

# AZERBAIJAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS (UNEC)

## SDG PROGRESS REPORT 2024

# Table of Contents



- 1** Executive Summary
- 2** Overview of Findings
- 3** Methodology
- 4** Identifying Keywords
- 5** Findings
- 6** UNEC Sustainability Curriculum & the UN Sustainable Development Goals
- 7** UNEC Sustainability Activities
- 8** Conclusion

# Executive Summary

Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) is dedicated to advancing the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—a set of 17 global objectives aimed at addressing critical social, economic, and environmental challenges.

Through its initiatives in education, research, and community engagement, UNEC actively contributes to building a more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable future for all.

UNEC's Sustainability Curriculum is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aims to educate students on various sustainability topics, such as environmental conservation, climate change, renewables energy, sustainable agriculture, biodiversity, and more. The curriculum directly and indirectly contributes to achieving the 17 SDGs, which addresses global challenges like poverty, hunger, health, education, gender equality, clean energy, sustainable cities, climate action, and partnerships. By integrating the SDGs into the curriculum, UNEC prepares students to contribute to a sustainable and inclusive world.

# Overview of Findings

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) encompass a broad spectrum of global priorities, including poverty eradication, quality education, gender equality, clean energy, sustainable cities, climate action, and more. Achieving these goals requires collective action, and institutions - especially universities - have a vital role to play. By aligning their strategies, policies, and activities with the SDGs, universities contribute through research, education, and innovation, driving progress toward a more sustainable and equitable world.

Figure 2 displays the distribution of courses for each UN SDG across aggregate, primary, and related categories. It is evident that UNEC has a strong focus on UN SDG 8 (Decent work and Economic Growth), with approximately 13% of courses being primarily and secondarily related to this goal.



**Figure 1. Table breakdown of the number of courses for each SDG, divided among aggregate, primary, and related.**

**Total: 159 UNEC graduate and undergraduate courses, offered years 2023-2024**

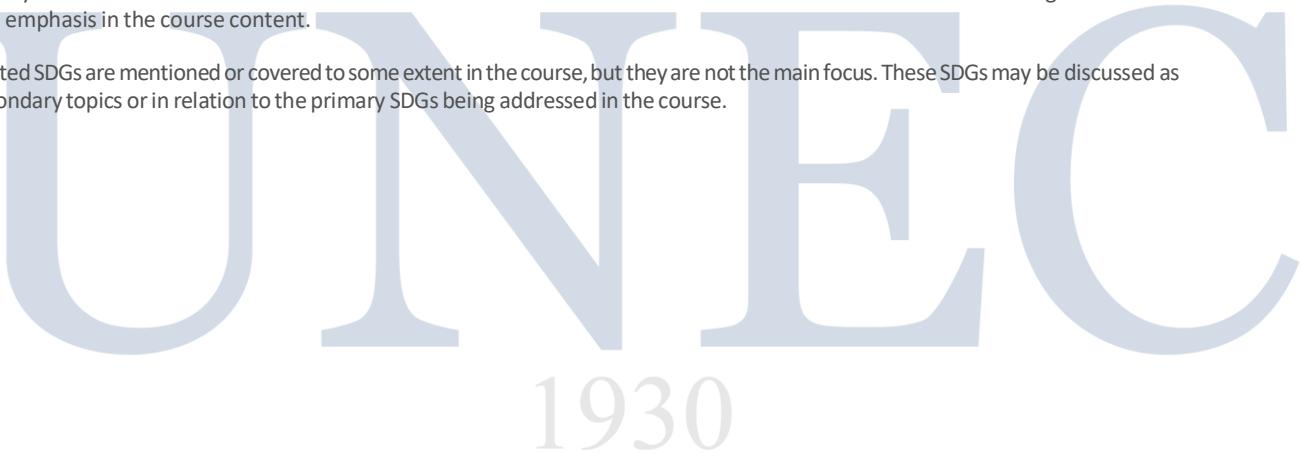
UN SDG #	All Courses		
	Agg. Course Count <sup>1</sup>	Primary SDG <sup>2</sup>	Related SDGs <sup>3</sup>
1. Good health and well-being	12	8	4
2. Gender Equality	3	2	1
3. Clean water and sanitation	7	5	2
4. Affordable and clean energy	4	3	1
5. Decent work and economic growth	21	15	6
6. Industry, innovation, and infrastructure	15	8	7
7. Responsible consumption and production	16	11	5
8. Climate action	9	6	3
9. Life Below water	4	3	1
10. Life on land	6	4	2
11. Partnerships for the goals	6	3	3
12. No poverty	17	10	7
13. Zero hunger	17	7	10
14. Peace, justice, and strong institutions	3	2	1

UN SDG #	All Courses		
	Agg. Course Count1	Primary SDG2	Related SDGs3
15. Reduced inequalities	7	5	2
16. Quality education	7	4	3
17. Sustainable cities and communities	10	6	4

<sup>1</sup> The aggregate course count refers to the total number of courses, including those that primarily focus on specific Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and those that touch on SDGs as related topics.

<sup>2</sup> Primary SDGs are the main or most relevant SDGs addressed in the course. These SDGs are the central focus and receive significant attention and emphasis in the course content.

<sup>3</sup> Related SDGs are mentioned or covered to some extent in the course, but they are not the main focus. These SDGs may be discussed as secondary topics or in relation to the primary SDGs being addressed in the course.



# Methodology

## UNEC's Assets of Sustainability Courses

UNEC's list of sustainability courses for 2023 includes 159 courses divided into two categories: sustainability-focused and sustainability-inclusive.

Sustainability-focused courses examine topics through the lens of sustainability, even if the course title or description does not use the term "sustainability." There are a total of 62 sustainability-focused courses in the inventory, with 52 offered at the undergraduate level and 10 at the graduate level.

Sustainability-inclusive courses devote at least one unit or section to a sustainability topic or have direct applications in sustainability fields. There are a total of 97 sustainability-inclusive courses in the inventory, with 81 offered at the undergraduate level and 16 at the graduate level.

**Figure 2. Table breakdown of sustainability-focused and sustainability- inclusive courses.**

	Undergraduate Courses	Graduate Courses	Total Courses
Sustainability – focused	52	10	62
Sustainability – inclusive	81	16	97

# Identifying Keywords

Keyword identification and analysis can be relevant across multiple SDGs when it comes to monitoring, reporting, and assessing progress towards achieving the goals. Keywords can be used to identify specific targets, indicators, and areas of focus within each SDG. For the purpose of creating this report, some of the keywords were taken from the research paper developed by the University of Toronto [1] and some were added by the research team of UNEC.

The team utilized Google Sheets to identify relevant courses based on keyword searches. They then reviewed each course description and aligned them with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The team used the online descriptions of the SDGs provided by the UN as a basis for categorizing and aligning the courses.

The reason for that is to identify areas where higher educational institutions are making significant contributions to the SDGs and areas where more attention or resources may be needed to further align education with sustainable development goals.

[1] Brugmann et.al. (2019) "Expanding Student Engagement in Sustainability: Using SDG- and CEL-Focused Inventories to Transform Curriculum at the University of Toronto" <https://www.mdpi.com/398572>

**Figure 3. Table showing the keywords used to map the course curriculum by UN SDGs.**

**Total: 128 Keywords**

<b>UN SDG #</b>	<b>Keywords</b>
No Poverty	poverty, income distribution, wealth distribution, socioeconomic
Zero Hunger	agriculture, food, nutrition, hunger
Good Health and Well Being	health, well-being, mortality, death, disease
Gender Equality	gender, women, equality, girl, queer, female, feminism
Clean Water and Sanitation	water, sanitation, wastewater, drought, rivers, aquifers, wetlands, oceans, marine, hydro-(logy), groundwater
Affordable and Clean Energy	energy, renewable, wind, solar, geothermal, hydroelectricity, energy efficiency, electricity
Decent Work and Economic Growth	employment, economic growth, sustainable development, labor, worker, wage, GDP, economic
Industry, innovation and infrastructure	infrastructure, innovation, industry, buildings
Responsible Consumption and Production	consume, production, waste, natural
Climate Action	climate, greenhouse gas, environment, global-warming, weather, natural resource, ocean, marine, water, pollute, conserve, fish, sea

<b>UN SDG #</b>	<b>Keywords</b>
Life on Land	forest, biodiversity, ecology, pollute, conserve, land use
Life below water	ocean, marine, water, pollute, conserve, fish, sea
Partnerships for the goals	Collaboration, Multi stake holder partnerships, Global cooperation, Public-private partnerships, Cross-sectoral partnerships, Sustainable development cooperation, Knowledge sharing
Peace, justice and strong institutions	Peacebuilding, Conflict resolution, Rule of law, Access to justice, Good governance, Human rights, Democracy
Reduced inequalities	Social justice, Equal opportunities, Inclusive policies, Equity, Access to resources, Gender equality, Social inclusion, Health equity, Social mobility
Quality education	Access to education, Equitable education, Inclusive education, Lifelong learning, Education for all, Universal primary education, Literacy, Numeracy, Education infrastructure, Curriculum development, Pedagogy, Education technology, Skills development
Sustainable cities and communities	Urban planning, Sustainable urbanization, Compact cities, Green infrastructure, Public transportation, Affordable housing, Sustainable energy systems, Waste management

