

APPROVED

Vice-Rector for International Relations

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REPORT

on the activities of the Institute of Green and Sustainable Development for the academic year 2023-24 on promoting the Sustainable Development Goals and the university's Green Campus program

During the academic year 2023-2024, and from July to December 2024, the Institute for Green and Sustainable Development (hereinafter referred to as the Institute) carried out activities in the implementation of its position, strategies for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), carbon footprint assessment, and the development of regulatory documents for publication on the official website.

The Institute's work was structured in five key areas:

1. Raising awareness and competencies in the field of sustainable development
2. The Institute organized trainings and online seminars for students and faculty, coordinated startup projects, promoted active involvement of students and faculty in activities related to international rankings (GreenMetric, QS, etc.), and held meetings on improving the university's position in these rankings.
3. Development of international cooperation
4. Interaction with foreign partners within the framework of SDG implementation, attraction of foreign students, establishment of new academic and scientific contacts, as well as integration of international professors into the educational programs of the university.
5. Promotion of the international image of KazNARU
6. Analysis of data for international rankings, implementation of the strategy to increase the position of the university in QS and GreenMetric, publications in the leading media and social networks (Instagram, Facebook, etc.) to strengthen the reputation of the university in the international arena.
7. Participation in international programs and scientific and educational projects
8. Development and submission of applications for international grants and competitions, participation in research initiatives and projects in the field of sustainable development.
9. Extracurricular initiatives for green campus development
10. Implementation of “Green Campus” and “Green Office” programs, development of volunteer movement among students, organization of environmental events (tree planting, plastic recycling, startup projects, thematic seminars), as well as participation in national and international competitions aimed at sustainable development.

Analytical report on the activities of the Institute for Green and Sustainable Development for the academic year 2023-2024 and the period from July to December 2024

1. Raising awareness and competencies in the field of sustainable development

During the academic year 2023-2024, the Institute actively conducted activities to increase knowledge and skills in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Greenmetric conferences and DSDM teleconferences were organized, flyers on sustainability course were developed, concepts on gender policy and other strategic documents were written. Participation in the MDP Global Classroom lecture (at Columbia University) and writing professional development documents contributed to improving the professional skills of university faculty and staff.

This section includes activities designed to enhance knowledge and skills in the area of sustainability. Conferences, courses, and lectures help students and faculty better understand the importance of sustainability and incorporate its principles into the classroom and daily life.

- Hosting a Greenmetric conference and a DSDM teleconference to discuss best practices and innovations in sustainability.
- Developing a sustainability course flyer that includes basic principles and practices to improve environmental awareness.
- Writing concepts on gender policies and other strategic documents that promote inclusive and sustainable educational environments.
- Participating in the MDP Global Classroom lecture (at Columbia University) to discuss global challenges and solutions for sustainable development.
- Writing professional development documents aimed at improving the professional skills of university faculty and staff.

- *2. Development of international cooperation*

- The Institute has paid much attention to the development of international cooperation. During 2024, memorandums were signed with Idgir University (Turkey), Erbakan University (Turkey) and Nebraska Lincoln University. Meetings were also held with Rubicon (Australia), Chinese delegation, university representative from Germany and Google AI representative. The Institute was actively involved in preparing documentation for the startup training and the award ceremony for Prof. Aleksi Kwilinski from Poland. These efforts strengthened academic ties, shared experiences and knowledge,

and promoted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as quality education and partnerships to achieve the goals.

- Efforts to establish and strengthen international ties are described below. Meetings, signing agreements and memoranda with foreign universities and organizations facilitate the exchange of experience, joint research and educational projects, which enhances the global competitiveness of KazNARU.
 - Preparing for the exhibition “3rd IPEKYOLU Turkish University Promotion and Student Registration Fair”, which promotes the exchange of cultural and educational experience.
 - Meeting with Rubicon, Australia to discuss joint projects and cooperation opportunities.
 - Signing an agreement with Erbakan University, Turkey, to strengthen academic ties and exchange students.
 - Signing an agreement with Nebraska Lincoln University to establish a dual degree program and a joint Extension Center.
 - Meeting with Chinese delegation to discuss educational programs and research.
 - Signed an agreement with Almaty Creative Hub to host joint events and support creative initiatives.
 - Signing a memorandum with Idgir University, Turkey, to expand international cooperation.
 - Meeting with a university representative from Germany to discuss academic exchange opportunities.
 - Meeting with a representative from Google AI to train employees on artificial intelligence skills.
 - Meeting with Afghan students to discuss their educational needs and support.
 - Meeting with American Corner representative in Almaty to organize joint educational activities.

