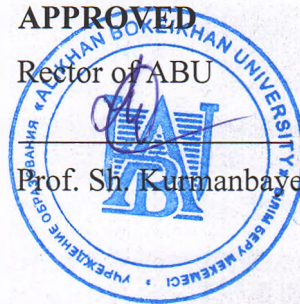


APPROVED

Rector of ABU

Prof. Sh. Kurmanbayeva



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
OF ALIKHAN BOKEIKHAN UNIVERSITY UNTIL 2030**

Introduction

Alikhan Bokeikhan University, considering its socially oriented nature and roots in regional history, actively participates in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations. Building upon the rich heritage of Abay, Shakarim, Mukhtar, and the history of the Alash Movement, Alikhan Bokeikhan University aspires to be a leader in advancing education, culture, and social responsibility. The university, in close collaboration with the Akimat and local executive bodies, sees itself as a driver of sustainable development in the region.

The specificity of the region becomes particularly important in the context of SDGs due to the legacy of the Semipalatinsk Nuclear Test Site, which has left its mark. The university plays a role as a research center actively involved in addressing issues related to environmental consequences. Among the university's priorities are strengthening health and well-being, ensuring access to quality education, supporting gender equality, and reducing inequality. Active engagement with local authorities, society, and a focus on supporting the younger generation play a key role in achieving sustainable development goals.

The university is committed to the sustainable development of the region and its community, taking responsibility for actively participating in shaping a sustainable and prosperous society.

1. Current university position evaluation:

Alikhan Bokeikhan University, located in the city of Semey, Abay region, Republic of Kazakhstan, has been operating as a non-governmental educational institution since 1998. In 2021, based on the decision of the sole founder dated August 26, 2021, the Kazakh Humanitarian Law Innovative University was renamed into Alikhan Bokeikhan University. The university holds an unrestricted State license (series KZ04LAA00032042, issued on September 17, 2021) for conducting bachelor's, master's, and doctoral programs, as well as qualification enhancement and retraining programs, and informal education.

Accredited by the Association of Modern (Elite) Education of Kazakhstan (KAZSEE) until June 18, 2028 (certificate No. 23/16KA0033), the university offers diverse programs in 16 bachelor's, 9 master's, and 6 doctoral programs in Kazakh, Russian, and English.

The university possesses developed infrastructure, a strong scientific and professional potential, and the integration of modern information technologies. It is noteworthy that the university has a Military department in accordance with the Government Resolution of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 977.

In 2022, responding to the national initiative for IT workforce development in Kazakhstan, Alikhan Bokeikhan University, with the support and direct involvement of the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations, and Aerospace Industry of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the International IT Startup Park "Astana Hub", and the Center for the Development of Payment and Financial Technologies of the National Bank of Kazakhstan, launched the regional technocluster "Abai IT-Valley".

Emphasizing inclusive education, the university has established a Correctional Class where students, under the guidance of professors and specialists, acquire practical skills in working with children with special educational needs, including speech disorders, autism spectrum disorders, etc.

In 2022, a Resource Center for Psychological and Pedagogical Support was opened at the university, equipped with everything necessary for the development of inclusive practices and the exchange of experience among educators.

The university actively participates in the development of innovative educational programs, such as "IT in Healthcare," created in partnership with the Medical University of Semey.

Internationally, the university implements joint programs with foreign universities and opened the "Center for Kazakh Language, Culture and Scientific and Technical Information Exchange named after Abai" at the Technical University of Sofia, Bulgaria.

As part of the university's sustainable development strategy aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the presented information demonstrates the university's commitment to education, innovation, inclusivity, and diversity in collaboration.

2. Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging stakeholders within the framework of the Sustainable Development Strategy of Alikhan Bokeikhan University (ABU) until 2030, in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is a comprehensive process aimed at incorporating the opinions and interests of various groups to ensure broad support and successful implementation of the strategy.

1.1. Internal Stakeholders:

- Faculty and teaching staff.
- Administrative personnel.
- Students and graduates.
- Parents of students.
- Youth and student organizations.