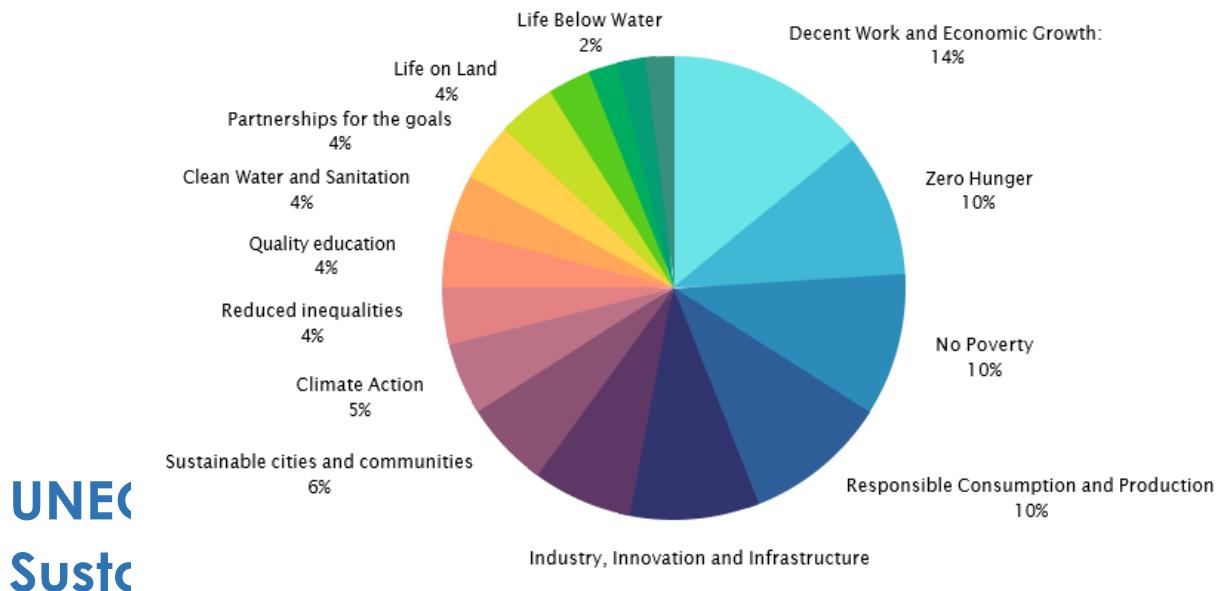
# Findings

In Figure 4, it is shown that certain SDGs were more prominently represented in the UNEC course list compared to others. The most represented SDG was UN SDG 8: Decent work and Economic Growth, accounting for 13% of the courses. The second most represented SDG was UN SDG 1: No poverty, with a representation of 10%. UN SDG 2: Zero hunger followed closely as the third most represented SDG, also at 10%.

On the other hand, some SDGs were relatively underrepresented in the UNEC course list. UN SDG 5: Gender Equality, UN SDG 7: Affordable and Clean energy, and UN SDG 16: Peace, Justice and strong institutions were the least represented, accounting for 3%, 3%, and 2% respectively.

These percentages indicate the relative emphasis of the UNEC curriculum on different SDGs, with SDGs 8, 1, and 2 receiving more attention and SDGs 5, 7, and 16 having less emphasis on the course offerings.

**Figure 4. Aggregate Course Count vs. UN SDG #**





- Fundamentals of entrepreneurship and Introduction to Business Management
- Price policy
- Social entrepreneurship
- Micro Economy
- Cost management
- Risk and control
- Agrarian economy
- Packaging of food products
- Nutritional supplements
- Grain technology
- Technology of confectionery products
- Technology of plant products
- Fruit and vegetable technology
- Food drying technology
- Meat technology
- Milk Technology
- Cheese technology

- Health and safety
- Nutrition and health in food engineering
- Production technology of medicinal plants
- Ecology and life safety
- Sustainable tourism
- Organization of treatment and health tourism
- Sanitation and hygiene in tourism
- Civil defense and primary medical care
- Innovation and evaluation in healthcare
- Healthcare financing
- Introduction to Epidemiology
- Legal and ethical issues in health care

1930

- Fundamentals to gender equality
- Social work practice with people with disabilities
- Social work practice with the elderly people
- Social work practice with youth
- Social work practice with migrants
- Social work practice with individuals, groups and families
- Innovation and evaluation in healthcare

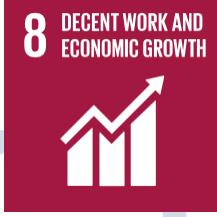
- Fundamentals to gender equality
- Fundamentals of Human rights
- Social work practice with individuals, groups and families
- Air and water quality, pollution and protection
- Climate and water
- Ecological issues of the oil refining industry
- Air and water quality, pollution and protection

UNEAC 1930



**7** AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

- Environmental problems of oil refining industry
- Comparative Land and Marine Ecology
- Climate and water



**8** DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Biosphere and protection
- Industrial ecology
- Ecological safety of alternative energy sources
- Renewable and sustainable energy



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Basics of economic dynamics
- Economy of Azerbaijan
- Fundamentals of Business Management
- International Business
- Business strategy
- Development economics
- Macroeconomics of developing countries
- Role of institutions in development
- Development microeconomics
- Development management
- Ethical principles in social work practice
- Social work practice with individuals, groups and families
- Management in social work practice
- Fundamentals of social work practice
- Social work practice with migrants
- Social work practice with youth
- Social work practice with the elderly people
- Social work practice in organizations and communities
- Economics and management of social work practice
- Advanced social work practice
- Social work practice with people with disabilities



**10** REDUCED INEQUALITIES

- Innovation economy
- Technology and innovation management
- Basics of machine production technology
- Innovations, technologies and investments
- Materials, social impact and social innovation
- Innovation and commercialization of materials technology
- Industrial safety
- Economical industrial production
- Quality control in industry
- Industrial robot engineering
- Innovations in social work practice
- Restructuring of the industry
- Regional problems of industrial development
- Innovation and evaluation in healthcare
- Fundamentals of Human rights
- Social work practice with people with disabilities
- Social work practice with the elderly people
- Social work practice with youth

- Social work practice with migrants
- Social work practice with individuals, groups and families



- Sustainable tourism
- Biosphere and protection
- Industrial ecology
- Ecological safety of alternative energy sources
- Renewable and sustainable energy
- Ecology and life safety
- Packaging of food products
- Recycling of materials
- Metal waste and recycling
- Processing of thin-film materials



- Fundamentals of Food Engineering and Technology
- Basics of machine production technology
- Processing methods and tools
- Recycling of materials
- Metal waste and recycling
- Processing of thin-film materials
- Ceramic processing
- Processing technology of raw materials and minerals
- Material production equipment
- Construction materials and production
- Production planning
- Design of production processes
- Economical industrial production
- Computer-aided production systems
- Production infrastructure of the industry
- Investment planning in industry
- Fundamentals of ecology
- Ecological Chemistry
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Climate and water
- Environmental quality standards
- Environmental protection statistics
- Environmental pollution and ecological effects
- Environmental impact assessment
- Fundamentals of Economics and ecological challenges



- Air and water quality, pollution and protection
- Environmental problems of oil refining industry
- Comparative Land and Marine Ecology
- Climate and water



- Soil science
- Basics of earth sciences
- Landscape science and landscape ecology

- Ecological cartography and geographic information systems
- Forestry
- Computer Aided Design in Earth Sciences and technology



- Fundamentals of Human rights
- Social work practice with migrants
- Social work practice with individuals, groups and families



- Public Relations
- Intercultural management and international negotiations
- The system of international economic relations regulation
- International contracts in foreign economic activities
- Foreign economic activity of enterprises
- Modern problems in international relations



# UNEC Sustainability Activities



## Student Financial Support

Azerbaijan is a socially responsible country, and the allocation of resources toward social support is substantial. In line with this commitment, UNEC allocated **62,671.358 AZN** last year in the form of **education grants, scholarships, and financial assistance to underrepresented student groups**. These funds were primarily sponsored by the government budget. A total of **19,000 students** benefited from this financial support, equating to an average of **2,970 AZN per student**.



## Healthy and Affordable Food

In addition to financial aid, UNEC promotes student and staff well-being by offering **healthy and affordable food** options through its **on-campus cafeterias and cafés**. This initiative supports access to nutritious and cost-effective meals, aligning with the core objectives of SDG 1.

<https://unec.edu.az/unec-yemekxana/>

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/104-unec-kiv-de/10154-telebeler-ne-yebib-ne-ichirler-unec-in-yemekxanasindan-reportaj>



14  
Courses  
68  
Publications  
(2010-2024)

## 2 ZERO HUNGER



### Food Safety Program at UNEC

UNEC offers a Bachelor's degree **program in Food Safety**, which equips students with essential knowledge in food safety, quality control, food microbiology, food technology, and international food safety standards.

