KHAZAR UNIVERSITY

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

2024

SDG 1 REPORT

Baku, Azerbaijan 2024

SDG 1

No Poverty

Khazar University actively supports SDG 1 by eliminating financial barriers to education and promoting equitable opportunities for all learners. The University supports this commitment through the following efforts:

🎓 Scholarships for financially vulnerable students;

🤝 Social support programs for students from low-income families;

✅ Zero exclusion policy — no student left behind because of financial barriers.

Nailekhanim Foundation Scholarship, provided by Khazar University, offers a high-profile competition-based full scholarship for a gifted female student, regardless of national background and citizenship.

The year **2024** marks a significant milestone as Khazar University celebrates its first graduate of the prestigious Nailekhanim Foundation Scholarship, Brilliant Windy Khairunnisa.

[Congratulations to Brilliant Windy Khairunnisa, the First Graduate of the Nailekhanim Scholarship! - NEWS-Khazar University](#)

Also, in 2024 Nailekhanim Foundation presented the scholarship certificate to Sri Lankan

citizen Dona Nayanathara Ranmalie Amunarawa.

In addition to scholarships, Khazar University also recognizes and rewards outstanding student achievements. On June 4, 2024, an awards ceremony was held to honor students who successfully represented the university in national and international events and projects. The event was attended by the university's founder and Chairman of the Board of Directors and Trustees, Prof. Acad. Hamlet Isakhanli; Rector Assoc. Prof. Irada Khalilova; Vice Rector for Administration and Student Affairs, Isakhan Isakhanli; as well as faculty deans, university staff, and students.

([Students Honored at Extracurricular Achievement Awards Ceremony - NEWS-Khazar University](#))

In addition, Khazar University provides **need-based scholarships** in the following cases:

- when one or both parents are employed at Khazar University
- when two or more siblings from the same family are studying at Khazar University
- for students from martyr families
- for students from families of veterans or individuals disabled as a result of the Karabakh war
- in the event of the loss of both parents
- if a student loses one of their parents during their studies

In addition to need-based support, Khazar University attracts high-achieving students globally through its Excellence Scholarship, which fully covers the tuition fees of

outstanding international applicants. The university also awards merit-based scholarships covering 75%, 50%, or 25% of tuition fees. Furthermore, academically successful master's and PhD students have the opportunity to engage in teaching activities and receive a monthly salary to support their living expenses.

Khazar University also takes timely action to address the challenges faced by its **Education Grant recipients**. On January 12, 2024, the International Relations Office organized a meeting with scholarship students to discuss their academic and social concerns and to identify appropriate support measures.

([Meeting with Education Grant Recipients - NEWS-Khazar University](#))

Khazar University also supports its student community by empowering financially and socially sustainable startups through relevant education, mentorship, and resource provision. One notable example is the **NextKhazar Idea Show** — an innovation-driven startup initiative designed to build a supportive ecosystem for the development of impactful entrepreneurial ideas.

At the final event of the Idea Show, the following outstanding projects were recognized:

1st place: *Mahsa Javan and Deniz Zareian (Iran)* — for exploring the use of Urmia Lake algosomes as sustainable delivery systems for anticancer and antibacterial agents.

2nd place: *Aygun Mursadova (Azerbaijan)* — for "Green Sphere," an AI-integrated solution

using eco-friendly biomaterials to address environmental challenges.

3rd place: *Shafa Yusifova (Azerbaijan)* — for "Shafa's Class," an educational platform designed to make biomaterials science more accessible to learners.

4th place: *Salar Hooshyar and Mehrnoosh Nemati (USA)* — for developing a promising hydrogel aimed at promoting tissue regeneration and angiogenesis for advanced wound care.

On May 1–2, 2024, Khazar University students participated at the **"GreenTech"** Azerbaijan Startup and Green Technologies Competition. The University was represented by chemical engineering students Turan Huseynzadeh, Leyla Yusifzadeh, and Javidan Shukurov, who are currently in their 2nd and 3rd years of study. Competing among 66 teams, they successfully secured a cash prize of 200 AZN. At the conclusion of the event, the organizing partner, AzerSun company, presented additional gifts to the participants.

(["GreenTech" Azerbaijan Startup and Green Technologies Competition - NEWS-Khazar University](#))

On March 30, 2024, the final event of the "Smart Solutions" incubation program, funded by the Innovation and Digital Development Agency under the Ministry of Digital Development and Transport, was successfully organized by the Khazar University Development Center.

The winning teams of the program were announced as follows:

1st Place — ECWA (Express Connection with an Ambulance Device) Afat Ahmadova, Shafa Yusifova, and Aisha Bashirli — senior Chemistry-Biology students at Khazar University — secured first place and were awarded a prize of **3,000 AZN**.

2nd Place — Medappoint (Medical Appointment App) The second-place award of **2,000 AZN** was presented to a team consisting of Khazar University master's students in Computer Systems and Networks — Yusif Oruclu, Ugur Huseynli, Fatima Alizade, and Roya Yusifbeyli — alongside Roya Yusifbeyli, a third-year Journalism student at Baku State University.

([Final Event of "Smart Solutions" Incubation Program Held - NEWS-Khazar University](#))

Khazar University also ensures that students are well supported in preparing for professional life by offering targeted training sessions and workshops designed to enhance their understanding of the labor market and connect them with relevant industry stakeholders.

For example, on **June 11, 2024**, Khazar University hosted **"AccessBank Day"** for senior students majoring in Computer Science and Computer Engineering. During the session, the Education and Development Manager at AccessBank provided an overview of the bank's operations, mission, and strategic objectives. Students were also informed about the **IT Summer School program** and the bank's recruitment procedures. A Business Partnership Specialist from AccessBank further delivered a practical session covering recruitment strategies, career planning, personal branding, CV writing, interview preparation, and common interview questions.

(Accessbank Day at Khazar University - NEWS-Khazar University)

On September 30, 2024, the University organized a meeting between a representative of the **Education Student Credit Fund** and first-year fee-paying students of Khazar University. The representative talked about issues such as the initial conditions for granting education student loans, stages, and advantages of loan terms, inviting students to take advantage of these opportunities.

(Education Student Credit Fund Representative at "Khazar" - NEWS-Khazar University)

On **October 1, 2024**, representatives from **Fairmont Baku** met with students majoring in Tourism Management. The Director of Human Resources introduced the hotel's history, mission,

operational principles, and presented a **student-focused unpaid internship program**. Following the session, students participated in internship interviews, and **10 successful candidates were selected for a three-month internship** at the hotel.

([Fairmont Baku at Khazar University - NEWS-Khazar University](#))

On **December 17, 2024**, Information Session from Azerbaijan International Bank at Khazar University for 3rd and 4th-year students of the School of Economics and Management was delivered. As part of International Bank's **"Dual Hour"** project, Afandi Aliyev — a Business Credit Analysis Department specialist and instructor at Khazar University — delivered a presentation on **"The Role and Importance of Financial Analysis in Corporate Banking."** He discussed topics such as corporate financing processes, market efficiency, information asymmetry, and core credit analytical competencies, and also provided students with information on **current job vacancies** at the bank.

([Information Session from Azerbaijan International Bank at Khazar University - NEWS-Khazar University](#))

Overall, Khazar University actively contributes to **SDG 1: No Poverty** by ensuring equitable access to higher education through comprehensive **need-based scholarships, tuition discounts, and financial support programs** for students from vulnerable and low-income backgrounds. The university also provides **employment and internship opportunities for graduate students**, and supports financially sustainable entrepreneurship initiatives, helping students and the wider community gain long-term economic resilience.