2025 / ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

SDG 17 | Partnerships for goals

Khazar University · Baku, Azerbaijan

REPORTING PERIOD JANUARY–DECEMBER 2025

Institutional Approach

Khazar University works with universities, public institutions, civil-society organisations and industry partners to advance sustainable development. In 2025, these partnerships supported shared research infrastructure, interdisciplinary learning, public dialogue and student opportunities. This report presents documented activities and continuing institutional commitments.

8	**70+**	**3**
DIRNA partner universities	One Health researchers in 2025	AIESEC campus information sessions

17.1 Research into partnership for the goals

17.1 Research into partnerships for the goals

In 2025, the supplied Scopus dataset recorded **54 publications associated with SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)**, comprising 46 research articles, five book chapters, two review articles, and one conference paper. Khazar University-affiliated research addressed international investment, sustainable finance, environmental governance, and policy cooperation.

International research and sustainable investment

Huseynli et al. (2025), in *The Environmental Footprint of Foreign Investment in Bulgaria*, examined the relationship between foreign direct investment and carbon emissions. The study contributed evidence relevant to understanding how international investment and environmental sustainability interact.

Shahbaz et al. (2025), in *A Fuzzy Decision-Making Model for Enhancing Sustainable Tourism Investments in Climate-Vulnerable Destinations*, developed a framework for evaluating sustainable investment priorities, highlighting the importance of technological infrastructure, environmental considerations, and financial support.

García Alcaraz et al. (2025) investigated how government policies and environmental attitudes influence residential solar energy adoption in Mexico. Their findings provided insights into the role of public policy in encouraging environmentally responsible investment and technology adoption.

Sustainable finance and cross-sector development

Majidah et al. (2025), in *Computational Intelligence for Sustainable Banking: A Novel Fermatean Fuzzy LOPCOW–EDAS Framework*, developed a decision-making model for identifying sustainable banking strategies. The study highlighted digital green banking and technological innovation as priorities, contributing knowledge relevant to financial-sector participation in sustainable development.

International research networks and institutional cooperation

Through the Erasmus+ DIRNA project, the University coordinated cooperation among **eight Azerbaijani partner universities**, supported by European academic institutions. The shared institutional repository presented in January 2025 and subsequent RIMS training in April strengthened institutional capacity for research management and open-access knowledge sharing.

On 11–12 March 2025, the SORG4NOBAL partnership connected researchers and agricultural stakeholders from several European countries and Azerbaijan, including representatives of international organisations. The project provided a platform for sharing research expertise and discussing future cooperation in sustainable agriculture.

On 28–29 November 2025, the Fourth International One Health Conference brought together Khazar University, national health and food-safety institutions, and international academic partners. With more than 70 researchers and 24 presentations, the conference facilitated cross-sector dialogue on environmental and public health challenges.

Public-private partnerships and civil society engagement

The Sustainable City Project connected public education institutions, Türkiye-based Horizon Planning, and universities from Azerbaijan and Türkiye through three collaborative training phases in 2025. The partnership demonstrated how academic and professional expertise can be combined in practical sustainability education.

On 22 September 2025, Khazar University signed a cooperation memorandum with AIESEC Azerbaijan, followed by student information sessions introducing international volunteering and professional development programmes.

Cooperation with the Erasmus Student Network also advanced discussions on student integration, international mobility, and institutional networking.

These initiatives strengthened research cooperation, cross-sector dialogue, and educational partnerships supporting sustainable development.

