STATE TOURISM AGENCY

AZƏRBAIJAN TOURISM AND MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY

CLIMATE ACTION POLICY

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Introduction

Climate change is a significant change in average weather conditions over several decades. What distinguishes climate change from natural weather variability is its long-term trend. Climate change is caused by releasing greenhouse gases such as CO2, CH4, and N2O into the atmosphere due to human activity.

Azerbaijan Tourism and Management University (ATMU) acknowledges that climate change has a key role in solving globally important problems affecting education, active action and campaigning in environmental fields, and the formation of future leaders. ATMU is interested in contributing to sustainable ecology through partnerships and implementing joint initiatives, in addition to decarbonization as the primary goal of ATMU.

Legal Base

ATMU public legal entity implements its action policy on climate change by the current legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Law on Joining the Kyoto Protocol on the "United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change", Article 21 of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change The activity will be regulated based on the law on the approval of the Paris Agreement, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Order of the Cabinet of Ministers, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the National Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, and the decisions of the Ministry of Emergency Situations. ATMU's climate change action plan complies with national and international legal norms.

Objective

At a time when there are many environmental problems and threats, climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss, and excess of harmful gases are calling for everyone to contribute towards global sustainability. Thus, since 2024, ATMU has been obliged to integrate environmental education, organization and promotion of activities in this direction, and all other aspects of its Sustainable Development goals. The main objective of the Climate Policy is to create a framework for the integration of activities reflected in

the action plan and implementation strategy into all aspects and to make positive contributions towards the further strengthening of global efforts against climate change, as well as the implementation of measurable climate action initiatives.

The Climate Action policy defines the implementation of strategies and the organization of activities based on the sustainable principles of ATMU and creates the legal basis, objectives, current status, and strategic basis for effective implementation, stakeholder involvement, monitoring, and continuous improvement.

Basic Principles

ATMU's climate change action plan aims to integrate scientific research for a more prosperous future.

The principal objectives of ATMU are to spearhead sustainability initiatives with an academic foundation and identify practical solutions to current issues.

ATMU's climate action policy encompasses measures and regulations designed to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.

ATMU's main objectives are to manage and raise environmental literacy and to ensure staff members and students actively engage in climate change-related activities.

Organise activities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, explore international and local experiences, and explore and provide opportunities for implementing sustainable practices.

Engage the local community, partners, and stakeholders; promote and strengthen initiatives; shape ATMU's ability to adapt to environmental changes and challenges.

Current Situation

As the global population continues to grow, the demand for affordable energy increases. Unfortunately, economies based on fossil fuels make a significant contribution to climate change. Investing in renewable energy sources like solar, wind, and thermal energy is critical to ensuring energy access for all. Furthermore, increasing energy efficiency, expanding infrastructure, and developing technology are all essential steps

towards promoting growth while reducing environmental impact. ATMU has also modernized heating systems and brought efficiency and environmental cleanliness to the fore. We moved away from diesel and now use mainly gas and electricity. These improvements allow us to optimize energy use through sophisticated regulation capabilities in line with our commitment to sustainability.

ATMU's mission is to protect, restore, and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems while combating desertification, land degradation, and biodiversity loss.

Biodiversity and natural habitats are integral to ensuring global food and water security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and promoting peace and stability. The aim is to promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and the sustainable management of forests to prevent biodiversity loss, combat desertification and halt land degradation. ATMU participates in events focused on the organization of relevant activities and seminars, environmental impact, and encourages students.

- ATMU has started using a hybrid car since 2023

- used batteries are collected in boxes designated by the university

a) for recycling, paper waste generated within the university is collected and delivered.

b) To prevent water wastage by providing a sustainable approach to water conservation by using ATMU underground water resources, various educational posters are used in the university's sanitary facilities.

Since 2024, ATMU has been actively working on regulating organizational carbon emissions, and various collected statistical indicators have been published.

Strategy Implementation

The environment and climate change are the focus of ATMU's climate action policy, and the tourism industry is impacted by global warming. ATMU focuses on training tourism experts to promote ecological consciousness, sustainable culture, and a more sustainable future. The choice to accomplish the aims and objectives of the policy implemented in

ATMU forms the basis of the implementation strategy and planning of the climate action policy.

The decision to accomplish the aims and objectives of the policy implemented in ATMU serves as the foundation for the implementation strategy and planning of the climate action policy. The implementation and applications of ATMU's Climate Action Policy are intended to both adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

ATMU accepts the current challenges and its responsibility for implementing sustainability goals by developing a short and long-term strategy to ensure the implementation of activities and strategic measures, as well as compliance with national and international standards.