The curriculum is based on both theoretical and practical training, supported by **modern laboratories** and real-world applications. Students gain hands-on experience that prepares them to **work in food industry** settings, public health, and regulatory bodies.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/the-technology-of-food-products/>

In addition to the degree program, UNEC has established the **Aziz Sancar Food Safety Laboratory**, named after Nobel Laureate Professor Aziz Sancar. Inaugurated in December 2021, this state-of-the-art facility is part of UNEC's Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences. It plays a crucial role in supporting research, innovation, and academic development in the field of food safety. Currently, in the laboratory, scientific-practical investigations, research and expertise, technical chemical control of plant and animal food products according to the relevant quality standards, as well as safety are investigated based on the training and curriculum of undergraduate and master's level students together with professional young lab-researchers and teaching staff.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/education/unec-elmi-tedqiqat-merkezleri/aziz-sancar-adina-qida-tehlukesizliyi-laboratoriyasi/>



### Nutrition Counseling Services for Students

UNEC offers nutrition counseling services to its students through its on-campus health facility, the **UNEC Student Polyclinic**. The clinic provides consultations in various areas of health, including personalized dietary advice, initial nutrition assessments, consultations with dietitians, and awareness sessions on food allergies.

Additionally, students are offered **seminars and training sessions** focused on developing healthy eating habits and addressing food-related health concerns. These services aim to support student well-being and promote preventive health practices.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/polyclinic/>



## Sustainable Food Choices in Campus Cafeterias



UNEC's campus cafeterias are committed to offering sustainable and healthy food options for students, faculty, and administrative staff. The menus include a variety of **vegetarian and vegan dishes**, seasonal salads, and meals prepared with locally sourced ingredients. These options cater to diverse dietary preferences and **promote environmentally friendly food consumption**.

<https://unec.edu.az/unec-yemekxana/>

## Affordable and Healthy Meal Options

UNEC ensures that nutritious **meals are accessible and affordable** for all members of its community. The university's cafeterias offer balanced meals at reasonable prices, including options like vegetable stews, grain-based dishes, and fresh fruits. This approach aims to support students' health and well-being without financial strain.

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/104-unec-kiv-de/10154-telebeler-ne-yebib-ne-ichirler-unec-in-yemekxanasindan-reportaj>

12  
Courses  
42  
Publications  
(2020-2024)



## Sport Facilities

Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) actively promotes the physical well-being of its students and staff. In collaboration with the Push30 platform, UNEC offers convenient access to a network of gyms and fitness centers across the country. <https://www.push30.az/>

Alongside this partnership, UNEC has developed a strong internal sports infrastructure. At the university's II campus, there is a volleyball and basketball hall built to the latest international standards for hosting local and international tournaments. The IV academic building features a modern gymnasium for indoor games, fitness centers with state-of-the-art equipment, and a fully equipped Chess Club.

Additionally, UNEC has constructed a modern Sports and Wellness Complex in the Guba district, equipped with a swimming pool, various sports halls, and a 1,500-seat arena, designed to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle among students and staff.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/sport/>



## Policlinic Services

UNEC provides on-campus clinic services to support the health needs of its students and staff. The university's clinic is equipped with modern medical technology and offers services such as initial medical examinations, consultations, treatment recommendations, and preventive healthcare.

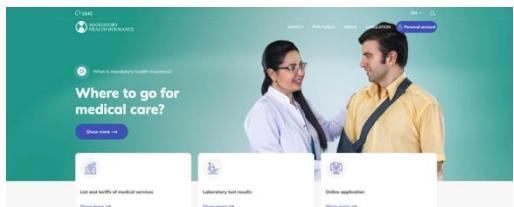
<https://unec.edu.az/en/polyclinic/>



## Psychological Services

UNEC offers professional psychological support services to promote the mental health and well-being of its community. Services include individual counseling, group therapy, stress management workshops, and mental health awareness programs, ensuring a supportive environment for all students and staff.

[https://unec.edu.az/en/idareetme11/centers/psixoloji\\_xidmet\\_merkezi/](https://unec.edu.az/en/idareetme11/centers/psixoloji_xidmet_merkezi/)



## Partnership with Medical institutions

UNEC collaborates with leading medical institutions on obligatory **health insurance** to enhance healthcare access for its students and staff. These partnerships provide opportunities for specialist consultations, regular health screenings, discounts on medical services, and joint health initiatives aimed at promoting overall well-being.

<https://its.gov.az/>

## Programs for displaced groups

Committed to social responsibility, UNEC implements various programs to support internally displaced persons (IDPs). These initiatives include scholarships, tuition fee waivers, academic mentorship, and social integration activities, ensuring that IDP students have equal opportunities to succeed academically and socially.



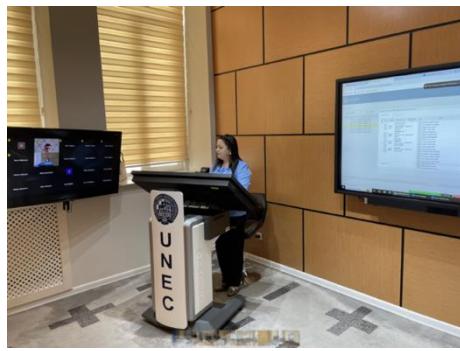
## Healthy and affordable food choices

UNEC is dedicated to promoting a healthy lifestyle by offering healthy and affordable food options on campus. University dining facilities provide a variety of balanced meals prepared under strict hygiene standards, helping students and staff maintain healthy eating habits.



## Distant education facilities

UNEC offers a variety of distant courses to support flexible learning options for students. These courses allow learners to access educational content from any location, fostering convenience and accessibility, especially for those with time or geographical constraints. The platform provides interactive lessons, assessments, and communication tools to ensure an engaging learning experience.



## UNEC Lifelong Learning Center

The UNEC Lifelong Learning Center was established in 2021, with the primary goal of equipping individuals and students with new skills applicable in the work environment, regardless of their specialization or profession. It also supports the development of professionals in line with the demands of the digital labor market. The center strives to enhance industry potential and contribute to the lifelong professional and personal development of society by providing quality and innovative learning opportunities. UNEC Lifelong Learning Center organizes courses, seminars, mentorship, and internship programs for individuals, students and businesses, as well as offering specialized programs and corporate consultancy services.

<https://lifelong.unec.edu.az/en/>

**Electronic Library** In 2024, UNEC team can access the electronic library ([library.unec.edu.az](http://library.unec.edu.az)) directly through their personal accounts to read available resources online. Currently, the library hosts **1,789 resources** in Azerbaijani, Russian, Turkish, and English (**4** languages).



Among the **paid databases** to which UNEC subscribes are EBSCO, Emerald, Scopus, Web of Science Core Collection, ScienceDirect, InCites Benchmarking & Analytics, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global (PQDT), and the Web of Science Research Assistant AI tool.



**Open-access platforms** include iKSAD International Publishing House, ECONBIZ, SAGE, Elsevier, and the World Digital Library. Additionally, through a collaboration agreement, users have access to databases subscribed to by ADA University. Altogether, the subscribed platforms provide access to nearly **5 million digital resources**.

[https://library.unec.edu.az/](http://library.unec.edu.az/)



### QS Star

UNEC has received 5 Star recognition certificate through the QS Stars rating system, which evaluates universities based on various criteria such as academic performance, employability, social responsibility, and facilities. UNEC has earned 5 (★★★★★) Stars in 7 directions further establishing its commitment to excellence in higher education.

### International Accreditation

International program accreditation is a key process in maintaining and enhancing the quality of education at UNEC. The university undergoes regular evaluations by recognized national and international accrediting bodies to ensure that its programs meet high educational standards. Recently with FIBAA German accreditation agency UNEC achieved unconditional 5-year accreditation by for 3 master programs. Planned Accreditation of all master and bachelor programs will enhance the credibility of UNEC's degrees and ensure that students receive a quality education that is recognized globally.

<https://www.fibaa.org/en/accreditation-certification/accredited-study-programmes/?menu=weitere&cHash=acab58a6d3a04e04221205377fd624f9>



### CFA accreditation

The MBA program of the Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) has successfully gained accreditation from the prestigious Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Institute and is now recognized as a partner university by the Institute.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/unec-in-mba-programi-nufuzlu-cfa-institutunun-akkreditasiyasini-elde-etdi/>

## ACCA accreditation

The major of «Accounting» of UNEC's MBA program has been re-accredited for 5 years by ACCA, a member of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC).

As a result of obtaining the ACCA accreditation, which ensures the adaptation of the quality indicators provided for in the "State Strategy for the Development of Education in the Republic of Azerbaijan" to the standards of the European education systems, the masters majoring in the "Accounting" of the MBA program are exempted from all fundamental subjects (F1-F9) according to the qualification of the ACCA organization.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/unec-biznes-mektebi-acca-akkreditasiyasini-qazandi/>

## Electronic Student System

The Electronic Student System at UNEC allows students to manage their academic affairs digitally. This system provides a range of services, including registration, course management, grades tracking, and communication with faculty. It ensures smooth academic administration, enhancing efficiency, transparency and offering students the flexibility to manage their studies.

