

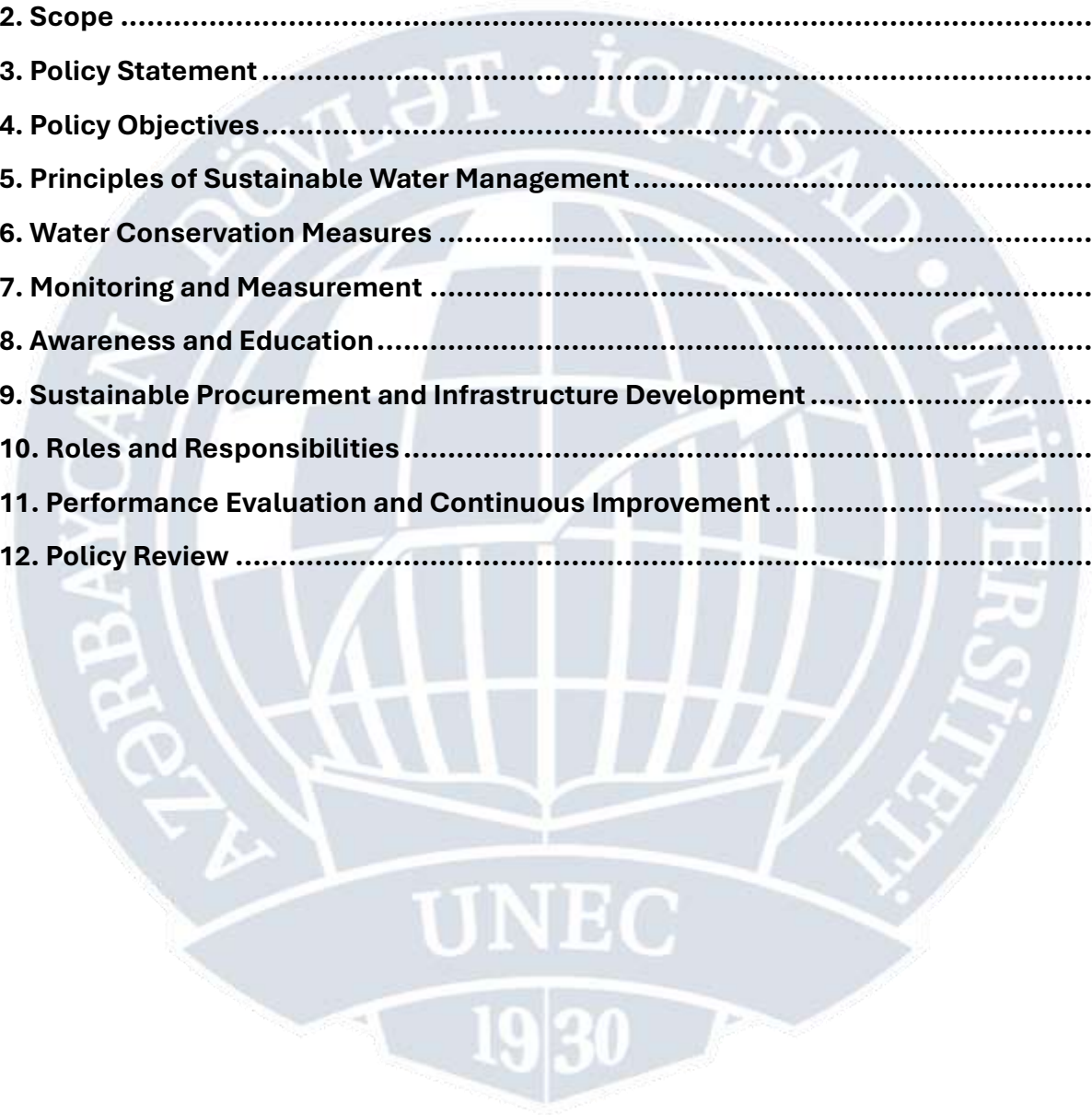
AZERBAIJAN STATE UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS (UNEC)

WATER USE POLICY

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1. Purpose

Azerbaijan State University of Economics (UNEC) recognizes water as a vital natural resource and is committed to ensuring its responsible, efficient, and sustainable use across all university operations. Increasing global concerns regarding water scarcity, climate change, and environmental sustainability highlight the importance of effective water management practices within higher education institutions.

The purpose of this Policy is to establish principles and guidelines for the efficient use, conservation, monitoring, and management of water resources throughout UNEC. The University seeks to minimize water consumption, reduce wastage, improve operational efficiency, and promote awareness of sustainable water use among students, staff, and visitors.

Through the implementation of this Policy, UNEC aims to contribute to environmental protection, resource conservation, and the achievement of national and international sustainability goals.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all UNEC campuses, academic buildings, administrative offices, libraries, laboratories, student facilities, sports complexes, landscaped areas, and any other facilities owned, operated, or managed by the University.

