launched by students/faculty
- Investment in campus infrastructure and lab modernization

8. **REVIEW AND REVISIONS**

This policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure its relevance to global trends in industry and innovation. Updates will incorporate feedback from industry partners, research staff, and students.