No	Subject	Exam type	Exam form	Date	Score	Exam score	Result
10	00221 İstehsalçıdır gərg	Yekun imtahan	Yazılı imtahan	10/04/2025	0	0	G1,M1,O1
11	002001 İnteqratorlu tətbiqətərəfənən məsələ İñformasiya Texnologiyalarının əsasları Tələb M.AZ	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	08/04/2021	0	66	66 D (Küf)
12	00-0001 Proqramlaşdırma əsasları Tələb - Gərc-3	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	08/01/2021	0	31	31 F (Dəyrən kuf)
13	00-0002 Proqramlaşdırma əsasları-2 Proqramlaşdırma əsasları-2 Tələb	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	05/04/2021	0	86	86 B (Cox kuf)
14	00001 Sosial şəhər idarəetmə Apellasiya Cəmət 00001TURK	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	04/04/2021	0	26	26 F (Dəyrən kuf)
15	00001 Sosial şəhər idarəetmə Apellasiya Cəmət 00001TURK	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	04/04/2021	0	32	32 F (Dəyrən kuf)
16	002021 İstehsalçıdır gərg	Yekun imtahan	Yazılı imtahan	04/01/2025	0	0	F (Dəyrən kuf)
17	0020108 Əməkdaşlıq sistemləri	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	03/07/2021	0	58	58 E (Dəmənəkuf)
18	0000135 Proqramlaşdırma dəli və komplikatorlar 0000134_Proqramlaşdırma dəli və komplikatorlar	Yekun imtahan	Elektron imtahan	02/07/2021	0	52	52 E (Dəmənəkuf)

5 GENDER EQUALITY



## UNEC Women Researchers Council

Established to support the scientific activities of female researchers, promote gender equality, and increase women's access to academic leadership.

<https://unec.edu.az/education/unec-elmi-tedqiqat-merkezleri/xanim-tedqiqatcilar-surasi/>

12 Courses  
51 Publications  
(2020-2024)

## Female Students

The number of female students at UNEC reflects the university's commitment to gender balance. Women's participation in higher education contributes to their economic and social empowerment. Currently, 47% of UNEC's student body consists of women, which highlights the university's efforts to promote gender equality in academia. A range of initiatives are implemented to support the academic success and engagement of female students.



## Female Team Members of UNEC



Women make up 59% of UNEC's academic and administrative staff, reflecting the university's commitment to gender equality in the workplace. Female employees are actively represented in teaching, research, and management roles. Equal opportunities are provided for professional growth, and relevant policies are in place to prevent gender-based discrimination. The university continues to foster a supportive environment for the professional advancement of female staff members. Equal opportunities are provided for professional growth, and relevant policies are in place to prevent gender-based discrimination.

## Female student support

UNEC's "1 Window" system enables effective monitoring of female students' academic performance and social needs. This system helps identify challenges during their studies and ensures tailored support for their educational journey.

<https://unec.edu.az/unec-in-bir-pencere-sistemi-hansi-tehsil-arayislari-almaq-olar/>

## Women in Regional Campuses – Darband and Zagatala branches

At UNEC's regional branches, particularly in 61% of faculty staff in Darband and 53% of faculty staff in Zagatala are women who are encouraged to participate in educational and scientific activities. These initiatives aim to empower women in the regions and promote gender equality at the local level.

<https://unec.edu.az/education/darband-branch/>

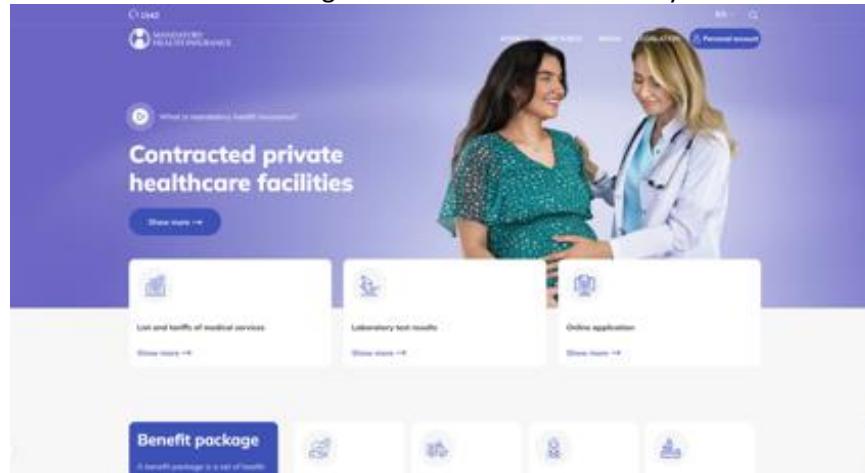
<https://unec.edu.az/zagatala-fillali/>



## Maternity Policy

UNEC's maternity policy is regulated in accordance with the national legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Female employees and students are entitled to legal, social and financial support during pregnancy and maternity periods. These provisions enable women to maintain a balance between their academic or professional responsibilities and personal life. Maternity rights are governed under the Labour Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan, particularly:

- Article 125 – Maternity leave
- Article 126 – Additional leave for women with children
- Article 127 – Protection of pregnant women at the workplace
- Article 128–130 – Benefits and guarantees related to maternity



## Anti-Discrimination Policy

UNEC upholds a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of discrimination. Gender, age, race, and other differences are respected under a comprehensive anti-discrimination framework, fostering an inclusive and safe educational and working environment.

<https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2024/12/Discrimination-and-Harassment-Policy-Final.pdf>

## Women in Leadership

An increasing number of women hold leadership positions at UNEC, including vice-rectors, deans, and heads of departments. Currently, 239 women are in leadership roles, making up 43% of the total representation in these positions. This approach promotes gender balance in institutional governance and empowers women in higher education leadership.

## Female Representation on the Scientific Council

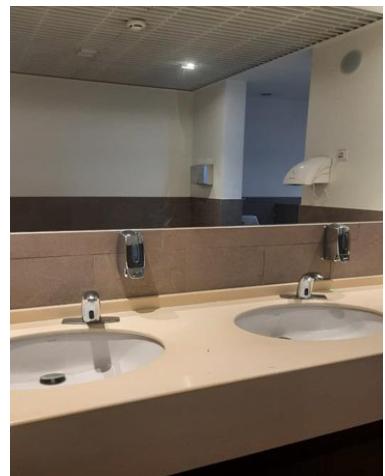
Women are actively represented on UNEC's Scientific Council, reflecting their vital role in academic and administrative decision-making. Out of 51 council members, 13 are women, making up 26% of the total representation. Their presence ensures gender balance and supports the recognition of women's contributions to science and higher education management.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/idareetme11/scientific-council/>



## Water Consumption Sensor Systems

UNEC systematically measures and monitors its total water consumption across all campuses, including volumes sourced from municipal mains, on-site wells, and rainwater collection systems. The University maintains a digital water management platform that records usage in real time through smart metering devices installed in academic, administrative, and residential facilities. Annual water audits are conducted to evaluate efficiency and identify opportunities for reduction. The data are reported in the institution's



sustainability report and shared with the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources to ensure full transparency and alignment with national water management standards.

## Hygiene and Clean Water

UNEC is committed to maintaining high hygiene standards and ensuring the availability of clean water across its campuses. Clean and safe water is essential for the health and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. The university adheres to strict water quality regulations to ensure that all drinking water and water used in other facilities are regularly tested and meet health standards.



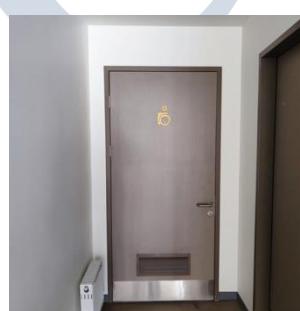
### Cleanliness in Campuses

UNEC places great emphasis on maintaining cleanliness across its campuses. Regular cleaning schedules and waste management systems are in place to ensure that campus areas, including classrooms, libraries, and public spaces, remain clean and safe. The university aims to create a pleasant and conducive learning environment for students and staff by maintaining high levels of cleanliness throughout the year.

## Number of WCs



UNEC ensures an adequate number of restrooms (WCs) across its campuses to meet the needs of students, faculty, and staff. These facilities are strategically placed in various campus buildings to provide easy access to sanitation services. The university regularly maintains and cleans the restrooms to ensure comfort and hygiene. There are a total of 150 restrooms (WCs) across four campus buildings at UNEC. The distribution of these restrooms by gender is as follows: Female Restrooms (WC) - 75; Male Restrooms (WC) – 75. There also accessible WCs for disabled students and faculty members.



## Sanitation and UNEC



UNEC maintains rigorous sanitation practices across its campuses, focusing on hygiene, waste management, and cleanliness. This includes the proper disposal of waste, regular disinfection of high-touch areas, and ensuring that public spaces are hygienic. The university's sanitation policies aim to provide a safe, healthy, and comfortable environment for everyone on campus.

## Sewage System at UNEC

UNEC has a well-developed sewage system in place to manage wastewater efficiently. This system ensures that waste is properly processed and disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner, preventing contamination and ensuring public health. Regular maintenance is carried out to ensure that the system remains functional and effective.



## Clean Water for Employees

UNEC provides clean and safe drinking water for its employees, ensuring that they have access to fresh water throughout the day. The university prioritizes employee well-being by offering convenient access to clean water in staff areas and other workspaces, contributing to a healthier and more productive work environment.



