



NJC «Kazakh National Agrarian Research University»

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# **University's Sustainable Development Strategy**

## **"Kazakh National Agrarian Research University"**

### **for 2024-2028**

#### **Concepts**

Almaty 2024

# **University's Sustainable Development Strategy**

## **"Kazakh National Agrarian University" for 2024-2028**

### **General Provisions**

The definition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) presented in the Our Common Future report is as follows: "Sustainable development is the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

This guide offers a comprehensive framework for the application of the Kazakh National Agrarian Research University's (KazNARU) concept of sustainable development in the university's development strategy. It is specifically designed to assist members of the KazNARU planning committee, as well as user and campus planning committees, user and building committees, and project teams in understanding and implementing the sustainability policies outlined in the Concept University's Sustainable Development Strategy.

The Concept provides an overview of the key principles underpinning the KazNARU work on implementation of SDGs, highlighting the importance of balancing environmental, social, and economic sustainability considerations. It also outlines a range of practical strategies for integrating sustainable development into the university's planning, design, construction, and operation processes. The guide emphasizes the critical role of collaboration and stakeholder engagement in achieving sustainable development outcomes, and provides guidance on how to engage with stakeholders and build effective partnerships. Additionally, it highlights the importance of monitoring and evaluation in ensuring the ongoing effectiveness of sustainability initiatives. Overall, this Concept serves as a valuable resource for KazNARU staff and stakeholders seeking to promote sustainable development and embed sustainable practices in the university's daily operations.

This **Concept University's Sustainable Development Strategy** aims at achieving the following goals:

- 1) Ensure the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the educational process and widely use them in the preparation of specific educational programs and courses.
- 2) Ensure that campus construction projects reflect the sustainability goals set out in the Campus Plan.

- 3) Provide a decision-making process to determine the costs and benefits of developing and certifying a project to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).
- 4) Ensure greater consistency and transparency in the decision-making process regarding sustainability and green building design.
- 5) Inform project teams of the university's expectations regarding the implementation of sustainable practices in construction projects
- 6) Provide information on approaches and practices that can be integrated into planning and in the planning and construction of future buildings and structures.

**The role of the Kazakh National Agrarian Research University:** the university can contribute to the planning, development, and rational implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Kazakh National Agrarian Research University can mobilize research potential to plan public expenditures and private investments, plan and implement environmental and operational spending, and develop and master new technologies that reflect the most valuable alternative uses of natural resources in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**The Kazakh National Agrarian Research University** holds tremendous potential to drive research and student capabilities towards the promotion of environmental protection and development, while also adopting novel technological advancements. The implementation of the "Sustainable University Development Strategy" can serve as a valuable tool in integrating the university's development goals into the educational and research process.

#### **Ensuring the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the educational process and widely using them in the preparation of specific educational programs and courses.**

Many of the university's sustainability initiatives affect the entire academic experience. For example, training programs may cover transportation demand management (TDM), recycling and waste management, as well as training in sustainable farm, heifer and building planning, integrated water and wastewater management, parking management and energy management.

Thus, the data "Strategy for the Development of a Sustainable University" includes strategies for organizing the educational process for the entire campus, which can be used by members of the committee (committees) for planning educational programs when making decisions about the planning and development of specific courses, as

well as strategies for specific faculties that can guide project, educational and consulting groups.

## **Implementation of the “Strategy for the Development of a Sustainable University” in Campus Development**

The Concept defines a set of principles, policies and actions aimed at improving the overall sustainability of the campus as a whole. The plan and these guidelines recognize that the university must fulfill its mission and legal requirements for the provision of postsecondary education. secondary education.

Principle No. 1 of the Campus Plan states: In making development decisions, priority will be given to the academic, teaching and research needs of the university.

This guide offers options for fulfilling the University's academic mission in a manner that is socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable. The guide is intended to assist campus planning committees, campus staff, users, building and building design committees in making decisions about campus sustainability, including new construction, major renovations, campus planning decisions, and new facilities.

## **Implementing Campus Sustainability by developing and certifying a project to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design).**

Selected strategies may be incorporated into building design and campus planning if the university determines that the strategies are feasible and beneficial given the unique characteristics of the site and building. This decision will be based on an assessment of several factors, including, but not limited to:

- 1) Compliance with the academic mission and strategic direction of the university
- 2) General academic benefit, including research opportunities, technology transfer potential, and/or demonstration opportunities
- 3) Compatibility with the proposed construction program
- 4) Environmental benefits (for the project and the campus as a whole)
- 5) Capital costs
- 6) Saving operating costs
- 7) Maintenance, durability and warranty
- 8) Aesthetics and design consistency

Sustainability investments will be assessed on a project-by-project basis to ensure they provide benefits to the university, taking into account the wide range of costs and benefits as outlined above.

The University recognizes that sustainability goes beyond construction projects. The University has made significant investments and made significant progress in the areas of energy management, clean water and storm-water management, TDM, environmental protection and restoration, and responsible waste management. It is expected that future construction projects will take into account and strengthen these initiatives.

**Ensuring greater consistency and transparency in decision-making related to sustainability and green building design.**

The University will develop a Campus Plan that contains principles and policies aimed at creating a more social, environmental and financial sustainability of the campus and integrating sustainability principles into green building designs. The plan clearly recognizes that sustainable development includes:

- Opportunities to improve social interaction through design at a human scale
- ensuring sustainable transport infrastructure and programs
- Protection and improvement of ecologically significant natural areas
- Commitment to low-impact development and green buildings
- responsible land management through the use of smart growth/efficient development principles.

The University recognizes that its buildings and facilities have an impact on those who use them.

In addition, it is recognized that water use, site drainage, energy consumption, building materials and construction techniques have long-term impacts on the off-campus environment.

The University is committed to implementing sustainable practices in the planning, construction and operation of its buildings and facilities.

**Communicating the university's expectations to project teams regarding the implementation of sustainable practices in construction projects**

KazNARU plans to communicate to project teams the university's expectations for implementing sustainable practices in construction projects and the associated campus plan and green building design policies.

**Academic Integration:** The University will strive to ensure that academic priorities, compact development and sustainable development principles, compact development and sustainable development principles are integrated in the planning and construction of all new facilities.

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The Concept of "University's Sustainable Development Strategy" was developed in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Charter of NJC "Kazakh National Agrarian Research University" to regulate the main relations to ensure sustainable development of KazNARU and it was prepared by the International Office of NJC "Kazakh National Agrarian Research University".