3. Promotion of the international image of KazNARU

- The Institute worked actively to develop the image of the University on social media and in the media. During 2024, the Institute activated the EMBA/IMBA Instagram, increasing the number of followers from 1,300 to 5,022 and publishing more than 130 pieces of content covering academic achievements,

events and initiatives. A MODELUN_KAZNARU page was also maintained, highlighting student activities and participation in international model UN organizations. The Institute prepared a media plan for information support to branches of foreign universities for 2024, organized an essay competition in English among students and participated in the Connected international conference in Astana. These efforts promoted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as quality education and partnerships to achieve the goals. The Institute actively participated in the rebranding of the university, which included updating the visual identity and communication strategies.

- This section covers activities aimed at increasing the international recognition of the university. Participation in conferences, exhibitions and other international events helps to promote the image of KazNARU, demonstrating its achievements and capabilities in the global arena.
- - Writing press releases about past events to inform the public about the achievements of the university.
- - Preparing for the Model UN KazNARU event, which promotes the development of leadership and diplomatic skills of students.
- - Participation in the international conference Connected in Astana, where global trends and innovations were discussed.
- - Screening of a documentary film from the British Consulate, which emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and cultural exchange.

4. Participation in international programs and scientific and educational projects

- The Institute actively participated in international programs and scientific and educational projects. Applications for US and Erasmus+ grants were prepared, questionnaires for the Eurasia Foundation and UI GreenMetric were completed. The Institute worked on the Erasmus+ EDUFUSION NSG project, collected information on QS sustainability and translated Valley (Valmont) presentations into Russian-Kazakh languages. Meetings were also organized with the American Corner representative in Almaty and documents were prepared for Professor Andrew Zimbroff. These efforts contributed to the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as quality education (SDG 4), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), sustainable cities and human settlements (SDG 11), peace and justice (SDG 16), and partnerships to achieve the goals (SDG 17).
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- Projects and programs in which KazNARU participates are described below. Preparation of grant applications, participation in international rankings and cooperation with foreign partners contribute to the development of scientific and educational activities and attraction of additional resources.
- - Preparation of application for the US grant to finance scientific research and educational projects.

- - Preparation of Erasmus+ agreement for participation in European educational programs.
- - Completion of a questionnaire for the Eurasia Foundation to provide data on mobility and training programs.

- Completion of forms and documents to apply for the Erasmus+ EDUFUSION NSG project grant, which is aimed at the development of higher education.

- Participation in an online meeting on UI GreenMetric to discuss the university's environmental performance.

- Working on Erasmus+ EDUFUSION NSG project documents, including poster design and meeting organization.

- Gathering information on QS sustainability to assess the university's environmental sustainability.

- Translation of Valley (Valmont) presentation into Russian-Kazakh to improve communication with partners.

5. Extracurricular green campus initiatives

- The institute has been actively engaged in extracurricular initiatives to develop a green campus. During 2024, banners were prepared and installed for the Water Hub (Nebraska Center), faculty plastic collection for the Coca-Cola Company, and events were organized to support the conservation of the Sievers apple tree. The Institute also developed the UNL Extension Center concept to optimize farmer training and transfer of new technologies into production. Preparations were made to participate in agricultural fairs to discuss innovative methods and sustainable practices. These efforts contributed to the promotion of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as quality education (SDG 4), industrialization, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), sustainable cities and human settlements (SDG 11), peace and justice (SDG 16) and partnership to achieve the goals (SDG 17).
- The following reflects the main activities of the Institute for Green and Sustainable Development, its contribution to the development of the university and the promotion of sustainable development in the international arena. This section includes activities aimed at creating a sustainable campus. Collecting plastic, installing banners, and creating an Extension Center help to implement environmental practices and raise awareness among students and staff about the importance of protecting the environment.
- - Preparing the Extension Center at the Water Hub for hospitality and training sessions.

- - Collecting plastic from faculties for Coca-Cola to support recycling initiatives.
- - Preparing a banner for the Water Hub (Nebraska Center) to raise awareness of environmental projects.
- - Installing a banner at the Water Hub (Nebraska Center) to highlight sustainable practices and technologies.
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- Rankings
- KazNARU participated in the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking program. KazNARU ranked in UI GreenMetric World University Ranking (Asia) - 2023 - 639th place in the world (7th place in Kazakhstan), in 2024 - 720th place in the world (9th place in Kazakhstan).