

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Sustainable development advocate | Women’s empowerment | Agriculture | Lecturer | M&E | Passionate about rural projects

Experienced professional specializing in event management and sustainable development. Proven expertise in crafting assessment forms, establishing field standards, drafting strategy documents, devising business development plans, designing training programs, formulating marketing strategies, and conducting project monitoring and evaluation.



KONUL KAZIMOVA
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CAREER SUMMARY

- **Khazar University**
Lecturer 2018-Present
- **COP29 United Nations Climate Change Conference**
Airport (GYD) Operations Coordinator
September-December 2024
- **SOLIMAR International, Consultant**
South Caucasus Regional Tourism Program
July -August 2024
- **State Tourism Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan**
Senior advisor, Regional tourism development division
April 2018-February 2024

My responsibilities included developing and managing event projects for Developed and implemented sustainable regional tourism strategies and destination development plans. I determined the workload and oversaw the activities of working groups and subordinate institutions within the agency. I directly participated in joint projects with international organizations such as USAID, GIZ, and the EU, as well as NGOs. Additionally, I prepared training materials, evaluation criteria, and business development plans to enhance professionalism in the tourism industry, with a focus on agro/eco-tourism destinations. I developed budgets for the next fiscal year for subordinate organizations and presented them to management, and I prepared and submitted project reports to management. As part of these efforts, I integrated women empowerment initiatives, focusing on increasing women's participation in rural tourism and agritourism sectors through capacity-building programs, mentorship, and access to business development resources.

- **“Agrivision” project funded by EU, January-August 2021, national expert**
Selection of entrepreneurs in the regions based on project requirements, development of criteria, preparation of evaluation forms, selection of grant competition winners, conducting final monitoring and evaluation of the project, and providing training to entrepreneurs on business, social media, and entrepreneurship

Lecturer

- Azerbaijan University of Tourism and Management / part-time | 2015-2022
- ADA University – Capstone project / Academic supervisor | 2020
- Baku State University / part-time | 2018
- ANADOLU University / Eskishehir ERASMUS+ | March 2017
- Azerbaijan University/ part-time | 2017 - 2018
- Azerbaijan State University of Economics / part-time 2014

Deliver lectures and seminars in:

General Economics, Destination Management, Micro and Macroeconomics, Tourism Economy, Economy of Social Sphere, Hotel Management, Marketing in Tourism and Hospitality, Tour Operators and Travel Agencies, and more.

- Develop learning materials and prepare schemes of work.
- Maintain records to monitor student progress, achievement, and attendance.
- Assess coursework and develop/mark examinations.
- Supervise and assist students with course-related issues.

LANGUAGES

- Azerbaijan-mother language
- English-professional working proficiency
- Russian- professional working proficiency
- Turkish- professional working proficiency

Education

- **ADA University | Master's Program 2024**
Major: Agricultural and Food Systems Management
- **UNEC | Master's degree in Economics of social sphere 2012-2014**
Specializing: Tourism and hospitality
Thesis: The impact of the tourism industry on the socio-economic development of the regions.
- **Baku Slavic University | Bachelor in Linguistics 2007-2011**

Professional skills

Project Management | Monitoring and Evaluation | Event Planning and Management | Marketing and SMM | Communication and Organization | Research and Presentation | Adaptability to Change | Computer Proficiency (Windows, MS Office, Teams, Zoom)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CONFERENCES

1. **European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Food Innovator Fellowship Program**
Funded by EU and EIT |June-December 2024 (online and onsite program)
2. **Professional Fellows Program (PFP) sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State.**
Research area: “Empowering female farmers’ participation as leading women in tourism”
US, Arkansas State Parks, Heritage, Tourism Department May-June, 2024
3. **"Agribusiness and Agritourism", Tokachi, Japan 2021 (8-29 November)**
Courses: Agriculture in Tokachi and Obihiro (agricultural cooperatives), bakery production, production and processing of agricultural products, dairy farming, tourism and agriculture
4. **“Advancing the tourism industry in the post COVID-19 pandemic era in a sustainable way while considering the green transition in tourism”, Korea 2021**
KOPIST scholarship, Courses: Sustainable tourism methodology, Rural tourism, Impact of technology in the development of the rural areas.
5. **"Tourism development policies" training course, Japan 2019**
JICA funded, Courses: Rural development, Sustainable tourism, Destination development policies, Project management, Crisis Management and etc.
6. **"Green development and Cooperation in the context of BRI", training course, China 2019**
Ministry of Commerce People's Republic of China Program Funded
7. **"Promoting Regional Tourism Cooperation under CAREC 2030" seminar, Tashkent, Uzbekistan 2018**
8. **II. International Symposium on Strategic and Social Research, Ankara, Türkiye 2018**
9. **International Symposium on Multidisciplinary Academic Studies, Berlin, Germany 2018**
10. **International Symposium on Strategic and Social Researches, Samsun , Turkey 2018**

PROJECTS/Events

1. **EVENT: "Earth Day" campaign in Lankaran | Author and organizer**
Partners: USAID, Eurasian Partnership Foundation, Local Governance Assistance Public Union, Khazar Palace Hotel Lankaran, Lankaran ExCom, Local municipalities (Submitted in the official web site of earthday.org)
2. **EVENT: Azerbaijan Tourism Summits 2019, 2022 (working group)**
3. **EVENT: UNWTO Tourism Ministers Meeting in Azerbaijan 2019 (working group)**
4. **Agritourism Handbook | Project Author, content developer USAID funded**
USAID funded
5. **"Guidebook" for guesthouse owners| Content reviewer and developer, GIZ funded**
6. **"Agritourism training" TOT project | Content reviewer and developer GIZ funded**
7. **"Promotion of agribusinesses and gastronomy tourism in touristic regions of Azerbaijan." Funded by USAID CNFA**
8. **"Bela-bela işlər" tourism project funded by USAID**
9. **Duties:** Identified farms with agritourism potential, prepared assessment documents and business development plans, provided trainings on topics, "General tourism", "How to start to agritourism activities"
10. **"Training needs Assessment" Project | Project author and coordinator**
"Promoting Entrepreneurship for Tourism Industry Competitiveness" training course ORGANIZED by SESRIC
11. **"Baku Bus audio guide"project**
12. **Monitoring and evaluation expert on the implementation of grant projects funded by the State Tourism Agency."**
13. **"Health tourism of Azerbaijan" evaluation report document**