

Sustainability **Innovation Policy**

Azerbaijan Technological University (ATU)

Formal Framework for Regional Leadership & Green
Innovation

Strategic Framework

Aligning Institutional Growth with Global Sustainable Development
Goals

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Integrating environmental responsibility, social equity, and technological advancement into a cohesive university

- ✔ system Aligned with QS Sustainability ranking pillars.
- ✔ Mapped to UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- ✔ Regional leader for green innovation.
- ✔ Startup ecosystem catalyst in the Caucasus.



STRATEGIC CONTEXT



Economic Shift

Supporting Azerbaijan's transition toward a robust non-oil economy through technological diversification.

Regional Impact

The primary catalyst for the Ganja-Dashkasan region innovation ecosystem and digital infrastructure.



Innovation Gaps

Addressing access to venture capital and scaling Tech Start-Up Centres with scientific expertise.

VISION & MISSION

Our Vision

To be a globally recognized technological hub that drives sustainable industrialization and inclusive innovation in the Caucasus region.



Our Mission

To provide a nurturing environment for students, faculty, and regional entrepreneurs to develop, test, and commercialize technologies that solve environmental and social challenges.

SDG TARGET ALIGNMENT



- ✓ Target 5.8: Gender Equality through digital literacy and tech-entrepreneurship.
- ✓ Target 7.2: Renewable energy R&D laboratory solutions.
- ✓ Targets 9.1, 9.4, 9.7: Sustainable infrastructure upgrading.
- ✓ Target 11.2: Sustainable transport research & mobility.
- ✓ Target 13.3: Institutional Climate Action capacity.

POLICY OBJECTIVES & KPIS

100%

Curricula Integration

Sustainability as a core component of technological academic paths.

30

Annual Startups

Incubation and legal coaching for new tech ventures by 2026.

Patents

Commercial Paths

University-led intellectual property reaching the open market.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

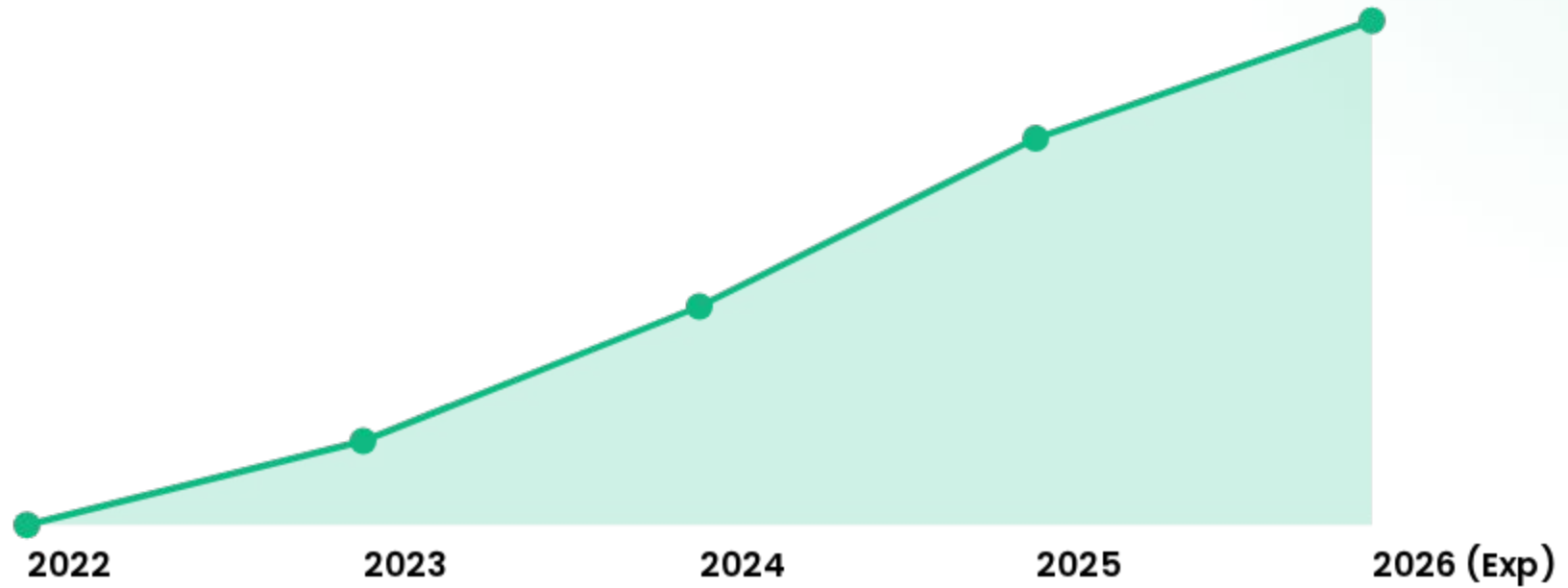
- ✓ **Technological Empowerment:** Tools for all to innovate for a better future.
- ✓ **Urban Resilience:** Prioritizing smart city and mobility solutions.
- ✓ **Responsible Governance:** Transparency, ethics, and academic freedom.
- ✓ **Applied Science:** Transforming academic discoveries into practical solutions.