1.2. External Stakeholders:

- Employers and businesses.
- Local communities and non-governmental organizations.
- Government authorities and educational institutions.
- Partners and sponsors.
- Media and educational experts.

The interaction of Alikhan Bokeikhan University (ABU) with key companies and organizations can be closely aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Below are examples of how ABU's partnerships can contribute to achieving specific SDGs:

Goal 4: Quality Education

- Partnership with the academic community and employers contributes to the realization of the university's strategy and mission, influencing the provision of quality education.

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

- Collaboration with the National Bank of Kazakhstan and other companies in the field of economics and finance contributes to the professional growth of students and prepares them for decent work.

Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- Partnership with the city's IT department and telecommunication companies supports the development of innovation and digital infrastructure at the university.

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals

- Interaction with various social partners and employers supports point 17, fostering the creation of partnerships to achieve common goals.

Additional aspects of sustainable development include:

- Partnership with sports federations and associations promotes physical activity and health care, aligning with aspects of sustainable development related to health and well-being.

Goal 5: Gender Equality

- Partnerships in the technology and telecommunications sector can contribute to reducing gender inequalities and ensuring access to education for women.

Goal 10: Reduced Inequality

- Collaboration with population employment centers can help reduce social and economic inequalities by providing opportunities for employment and career development.

These partnerships and collaborations form a comprehensive approach to sustainable development, providing students not only with quality education but also with real opportunities for professional and personal growth, thereby aligning with the key goals of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda

3. Key directions and goals of the university in the context of UN SDGs

Alikhan Bokeikhan University, in its strategy for the period until 2030, focuses on several key areas to effectively contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Among the priorities are the development of innovative educational programs, stimulation of scientific research, strengthening environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and contributing to economic development. The university aims to become a center that unites efforts to create a sustainable educational and social environment.

Alikhan Bokeikhan University (ABU) can make a significant contribution to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by focusing on the following key areas:

1. Education (Goal 4: Quality Education):
 - Development of innovative educational programs and methodologies.
 - Support for access to education for all segments of the population.
 - Stimulation of research activities and the development of technological competencies.
2. Innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure):
 - Promotion of scientific research and innovation in collaboration with the industry.
 - Development of digital infrastructure and technological potential.
 - Support for startups and entrepreneurship.
3. Environmental sustainability (Goals 11, 12, 13, 14, 15: Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life on Land):
 - Development of environmental programs and research.
 - Implementation of sustainable consumption and production practices.
 - Promotion of environmental awareness and education.
4. Social responsibility (Goals 3, 5, 8, 10: Good Health and Well-being, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Reduced Inequality):
 - Implementation of programs to improve health and well-being in society.
 - Promotion of gender equality and reduction of social inequalities.
 - Development of projects contributing to employment and economic development.
5. Economic development (Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth):
 - Support for business education and entrepreneurial initiatives.
 - Training in skills aligned with the needs of the labor market.
 - Collaboration with companies to create internships and job opportunities for students.

Alikhan Bokeikhan University aims to become a center that integrates efforts and resources to achieve these key areas, thereby ensuring not only quality education but also making a significant contribution to the social and sustainable development of the Abay region and Kazakhstan.

4. Integration of UN SDGs into educational programs

The integration of sustainable development principles into educational programs is a crucial step for Alikhan Bokeikhan University. Plans include the creation of courses and programs actively supporting sustainable development goals. As part of this initiative, the implementation of the ERASMUS+ Project “Development of innovative curricula and modules

in Circular Economy and Sustainable Development” is envisaged. The main focus will be on creating Circular Economy courses for Bachelor's, Master's, and lifelong education courses.

Additionally, there are plans to reorganize the Center for economic research into the Center for economic research and sustainable development. This transition reflects the university's commitment to more active involvement in sustainability, ensuring deep engagement with economic development and sustainability issues. All these measures aim to integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals into educational processes and prepare students to address current sustainable development challenges.