## Affordable and Clean Energy

### 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Affordable and Clean Energy is supported through UNEC's efforts to transition to more efficient and environmentally friendly energy sources. The complete replacement of traditional lighting systems in classrooms and administrative offices with **LED lamps** has significantly reduced electricity consumption. LED technology, known for its low energy usage and long lifespan, aligns perfectly with the goal of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy. Furthermore, the installation of **solar panels** on university buildings demonstrates UNEC's commitment to harnessing renewable energy sources and reducing dependency on non-renewable power.



**8****DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH**

## Decent Work and Economic Growth

According to the analysis of the Electronics Survey System, the graduate employment rate at UNEC stands at an impressive 91.5%. Of those employed, 93% of alumni are working in positions that require higher education, and 89% are employed in roles directly related to their field of study.

To support our students' transition into the workforce, UNEC regularly organizes both online and offline career fairs. The online career fair represents an innovative approach to connecting UNEC students and graduates with potential employers.

<https://job.unec.edu.az/en>

In addition, UNEC's differentiated salary system serves as a key motivational tool, enhancing working conditions and supporting staff well-being. A comprehensive analysis has shown that there are no significant gender-based pay disparities at UNEC. We consistently review and adjust our salary structures to ensure fairness, uphold market standards, and reflect the university's core values of equity and inclusion.

<https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2024/12/Gender-Pay-Gap-Report.pdf>

16  
Courses  
493  
Publications  
(2020-2024)

## 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



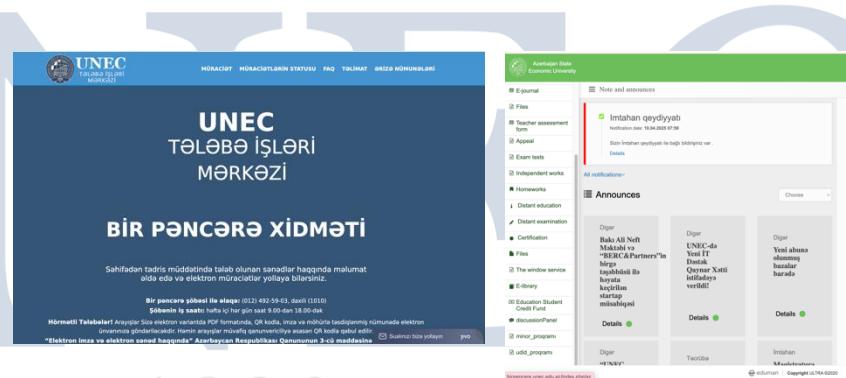
### Digital Education Model

At UNEC, the entire system has been fully digitalized, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and accessibility across all levels of academic and administrative operations. Students have access to personalized digital cabinets, where they can view teaching materials, track their academic performance, and submit appeals transparently in case of any issues during the examination process. Administrative workflows are also managed through a completely digital document flow system, streamlining internal operations and enhancing responsiveness.

To further support student services, UNEC offers a “1 Window System”, enabling students to quickly and efficiently obtain necessary documents through a centralized and simplified process. Moreover, UNEC’s distance education lecture rooms are equipped with the latest technology, enabling the delivery of high-quality virtual classes to students worldwide.

<https://kabinet.unec.edu.az/en>

<https://unec.edu.az/unec-in-bir-pencere-sistemi-hansi-tehsil-arayislari-almaq-olar/>



1930

### Electronic Library



In 2024, UNEC team can access the electronic library (library.unec.edu.az) directly through their personal accounts to read available resources online. Currently, the library hosts **1,789 resources** in Azerbaijani, Russian, Turkish, and English (**4** languages).

Among the **paid databases** to which UNEC subscribes are EBSCO, Emerald, Scopus, Web of Science Core Collection, ScienceDirect, InCites Benchmarking & Analytics, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global (PQDT), and the Web of Science Research Assistant AI tool.

**Open-access platforms** include İKSAD International Publishing House, ECONBIZ, SAGE, Elsevier, and the World Digital Library. Additionally, through a collaboration

agreement, users have access to databases subscribed to by ADA University. Altogether, the subscribed platforms provide access to nearly **5 million digital resources**.

<https://library.unec.edu.az/>

<https://library.unec.edu.az/kitabxanalar/24-7>

<https://e-library.unec.edu.az/alisaweb/>

<https://library.unec.edu.az/virtual-s-rgi>

## Bloomberg Financial Laboratory at UNEC

The Bloomberg Financial Laboratory at Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) was established on February 14, 2022, as part of the UNEC Lifelong Learning Center. It is the only Bloomberg-supported lab in Azerbaijan. The lab provides students and faculty with access to real-time financial data, economic indicators, and training on Bloomberg Terminal usage.

Participants can earn the Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) certification, enhancing their practical financial skills. The lab also offers free training sessions for UNEC faculty to support professional development. In 2024, UNEC students ranked 32nd globally and 2nd in the region in the Bloomberg Global Trade Challenge among 396 universities from 46 countries.

<https://unec.edu.az/bloomberg-laboratoriysi/>



16  
Courses  
493  
Publications  
(2020-2024)

## 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



### Support for Students from Low-Income Families

UNEC provides financial and social support to students from low-income families through student unions. Assistance is also provided to families of martyrs and residents of elderly homes.

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/105-telebe/13005-unec-kollektivi-8-mart-munasibetile-shehid-analarini-ziyaret-edib>

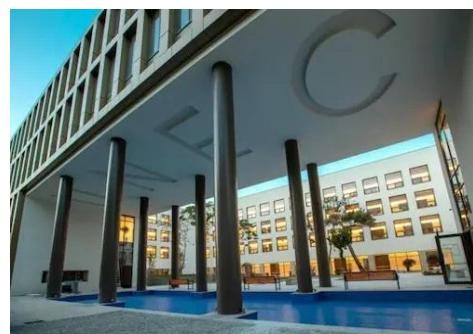
<https://unec.edu.az/unec-kollektivi-ilaxir-cersenbeni-ahillar-evinde-qeyd-edib>

<https://news.unec.edu.az/en/xeber/125-universitet/11467-i-gtisadiyyat-ve-idareetme-fakultesinin-emekdashlari-ushag-evini-ziyaret-edibler>



### Psychological Services

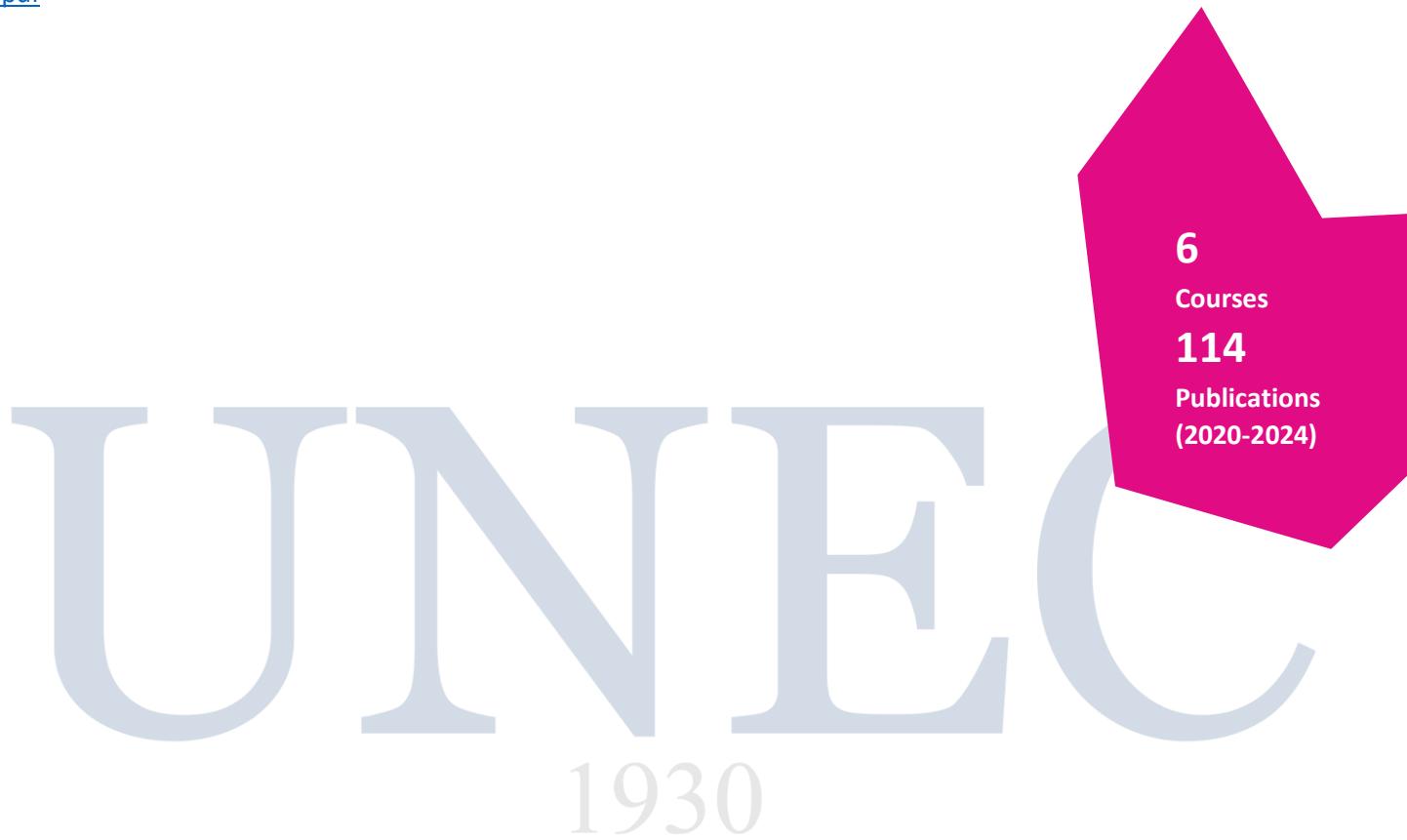
UNEC offers professional psychological support services to promote the mental health and well-being of its community. Services include individual counseling, group therapy, stress management workshops, and mental health awareness programs, ensuring a supportive environment for all students and staff.