Selected Research Publications (2025)

1. **Huseynli, B., Kandemir Comoglu, G., & Huseynli, N. (2025).** The environmental footprint of foreign investment in Bulgaria. *International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy, 15*(5), 606–613. DOI
2. **Shahbaz, M., Yüksel, S., Eti, S., Dinçer, H., & Khamdamov, S.-J. (2025).** A fuzzy decision-making model for enhancing sustainable tourism investments in climate-vulnerable destinations. *Journal of Environmental Management, 380*, 125151. DOI
3. **García Alcaraz, J. L., Díaz Reza, J. R., Márquez Figeroa, L. J., Aryanfar, Y., Rodríguez Álvarez, J. L., & Realyvásquez Vargas, A. (2025).** Influence of government policies, environmental concerns, and attitudes toward solar panel purchase intention. *Journal of Cleaner Production, 491*, 144765. DOI
4. **Majidah, M., Rahadian, D., Firli, A., Kusairi, S., Eti, S., Yüksel, S., & Dinçer, H. (2025).** Computational intelligence for sustainable banking: A novel Fermatean fuzzy LOPCOW–EDAS framework. *International Journal of Advanced Computer Science and Applications, 16*(12), 747–753. DOI

17.2 Relationships to support the goals

In January 2025, the DIRNA team presented its shared institutional repository. Subsequent RIMS training in April and international partner seminars helped participating universities develop research-management and inclusive education skills. These training activities supported practical cooperation among participating universities.

On 11–12 March 2025, SORG4NOBAL brought together academics, agricultural organisations, farmers and international partners to discuss climate-resilient crops and nature-based solutions. The Fourth International One Health Conference on 28–29 November brought together more than 70 researchers and 24 presentations on public health, food systems and the environment. Both events created opportunities for dialogue across sectors.

In partnership with public and private actors, Khazar contributed to the Sustainable City Project across three 2025 stages, including the October workshop and November international phase. The University also met the State Employment Agency about student employment, supported the EUROSTUDENT survey and signed an agricultural research agreement.



Cooperation with non-governmental organisations was also part of the year's work. AIESEC Azerbaijan is a youth-led, not-for-profit organisation. It held a March information event at Khazar, signed a cooperation memorandum with the University in September, and joined the Career and Alumni Center for October and December sessions on Global Volunteer, Global Teacher and Global Talent. These activities introduced students to international volunteering and development opportunities.



In June, the University also met the international and Azerbaijani representatives of the Erasmus Student Network, an independent student non-profit organisation, to discuss student integration, ongoing initiatives and future cooperation. These exchanges supported student networking and access to international learning opportunities.



17.3 Publication of SDG reports

Khazar University makes sustainability information available through public institutional reports. Its Sustainable Development Goals 2024 Summary Report presents activities across all 17 goals and provides a reference for following progress over time.

The University is compiling its 2025 sustainability reporting around the same goal-by-goal structure, connecting activities to their dates and source records. Publication of the approved 2025 reports will provide readers with a consolidated account of that reporting year.

The University's sustainability reporting and research networks bring together information from different academic and administrative units and offer a basis for future assessment and learning.

17.4 Education for the SDGs

The University offers sustainability-related subjects in its course catalogue and degree programmes. A documented Fall 2025 Sustainable Tourism syllabus explores the environmental, economic and social dimensions of tourism. The curriculum also includes subjects on water resources, environmental science and human rights.

Learning also extends beyond enrolled students. On 2 June 2025, the Life Sciences team hosted school pupils for biodiversity education. DIRNA training and international project workshops provided further opportunities for participants to exchange knowledge about education and sustainable development.



Selected Activities in 2025

2025	ACTIVITY
10 Jan	DIRNA joint repository presentation
7 Mar	AIESEC student information event
11–12 Mar	SORG4NOBAL international project conclusion
17 Apr	DIRNA RIMS research-management training
30 May–3 Jun	Sustainable City Project, first phase
23 Jun	Erasmus Student Network cooperation meeting
22 Sep	AIESEC Azerbaijan cooperation memorandum
24 Oct	AIESEC volunteer and exchange programme session
27–31 Oct	Sustainable City Project, second phase
28–29 Nov	Fourth International One Health Conference
12 Dec	AIESEC international programme session

2025 Overview

In 2025, Khazar University advanced shared research systems, cross-sector dialogue, international education and cooperation with civil society. Completed events and training activities are distinguished from agreements that set the direction for future joint work.