The Policy applies to:

- Academic staff;
- Administrative personnel;
- Students;
- Contractors and service providers;
- Vendors and suppliers;
- Visitors and event participants.

3. Policy Statement

UNEC is committed to promoting the responsible use of water resources and integrating water conservation principles into its daily operations, infrastructure management, procurement activities, and sustainability initiatives.

The University shall strive to reduce unnecessary water consumption, prevent water losses, improve water-use efficiency, and encourage environmentally responsible behavior among all members of the university community.

Water management practices shall be aligned with institutional sustainability objectives and support continuous improvement in environmental performance.

4. Policy Objectives

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Promote efficient and responsible water use throughout the University;
- Reduce water consumption and prevent unnecessary waste;
- Improve water-use efficiency in buildings and campus facilities;
- Encourage water conservation awareness among students and staff;
- Support sustainable landscaping and irrigation practices;
- Strengthen monitoring and management of water resources;
- Contribute to national and global sustainability goals related to water stewardship.

5. Principles of Sustainable Water Management

UNEC shall adopt the following principles in managing water resources:

5.1. Conservation

Water shall be used responsibly and efficiently in all university activities.

5.2. Prevention of Waste

Measures shall be implemented to prevent leaks, excessive consumption, and unnecessary water losses.

5.3. Continuous Improvement

The University shall continuously seek opportunities to improve water efficiency through infrastructure upgrades, technology adoption, and operational improvements.

5.4. Awareness and Participation

Students, staff, and other stakeholders shall be encouraged to actively support water conservation efforts.

6. Water Conservation Measures

6.1. Efficient Fixtures and Equipment

Where feasible, UNEC shall install and maintain water-efficient fixtures and equipment, including:

- Low-flow faucets;
- Water-efficient toilets;
- Sensor-operated taps;
- Water-saving plumbing systems;
- Efficient irrigation technologies.

New construction and renovation projects should incorporate water-efficiency considerations whenever possible.

6.2. Leak Detection and Maintenance

The University shall regularly inspect water infrastructure to identify and address leaks, malfunctions, and inefficiencies.

Preventive maintenance activities shall be conducted to reduce water losses and ensure reliable system performance.

6.3. Sustainable Landscaping and Irrigation

Landscape management practices shall seek to minimize water consumption while maintaining campus aesthetics and ecological value.

Where practical, UNEC shall:

- Utilize drought-tolerant plant species;
- Optimize irrigation schedules;

- Avoid unnecessary watering;
- Improve irrigation efficiency.

6.4. Water-Efficient Cleaning Practices

Administrative and facility management units shall encourage cleaning methods that reduce excessive water use while maintaining health and safety standards.

7. Monitoring and Measurement

UNEC shall monitor water consumption to identify usage trends and opportunities for improvement.

Monitoring activities may include:

- Periodic review of utility data;
- Water consumption reporting;
- Assessment of high-use facilities;
- Evaluation of conservation initiatives;
- Identification of areas requiring corrective action.

Where feasible, the University may introduce smart metering technologies and digital monitoring systems to improve water management.

8. Awareness and Education

The University shall promote awareness of responsible water use through educational and engagement activities.

These activities may include:

- Awareness campaigns;
- Sustainability workshops;
- Educational materials and signage;
- Student-led environmental initiatives;
- Water conservation events and programs.

UNEC shall encourage all members of the university community to adopt responsible water-use behaviors both on and off campus.

9. Sustainable Procurement and Infrastructure Development

Water efficiency considerations shall be incorporated into procurement and infrastructure planning processes whenever feasible.

Preference should be given to products, technologies, and services that support reduced water consumption and improved resource efficiency.

Future infrastructure development projects should consider sustainable water management principles during design, construction, and operation.

10. Roles and Responsibilities

10.1. Strategic Development and Sustainability Units

- Support implementation of this Policy;
- Monitor performance indicators;
- Coordinate sustainability reporting activities;
- Promote water conservation initiatives.

10.2. Facilities Management Department

- Monitor water consumption;
- Maintain water infrastructure;
- Identify and repair leaks;
- Implement efficiency improvement measures.

10.3. Academic and Administrative Units

- Support water conservation efforts;
- Encourage responsible resource use;
- Communicate operational needs affecting water consumption.

10.4. Students, Staff, and Visitors

Members of the university community are encouraged to:

- Use water responsibly;
- Report leaks or water-related issues;
- Participate in awareness programs;
- Support sustainability initiatives.

11. Performance Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

UNEC shall periodically evaluate the effectiveness of this Policy through:

- Analysis of water consumption trends;
- Assessment of conservation measures;
- Review of operational performance;
- Feedback from stakeholders;
- Identification of improvement opportunities.

Results shall be used to strengthen water management practices and support continuous improvement.

12. Policy Review

This Policy shall be reviewed at least once every three years or earlier if necessary due to changes in legislation, institutional priorities, technological developments, or sustainability objectives.