[https://unec.edu.az/en/idareetme11/centers/psixoloji\\_xidmet\\_merkezi/](https://unec.edu.az/en/idareetme11/centers/psixoloji_xidmet_merkezi/)

## Anti-Discrimination Policy

UNEC upholds a zero-tolerance policy towards all forms of discrimination. Gender, age, race, and other differences are respected under a comprehensive anti-discrimination framework, fostering an inclusive and safe educational and working environment. <https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2024/12/Discrimination-and-Harassment-Policy-Final.pdf>



## 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



### UNEC's Branches in Zagatala and Guba

UNEC works on formalizing and enhancing the city infrastructure in its regional branches, such as in Zagatala, Darband, and Guba. This involves aligning the infrastructure development with modern urban standards, including utilities, and public spaces, to support the educational needs of the surrounding areas. UNEC actively supports local communities by promoting the development of infrastructure that benefits residents.

<https://unec.edu.az/zaqatala-filiali/>

#### Construction of Stadium in Zagatala Branch

The stadium promotes physical activity and social interaction among regional students, aligning development with the main Baku campus.

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/125-universitet/12194-bold-red-gencler-ve-idman-naziri-unec-in-zagatala-filialinda-telebelerle-gorushub-bold-red/>



#### Infrastructure Improvements in Baku Campuses

Renovation and technical upgrades in Baku campuses aim to improve learning and social environments for students. The infrastructure renovations and technical upgrades carried out at UNEC's Baku campuses directly align with this goal by contributing to the creation of improved learning and social environments for students. Key initiatives include:

Modern and technologically equipped classrooms and comfortable lecture halls

<https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2025/03/INFRASTRUCTURE-8.1.pdf>

High-speed internet and the electronic university system

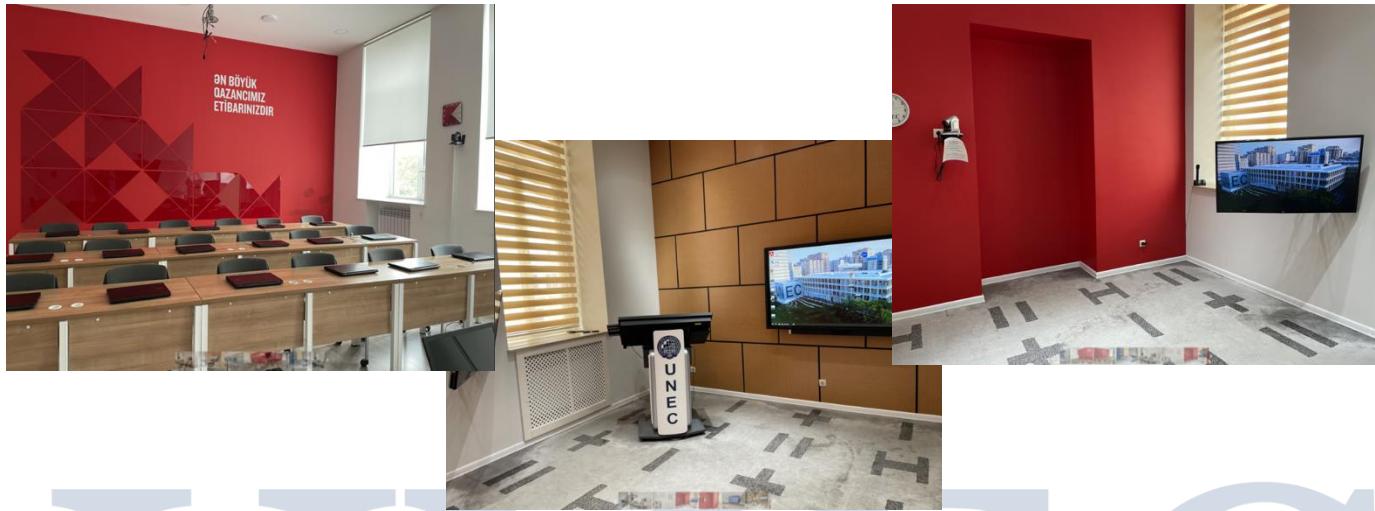
<https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2024/05/UNEC-100-Development-Strategy-2019-2030.pdf>

Environmental sustainability and the "Green University" policy

<https://unec.edu.az/en/rektor-universitetler-ekoloji-innovasiyalar-ve-yasil-iqtisadiyyat-merkezine-cevrilirler/>

Participation in the Smart Campus Cloud Network initiative

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/100-elm/12541-unec-in-tedgigat-merkezi-agilli-kampus-bulud-shebekesine-sscn-goshulub>



## Distant Education Model

UNEC offers distance learning programs covering a variety of subjects, enabling students from different regions to access quality education remotely. These programs are designed to meet the demands of students who may not be able to attend in person, offering flexibility and convenience. The courses are available in at least 10 different subjects, enhancing the learning opportunities for a broader audience. To democratize teaching at UNEC, the number of hybrid subjects has been increased.



According to the decision of the Scientific Council, the teaching of 74 subjects will be conducted in a hybrid form. Previously, 53 subjects were taught in hybrid form. Students will be able to listen to those subjects in online or traditional form according to their wishes.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/unec-de-hibrid-tedris-olunan-fenlerin-sayi-artirildi/>

<https://unec.edu.az/en/tehsil-naziri-unec-deki-yeniliklerle-tanis-olub-2/>

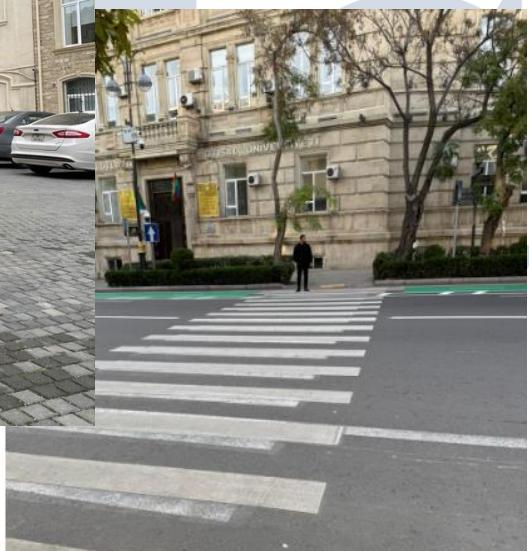


## Guba Campus: Green Zones

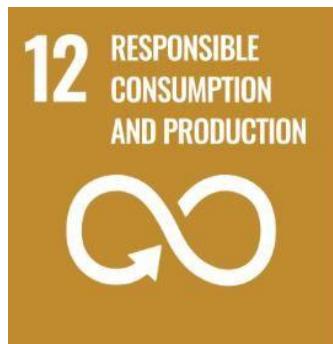
UNEC's Guba campus is focused on maintaining and expanding green zones within the campus and surrounding areas. These green spaces not only improve the aesthetic value of the environment but also contribute to sustainability by providing recreational areas and improving air quality for students, staff, and residents. <https://unec.edu.az/sosial-heyat/nugedi-saglamliq-dusergesi/>

## Bike Infrastructure, Pedestrian Passages, Bike Roads

The main UNEC campus is equipped with modern urban infrastructure, including designated bike lanes, pedestrian pathways, and bike parking areas. These developments aim to create a safe and sustainable environment for students and staff, encouraging environmentally friendly transportation methods and ensuring easy mobility across the campus.



6  
Courses  
70  
Publications  
(2020-2024)



### Responsible Consumption and Production

Responsible Consumption and Production is addressed through sustainable practices in water and hygiene management. Across the campus, traditional water taps have been replaced with sensor-activated faucets, which help minimize water waste by automatically controlling the flow. In addition, electric hand dryers have been installed in restrooms in place of disposable paper towels. These measures reduce unnecessary resource consumption and contribute to more responsible, efficient use of materials in daily campus operations.

Through these integrated actions, UNEC demonstrates its dedication to building a sustainable, eco-friendly academic environment and contributes meaningfully to the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## Waste Disposal – Recycling

UNEC adheres to strict waste management practices. Waste generated on campus is properly sorted and sent to designated recycling facilities. The university ensures that recyclable materials, such as paper, plastics, and metals, are separated and sent to appropriate processing centers, promoting a cleaner environment and contributing to sustainability. Non-recyclable waste is disposed of in an environmentally responsible manner, helping maintain the cleanliness of the surrounding areas.