Alikhan Bokeikhan University is actively working on expanding its educational programs in line with global trends and student needs. There are plans to launch a joint educational program in Tourism and Hospitality Management with universities in Bulgaria, Switzerland, and Poland. This partnership aims to create unique educational opportunities and facilitate the exchange of experiences among students from different cultures and countries.

Furthermore, the university is actively developing programs in the field of inclusive education. Staff members have undergone training at the Vensor Autismo Center in Portugal, enriching the experience and preparation of teachers for the successful implementation of inclusive educational programs at Alikhan Bokeikhan University. These initiatives underscore the university's commitment to diversity in educational offerings and the creation of accessible and high-quality educational practices.

Alikhan Bokeikhan University is actively involved in the development of scientific research addressing issues related to sustainable development, a key aspect of the university's strategy. The university encourages and supports an active research community, including both scholars and students, encouraging their participation in projects related to the UN SDGs.

As a multidisciplinary educational and research center in the Abay region, Alikhan Bokeikhan University plays a crucial role in implementing an innovative research policy. The university is accredited as a subject of scientific activity, conducting research aimed at improving the socio-economic development of the region and the country as a whole.

The primary goal within the university's development strategy is to enhance the economic potential of scientific research and increase their contribution to socio-economic development. Specific objectives have been set to achieve this goal, including strengthening the intellectual potential of science, modernizing scientific infrastructure, and improving the quality and effectiveness of research.

The university is actively developing research centers and laboratories, such as the “Alashtanu” research center, “Current Issues in Jurisprudence” research center, the Economics Research Center, and the Onomastic Research Center. These centers and laboratories conduct important research relevant to the region and society as a whole.

In its activities, the university strives to integrate into the international scientific community through the internationalization of education and science. The expansion, support, and stimulation of scientific research are directed toward contributing to the resolution of global issues, including those outlined in the UN SDGs agenda.

5. Communication and Public Engagement:

Alikhan Bokeikhan University's communication strategy in the field of sustainable development actively utilizes various platforms to achieve maximum impact:

1. Social media platforms:
 - Instagram and Facebook: With a combined subscriber base of over 26,000 individuals, the university regularly publishes content about its sustainable development initiatives, including visual materials, interviews, and reviews.
2. Website:
 - “Sustainable Development” section: With over 1,000 website views per day, the university provides detailed information about its projects, scientific research, and achievements in the field of sustainable development.

3. Student initiatives:
 - Projects and events: Support and promotion of student projects in sustainable development, considering active student participation and creating public space for idea exchange.
4. Feedback and dialogue:
 - Feedback forms: Regular surveys and discussions on social media platforms, allowing more than 26,000 subscribers to express their opinions and suggestions.
5. International interaction:
 - Collaboration updates: Publication of information on international projects, including joint programs with universities from other countries and participation in UN SDG projects, to reach a broader audience.
6. Innovative programs:
 - Drawing attention to projects: Active promotion of innovative educational programs, such as the ERASMUS+ project developing courses on circular economy and sustainable development.

These figures confirm the successful use of communication strategies for maximum transparency and public engagement in sustainable development processes.

Conclusion:

By the year 2030, in the implementation of Alikhan Bokeikhan University's sustainable development strategy, we will achieve the following:

1. Integrated education: The university will provide education aimed at shaping a sustainable society, with integrated programs reflecting the principles of sustainable development.
2. Global partnerships: Strengthened international connections and partnerships with leading educational institutions worldwide, fostering the exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of sustainability.
3. Active research: The university will focus on research addressing key issues in sustainable development, with innovative projects and scientific achievements at the forefront.
4. Advanced public engagement: The strategy will contribute to active public participation in university projects, ensuring broad involvement and feedback, making the university's activities more transparent and society-oriented.
5. Sustainable regional development: The university will play a key role in ensuring sustainable development in the region, implementing innovative methods, and supporting economic and social development.

In conclusion, Alikhan Bokeikhan University will become a center for education and research, contributing to the integration of sustainable development principles into educational, scientific, and societal practices, thus contributing to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

*Approved at session of the Academic Council on September, 27, 2023
Protocol №1*