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE


Body / Entity	Responsibility & Scope	Reporting Line
ATU Innovation Center	Operational implementation of the policy framework.	Vice-Rector for Science
Expert Working Group	Startup viability evaluation & compliance checking.	Innovation Center
Ecosystem Partners	Incubation support, legal assistance, and coaching.	Collaborative Network
QS Governance Pillar	Inclusive decision-making and anti-corruption oversight.	Academic Senate

IMPLEMENTATION GROWTH



Projected Ecosystem Growth: Registered Tech Startups and External R&D Funding Volume

Highlight Project: Ganja Electric Vehicle



Prioritizing research into sustainable transport systems through the flagship EV project. This exemplifies ATU's commitment to SDG 11.2 and regional industrial modernization.

Azerbaijan Technological University Innovation Center & Expert Working Group

Connecting Startups with the Global Innovation
Network





Sustainability Innovation Implementation Plan

2026 Strategic Cycle & Commercialization Roadmap

Azerbaijan Technological University

Strategic Objectives

Pivoting from foundational policy to global rankings and commercial viability.

2026 Strategic Objectives

Institutional Focus

Transitioning from the 2022-2025 cycle to a focus on **Commercialization and Global Impact**.

- Institutionalize technology transfer.
- Secure early-stage venture funding.
- Achieve top-tier QS Governance scores.



Infrastructure Upgrade

Green-Tech Prototyping Lab

A specialized facility focused on bridging the gap between university R&D and industrial application.

- Next-gen prototyping hardware.
- Specialized waste-to-energy tools.
- Open-access startup support.



Priority Programs & Projects



VC Network

Establishment of regional venture capital for incubated startups.



Legal Framework

Legal support for IP and international patent protection.



TTO Activation

Activation of Technology Transfer Office for industrial applications.

Governance & Compliance

Campus Monitoring

Advanced systems for energy and waste reduction, ensuring compliance with Climate Action Policy.

Open-Access Reporting

Transparent sustainability reporting to share SDG progress with international partners.

Faculty Training: Specialized training on commercialization and "Market-Ready" research methodologies.

Ecosystem Growth Targets

30

Registered Tech Companies

Market Scaling

Targeting a nearly 2x increase in registered technology companies within the university ecosystem by year-end 2026.

Focusing on Ganja-based industrial partnerships and sustainable manufacturing solutions.

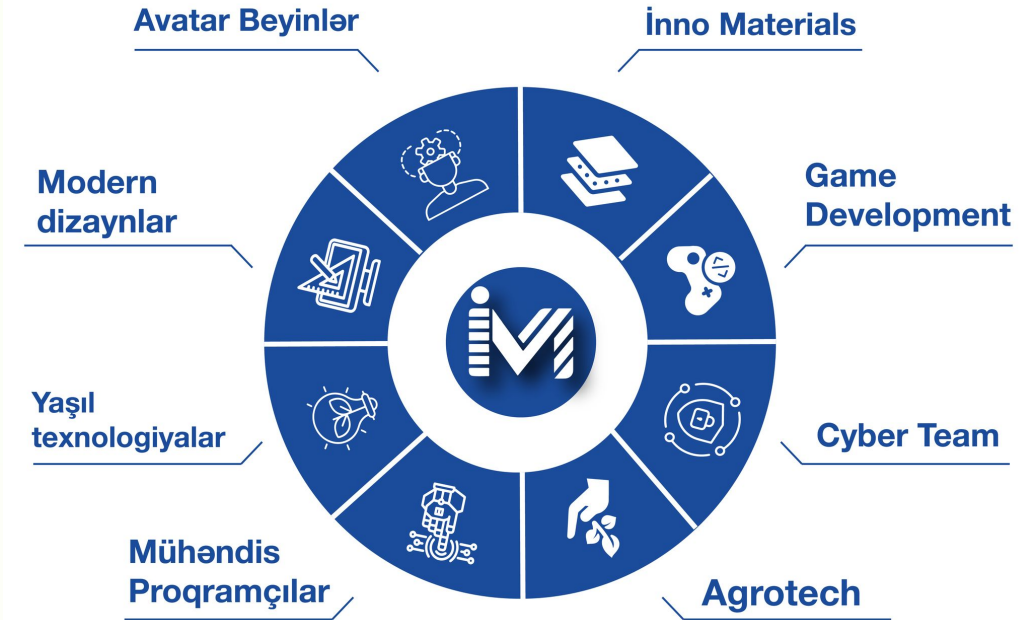
Student Engagement Strategy

Student Innovation Society

Validating student-led societies through the formal "Student Innovation Society" program.

- Structured mentorship from TTO.
- Seed funding eligibility.
- SDG leadership certification.

İnnovasiya Mərkəzinin klubları



Implementation Roadmap 2026



Q2: Launch

"Green Startup" Incubator cohort (Target: 60 entries).



Q2: Audit



Q3: Pilot

Launch of first three commercialized technologies.



Q4: Summit

Regional Investor Summit for international partners.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Indicator	2025 Actual	2026 Target
Registered Tech Companies	16	30
Female-led Startups (%)	35%	45%
SDG-integrated Courses	20%	50%

Resources & Risk Management

Budget: 10,000 AZN

Covers laboratory upgrades, startup grants, and ranking consultancy.

Sources: Internal Fund, Grants, Private Partnerships.

Risk Mitigation

Engagement: Liaison Officers for Ganja manufacturers.

Data Gaps: Centralized mandate for admin data reporting.