The implementation strategy aims at the short-term and long-term action plan:

Short-term action plan (3-5 years):

1. Ensuring a review of the climate action policy document and establishing a follow-up mechanism to align it with sustainability standards
2. Regularly organizing seminars and trainings with the participation of local and foreign trainers and ensuring the involvement of ATMU academic and administrative staff, and students to increase awareness about climate change
3. Gathering and analyzing new data to ensure the effectiveness of climate action policies and analyzing opportunities for application to ATMU
4. Organization of activity by handing over monthly and annual reports to the Sustainable Tourism Development Team on Sustainable Development on the collection, calculation, distribution, and accountability of Carbon Emissions reports for each calendar year within ATMU
5. Improvement of LED lighting from energy-saving technologies in the lighting system of ATMU campuses
6. Installation of comprehensive recycling bins in ATMU campuses and ensuring accountability
7. Formation of the inter-structural statistical base mechanism for the implementation of the commitments of the Sustainable Development Team on Sustainable Development

8. Investigating and evaluating partners, establishing short-term and long-term cooperation to attract stakeholders for the Climate Action policy

Long-term action plan (10-13 years):

1. Organization of application of drip irrigation method to irrigation of greenery located within the territory in the formation of the project framework for the new campus building of ATMU
2. Preparation of the framework for providing energy supply and hot water supply at ATMU at the expense of heat energy obtained from solar panels and organization of activities and consulting services on its application to current ATMU educational buildings
3. Preparation of the project to be implemented on the organization of the use of economical and sensory lights within the educational institution and the organization of the measure on supply, finance, and utility
4. Forming a proposal and mechanism for the implementation of renewable energy projects
5. To store rainwater for water conservation in ATMU, to ensure its use as secondary water by recycling the stored water, setting the conditions for infrastructure, finance, utility, planning for the use and control of facilities
6. Forming a climate research team at ATMU, creating opportunities for cooperation with local and international institutions, organizations, and centers
7. Creating conditions for Students to be able to use bicycles easily and comfortably based on the conditions of infrastructural possibilities
8. Examining the conditions for making green building certificates valid and determining the mechanism and framework for organizing activities in this direction

Stakeholder Engagement

In organizing the participation of stakeholders, it aims to choose according to the principles of climate policy

Financial support is essential for the successful implementation of proposals and projects. Financial supporters are internal financial sources, external grants, and strategic partnerships.

Closely integrating student organizations operating at ATMU into activities

Collaborating with local government, local communities, and regulatory agencies on environmental compliance

Establishment of cooperation in the direction of regulating the support of NGOs in ATMU activities

Expansion of work with alumni and expansion of relations on the participation of alumni, taking advantage of their contributions

Strategic partnerships of activities to expand relations with sponsors

Expansion of cooperation on the implementation of joint activities and projects with internationally cooperating higher education institutions

Monitoring & Evaluation

This Climate Action Policy expresses ATMU's commitment to environmental protection while also emphasizing the monitoring and evaluation of strategic steps that the university intends to take to integrate sustainability into core operations. The implementation of such strategic measures should be considered as a step towards environmental protection and sustainability, not only ATMU.

Checking the implementation of the implementation process based on the principles of the climate action policy, suspending the activity if it is not justified, and taking special measures

Development of performance indicators, dynamic indicators on energy consumption, waste, specific and measurable criteria

Preparation of the application mechanism of requests and control of data collection

Conducting surveys among students, ATMU staff, and stakeholders

Organization of surveys among society in the direction of social activism, social values

Organization of impartial assessment by external audits

Adaptation to organizational forms of compliance with environmental standards

To be responsible for the transparency, effectiveness, and efficiency of monitoring, to conduct repeated checks on mistakes made.

Outcome & Reporting

1. Ensuring accountability in the implementation of strategies by establishing an implementation control mechanism
2. Organization of monthly, quarterly, and annual reports and regular internal audits related to the determination of risks on the activity of strategic steps, consideration of probabilities
3. Organization of a mechanism for recording opinions, opinions, comments and suggestions recorded during the process, examining and responding to compliance options
4. Regularly meeting with the participation of interested parties, organizing seminars, sharing ideas, and carrying out activities on the implementation mechanism
5. Providing accountability for work carried out to stakeholders, social media, and relevant institutions
6. Open and transparent presentation of the monitoring report conducted on relevant evaluation indicators in the process of implementing the climate action policy internally and for society;
7. Presentation of calculations, tables, and dynamic indicators that reflect the reality, according to the measurement criteria
8. Substantial justification of the mechanism of organizing dynamic indicators

Resource Allocation

1. To implement the ATMU Climate Action Policy, resources are required to be allocated strategically to support sustainability initiatives in a variety of areas.
2. Procurement of supplies for the benefit of climate action Financial resources based on sustainable investment in procurement processes

3. Promoting the importance of a collaborative approach, education, as well as educating ATMU students, academic and administrative staff in contributing to climate resilience Internal Human Resources
4. External human resources consisting of NGOs, local communities, relevant partners, government agencies, alumni, local and international delegations
5. Staff members of internal documentation and responsible structures for statistical data collection
6. Use of Innovative Technologies required by modern times and adaptable to ATMU infrastructure
7. Availability of infrastructure for the use of reduced energy devices and sources in ATMU buildings, auditoriums, and rooms used by students and employees
8. Using supplies to build existing sustainable climate functionality skills

Periodic Updating

ATMU's Climate Action policy is committed to responding to new challenges and opportunities in the field that benefit the environment, education, and society, as well as pursuing meaningful and long-term sustainability.

Should be updated periodically:

ATMU Climate Action Policy with the requirements of the times, changes in direction, activities, and criteria, and (or) in case of incorrect approaches

When the relevant laws change, expire, and (or) come into force of a new law

When the efficiency and usefulness of the step taken is low and (or) absent

When a new direction is formed during the execution of activities

In the event of force majeure

When there are institutional changes

Stakeholder involvement, our operating environment, internal documentation and/or any other relevant process