17  
Courses  
145  
Publications  
(2020-2024)



### Recycling

UNEC is actively engaged in paper recycling efforts on campus. Paper waste is collected separately and sent to recycling facilities where it is processed and reused. This initiative not only helps reduce waste but also supports the university's commitment to sustainability by promoting the reuse of materials and decreasing the demand for new paper production.



Paper

## Staff Canteen – Cafeteria – UNEC Coffee

UNEC provides staff with access to a variety of food options through its staff canteen, cafeteria, and UNEC Coffee. These spaces offer healthy and affordable meals, contributing to the well-being of staff members. The university prioritizes nutrition and quality, ensuring that the food provided meets the dietary preferences and needs of its employees, while also encouraging a balanced diet.



## 13 CLIMATE ACTION



### Subjects in Curriculum

UNEC offers a wide range of curricula at undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels, catering to various fields of study. The undergraduate programs cover over 45 specializations, including Economics, Finance, Marketing, Management, Accounting, Statistics, Environmental Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Information Security, Information Technology, Engineering, Tourism, and Social Work.

At the graduate level, UNEC provides opportunities to study in fields such as Global Economics, Finance, Economics, Accounting and Audit, Statistics, Management, Public and Local Government Administration, Business Management, Marketing, Consumer Goods Expertise, Food Engineering, Design, and Hospitality Management.

The curricula are designed to align with international educational standards and focus on providing students with modern knowledge and skills. Alongside theoretical learning, practical experience is emphasized, ensuring that students are well-prepared for their future careers.

<https://unec.edu.az/education/tedris-proqramlari/>

### Partnership with Tashkent Center for Sustainability

This cooperation strengthens UNEC's role in regional sustainability initiatives through joint research and projects on climate change, environment, and social inclusion.

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/124-beynelxalg-emekdashlig/12824-bold-red-unec-in-davamlı-i-nkishaf-ve-yashil-i-gtisadiyyat-tedigat-merkezi-ile-ozbekistanin-dayanigli-i-nkishaf-merkezi-arasinda-memorandum-imzalanib-bold-red>

### UNEC & HUEB COP29 Seminar

UNEC and China's Hebei University of Economics and Business jointly organized an international seminar on "China-Azerbaijan Cooperation on Green and Low-Carbon Development" dedicated to COP29. The event featured expert presentations from both countries on green economy, carbon trading, environmental education, and sustainable energy. The seminar aimed to enhance cooperation and knowledge exchange on climate action ahead of COP29.

[https://unec.edu.az/unec-de-cinin-hebei-iqtisadiyyat-ve-biznes-universiteti-ile-birge-cop29-a-hesr-olunan-seminar-kecirilib/#Published\\_sustainability\\_book](https://unec.edu.az/unec-de-cinin-hebei-iqtisadiyyat-ve-biznes-universiteti-ile-birge-cop29-a-hesr-olunan-seminar-kecirilib/#Published_sustainability_book)

### Published sustainability book

This book called as "Green and sustainable global economic improvement at Azerbaijani Universities: Renewable Energy and Climate Change Mitigation" is a special publication by UNEC (Azerbaijan State University of Economics) that highlights the university's recent achievements, strategic developments, and international outreach. It provides a comprehensive overview of UNEC's academic excellence, research activities, global partnerships, contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and student-centered initiatives. The main goal of the promo book is to strengthen UNEC's brand identity and communicate its values and future vision to a broad audience. Designed to be both visually appealing and informative, it serves as a key promotional tool for local and international stakeholders, prospective students, and the academic community.

<https://refresh-erasmus.com/documents>

## Climate Action

Climate Action, which calls for urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. The shift to LED lighting and the integration of solar energy systems have both contributed to a reduction in the university's carbon emissions and ecological footprint. By actively lowering greenhouse gas emissions through energy-efficient practices and clean energy usage, UNEC is playing its part in mitigating climate change. Through these integrated actions, UNEC demonstrates its dedication to building a sustainable, eco-friendly academic environment and contributes meaningfully to the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

## NGO Climate Partnership

A Climate Partnership with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) has been established to strengthen climate action efforts. This collaboration focuses on advocacy, project implementation, awareness campaigns, and capacity-building activities aimed at mitigating climate change and promoting sustainable development.

## Climate – Green Energy Conference and Publications

A Green Energy Conference focusing on climate change and renewable energy solutions has been organized. The conference featured presentations, workshops, and panel discussions, and resulted in the publication of research papers, reports, and recommendations for advancing green energy initiatives.

## Zagatala Darband and Guba Campus: Green Zones

Green Zones have been established in the Zagatala Darband and Guba regions. These zones are designated areas where environmental preservation is prioritized, featuring reforestation projects, biodiversity conservation efforts, and sustainable land management practices. They serve as important models for ecological sustainability.



1930



17  
Courses  
277  
Publications  
(2020-2024)



## Zagatala and Guba Campus: Water Systems

The Guba-Zagatala region is one of Azerbaijan's key areas rich in water resources. Rivers, groundwater, and rainwater play an essential role in the region's water supply. Water systems in this area are managed primarily for drinking water provision, agricultural use, and maintaining ecological balance. Modernization and sustainable management of these networks are crucial for the region's long-term development.

### Irrigation Practices

Irrigation is vital for agriculture in the Guba-Zagatala region campuses. Alongside traditional methods, modern techniques have been increasingly introduced to ensure the efficient use of water resources. Proper irrigation planning, water conservation, and the protection of soil fertility contribute significantly to improving agricultural productivity in the region.



### Smart Irrigation Systems – Use of Rainwater in Guba campus

In Guba, smart systems are being implemented to collect and use rainwater for irrigation. This approach not only conserves water resources but also minimizes environmental impact. Using smart technologies, rainwater is captured, stored, and used for irrigation when needed. This innovative method promotes sustainable agricultural development and helps reduce the risk of water scarcity.

### Protection of Biodiversity in Guba Campus

The initiative has been implemented in UNEC Guba Campus to protect biodiversity. This system focuses on monitoring wildlife populations, managing natural resources sustainably, and preserving the region's rich flora and fauna. This approach crucial role in maintaining ecological balance and promoting conservation efforts.

### Curriculum – Subjects

Educational curricula have been updated to include subjects on environmental conservation. Topics such as biodiversity, sustainable development, and ecosystem management are integrated into different levels of education. This approach helps raise awareness among students and encourages active participation in conservation efforts.

### Conservation of Living Organisms on Land

Efforts to conserve living organisms on land in Guba include habitat restoration, protection of endangered species, and sustainable land use practices. These initiatives ensure the survival of various species, maintain biodiversity, and contribute to the overall health of terrestrial ecosystems.



**15** LIFE  
ON LAND



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<https://unec.edu.az/sosial-heyat/nuqed-saglamliq-dusergesi/>

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17  
Courses  
25  
Publications  
(2020-2024)



## FIBAA Accreditation

UNEC collaborates with FIBAA to ensure alignment with international education standards and to enhance teaching quality.

<https://www.fibaa.org/en/accreditation-certification/accredited-study-programmes/?menu=weitere&cHash=acab58a6d3a04e04221205377fd624f9>



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<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/124-beynelxalg-emekdashlig/12824-bold-red-unec-in-davamli-i-nkishaf-ve-yashil-i-gtisadiyyat-tedigat-merkezi-ile-ozbekistanin-dayanigili-i-nkishaf-merkezi-arasinda-memorandum-imzalanib-bold-red>

## Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy

UNEC has a strict anti-corruption and anti-bribery policy in place to ensure ethical practices within the institution. The policy aims to prevent corruption, promote transparency, and maintain integrity in all university operations, including admissions, procurement, and academic processes. The university encourages staff, students, and faculty to adhere to these principles and report any unethical behavior.

<https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2024/12/Anti-Corruption-and-Bribery-Policy-Final-1.pdf>

## "1 Window" System

The goal of the "One Window" system is to allow students to quickly obtain the required educational documents by submitting requests through a unified platform. Through this system, students can access services 24/7 via their personal accounts.

The "1 Window" service provides academic transcripts, enrollment certificates, tuition fee documents, military service certificates, graduation certificates, as well as documents for distance learning students, and certified copies of educational documents (attestation, diploma).

Once the document is prepared, it is approved with a signature and seal and sent in PDF format to the student's personal account with a QR code.

Documents are available in both Azerbaijani and English, depending on the student's request. English-language certificates have been available since the 2022/2023 academic year, allowing students to avoid notary translation and certification fees.

## Transparent Electronic Student Appeals System

UNEC's Electronic Appeals System provides an online platform for students and staff to submit and track appeals related to academic or administrative matters. This system ensures that all appeals are processed in a transparent and efficient manner, improving accessibility and providing a streamlined process for resolving disputes or concerns.

## Student Scientific Council

The Student Scientific Council at UNEC is a body that represents student interests in academic and research matters. It supports students in their scientific endeavors, encourages research activities, and facilitates collaboration between students and faculty members. The council also organizes conferences, seminars, and workshops to foster academic engagement.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/sosial-heyat/students-organizations/student-scientific-society/>

## Student Equal Usage of UNEC Services

UNEC ensures that all students have equal access to its services, regardless of background, gender, or other factors. This includes access to academic support, library resources, career services, and extracurricular activities. The university strives to create an inclusive environment where every student has the opportunity to fully participate in university life and benefit from its offerings.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/unec-de-yeni-telebe-teskilatlari-yaradilib/>

## Student Union – Protection of Student Rights

The Student Trade Union Committee of Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) was established in 1974.

The committee consists of 23 members, including the 3rd Deputy, 11 faculty student trade union bureau chairpersons, and 4 commissions (cultural mass events, science, sports, health, and education). Currently, the organization unites 10,738 students.

The Student Trade Union Committee plays a significant role in engaging students in public activities and helping in their personal development. The committee addresses students' social issues, ensures accommodation in dormitories, provides financial assistance to those in need, promotes increased class attendance, encourages participation in scientific work, identifies talented students, and rewards active members who excel in public work and science. It also organizes activities related to students' education, leisure time, and summer holidays.

The Student Union at UNEC plays a vital role in protecting the rights of students. It advocates for students' interests, provides support in academic and social matters, and ensures that student concerns are addressed. The union also organizes events and activities to enhance the student experience and foster a sense of community among students.

<https://unec.edu.az/sosial-heyat/telebe-teskilatlari/telebe-hemkarlar-ittifaqi-%20komitesi/>

<https://unec.edu.az/sosial-heyat/telebe-teskilatlari/>

## Student Rector

The Student Rector of Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) is elected from among the undergraduate students (except for those in the 4th year and above) for a term of one year.

The Student Rector is a representative chosen to represent the interests of UNEC students. The role is performed on a public basis.

The Student Rector is one of the equal governing bodies at UNEC, holding the right to participate in the activities of the Scientific Council and other structural divisions of the university. They also have the right to engage in the discussion and decision-making processes on issues related to student interests.

The Student Rector carries out representational and expert functions in matters related to youth affairs in cooperation with relevant organizations. Within the scope of their authority, they represent UNEC and its students in relations with other educational institutions.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/sosial-heyat/students-organizations/telebe-rektor/>

## Leisure Time Organization – Sports Services, Contracts

UNEC provides leisure and recreational opportunities for students and staff through its sports services. This includes organizing sporting events, fitness classes, and outdoor activities. The "Push 30" initiative encourages physical activity, promoting health and wellness among the UNEC community. The university also offers contracts and facilities to support various leisure and sports activities.

## Academic Freedom Policy – Research Topic Selection Freedom

UNEC upholds academic freedom, allowing students and faculty the freedom to select research topics without undue influence. This policy promotes independent thinking, creativity, and innovation in academic work, ensuring that research is driven by scholarly curiosity and academic interests rather than external pressures.

<https://unec.edu.az/application/uploads/2024/12/Final-Academic-freedom-policy-1.pdf>

## Government Stakeholder Support

UNEC collaborates with the Ministry of Science and Education Republic of Azerbaijan, The State Agency for Science and Higher Education and Azerbaijan Republic Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources as key government stakeholders. This collaboration involves working on educational policies, ensuring compliance with national standards, and supporting educational reforms. These partnerships help enhance the quality of education at UNEC and align it with national educational goals.



## Stakeholder Engagement – Curriculum Formation

UNEC engages various stakeholders, including academic staff, industry professionals, and government representatives, in the curriculum formation process. This ensures that the curriculum remains relevant, up-to-date, and aligned with industry needs. Stakeholder engagement helps UNEC offer programs that meet the demands of the labor market and prepare students for successful careers.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

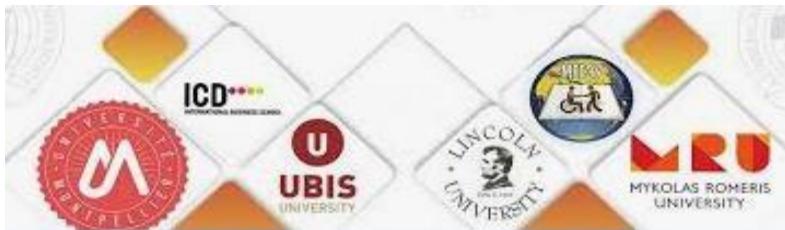


## Over 500 Trainings by Israeli Experts

Trainings conducted by Israeli professionals aim to enhance students' and staff members' professional skills, covering leadership, management, technology, and social innovations.

<https://lifelong.unec.edu.az/training/>

<https://lifelong.unec.edu.az/kurslar/yumsaq-%20bacariqlar/>



## Joint and Double Degree Programs

UNEC offers joint and double degree programs in collaboration with various global universities, allowing students to receive two diplomas simultaneously and expand their international career opportunities.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/ikili-diplomlar/>

## Refresh Erasmus+ Project

Through this project, UNEC strengthens educational and research collaborations with European universities. It supports faculty and student exchanges, curriculum development, and scientific partnerships. The project's goal is to align educational advancements with industry needs and develop human capital in Azerbaijan's renewable energy sector.

- The book Sustainable Energy by Richard Dunlap was professionally translated into Azerbaijani.
- A Green University Policy Paper Guideline was developed and translated. <https://refresh-erasmus.com/documents>
- Virtual Learning and Simulation (VLS) Labs were established to support interactive and practice-based learning. <https://refresh-erasmus.com/>



10 Courses  
368 Publications (2020-2024)

## Future17 Program Partnership

In 2025, UNEC joined the consortium of leading universities participating in the Future17 program - an innovative global initiative co-founded by QS and the University of Exeter that connects multinational organizations, universities, and diverse student teams to work on projects addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UNEC actively contributes to the initiative through participation in 17 student teams, fostering sustainability awareness and impact-driven collaboration.

<https://unec.edu.az/en/future17-dayaniqli-gelecek-ucun-tehsil-ve-tesirin-korpusu/>

<https://www.qs.com/insights/articles/introducing-future17-global-education-programme-that-partners-students-with-real-world-sustainable-initiatives/>



## UNEC & InCites Benchmarking & Analytics Platform

Through this platform, UNEC can benchmark institutions, researchers, departments, journals, partners, and funding bodies. It helps identify areas of strength and development.

<https://news.unec.edu.az/xeber/125- universitet/13138-olke-universitetleri-arasinda- ilk-unec-incites-benchmarking-analytics- platformasindan-istifade-edecik>



### International Cooperation

UNEC works closely with the EU, UNESCO, British Council, and other international organizations through joint projects, research, and internships.

<https://unec.edu.az/beynelxalq-emekdaslig/>

### Researchers at UNEC Research Centers

UNEC's research centers focus on academic studies aligned with SDGs. Researchers tackle economic, social, and technological issues through interdisciplinary approaches.

<https://unec.edu.az/education/unec-elmi-tedqiqat-merkezleri/>

### Collaboration with International and NGO Partners

UNEC collaborates with numerous international and local non-governmental organizations to provide students with opportunities to gain international experience and knowledge. These partnerships include training programs, seminars, and social projects.

<https://unec.edu.az/sosial-heyat/telebe-teskilatlari/iqtisadci-ictimai-%20birliyi/>

### UNEC is a member of the following International Associations:

No	University Network Name	Web link
1	European Universities Association (EUA)	<a href="https://www.eua.eu/our-membership/member-directory.html">https://www.eua.eu/our-membership/member-directory.html</a>
2	Eurasian Universities Union (EURAS)	<a href="https://euras-edu.org/members/">https://euras-edu.org/members/</a>
3	Euroasian Universities Association (EUA)	<a href="https://www.eau-msu.ru/">https://www.eau-msu.ru/</a>
4	Federation of the Universities of Islamic World (FUIW)	<a href="https://fumi-fuiw.org/en/bilateral-agreements/">https://fumi-fuiw.org/en/bilateral-agreements/</a>
5	Black Sea Universities Union (BSUN)	<a href="https://bsun.org/members/">https://bsun.org/members/</a>
6	Turkic Universities Union (TUKUNIB)	<a href="http://www.tukunib.org/en/site/index/#member">http://www.tukunib.org/en/site/index/#member</a>
7	Israel Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce and Industry	<a href="https://www.iacci.org.il/our_members">https://www.iacci.org.il/our_members</a>

# Conclusions

The purpose of this report is to analyze how the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are represented within the sustainability curriculum at UNEC. The study aims to identify gaps in the course offerings where specific SDG - related topics may be underrepresented or lacking coverage.

Although the 2024 SDG Course Mapping revealed a relatively balanced distribution of courses across the SDGs, it is crucial to make a concerted effort across the campus to incorporate the SDGs with lower percentages into the course offerings. Specifically, attention should be given to: SDG5: Affordable and clean energy (2%), SDG14: Peace, justice and strong institutions- 2%, and SDG6: Life below water (2%) which have shown lower representation.

By further enhancing the sustainability-focused academic curriculum, the UNEC community can actively contribute to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals. This will empower students to develop strategies and innovative solutions to address contemporary and future challenges.