



ZERO HUNGER

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

LANKARAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Adopted: 2026

Review cycle: every 3 years

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS



- INTRODUCTION AND STRATEGIC COMMITMENT
- ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS
- SOCIAL WELFARE AND FOOD ACCESSIBILITY
- EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
- SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
- MONITORING, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
- RISK MANAGEMENT
- CONCLUSION

INTRODUCTION AND STRATEGIC COMMITMENT

SDG 2 – Zero Hunger, adopted by the United Nations as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, calls for ending hunger, achieving food security, improving nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture. Beyond its humanitarian dimension, SDG 2 is intrinsically linked to public health, environmental sustainability, economic resilience, and human capital development.

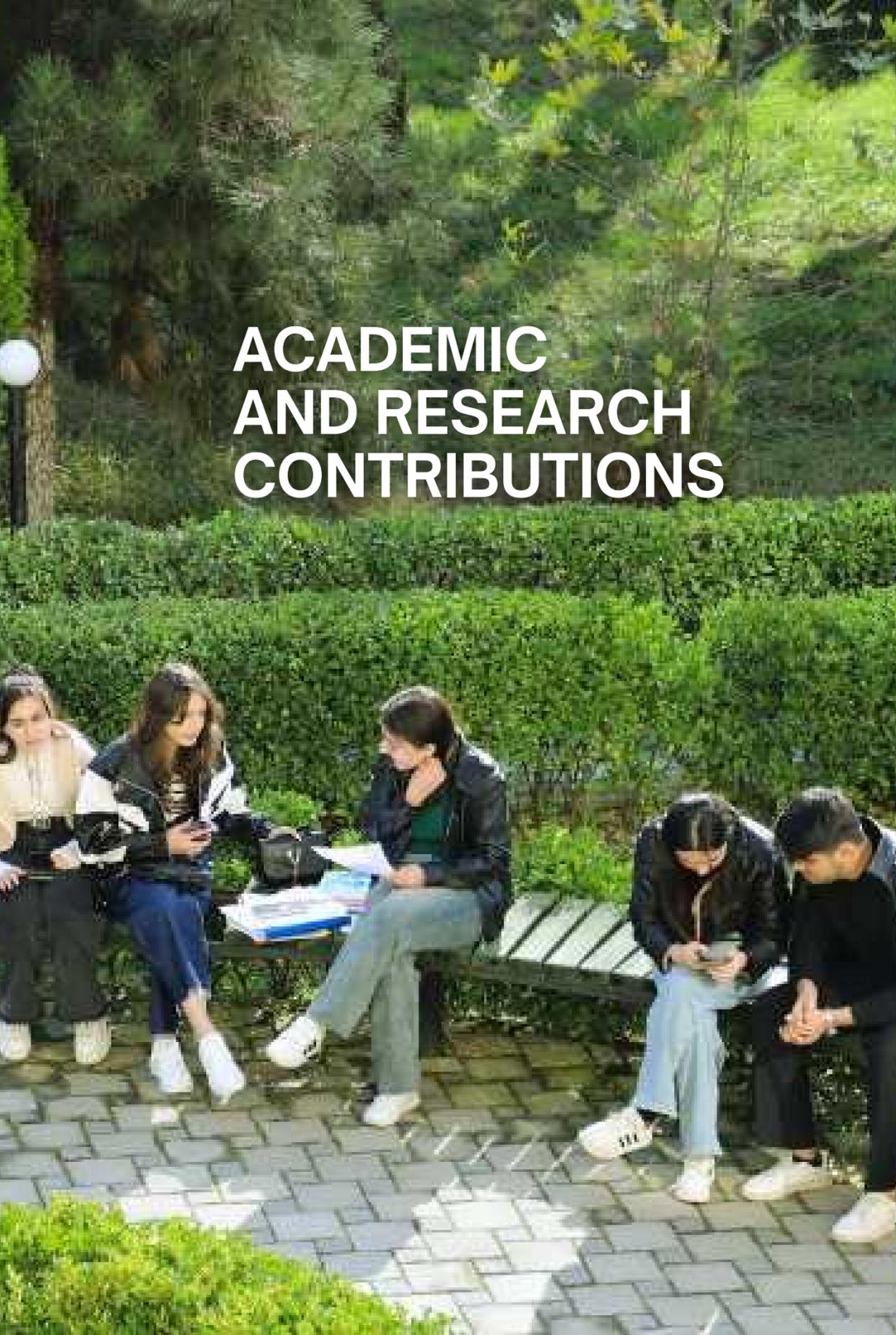
Lankaran State University (LSU) recognizes its responsibility as a regional higher education institution situated in one of Azerbaijan's key agrarian zones. Drawing upon the socio-economic and ecological characteristics of the Lankaran region, the University integrates SDG 2 into its academic programs, research priorities, community engagement, and institutional governance.

LSU contributes in particular to the following SDG 2 targets:

- Ensuring sustainable access to safe and nutritionally adequate food;
- Increasing agricultural productivity through science-based innovation;
- Promoting resilient and sustainable agricultural systems.

This policy outlines the University's comprehensive and structured approach to advancing Zero Hunger.





ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH CONTRIBUTIONS

Education and Human Capital Development

LSU offers specialized programs in agriculture, agribusiness, food safety, environmental sciences, and forestry. The curriculum is designed to align scientific knowledge with practical application and includes areas :

Soil science and agrochemistry

Plant protection and crop biotechnology

Agronomy and plant managing

Seed production

Oenology / Enology

Food safety and risk management

Food engineering and food production management

Forestry, forest biology, and forest conservation

Soil fertility and sustainable land management

Laboratory-based soil analysis is conducted within the University's specialized facilities, enabling evidence-based recommendations for local farmers. This strengthens the scientific foundation of agricultural productivity in the region.

In the field of food safety, LSU cooperates with the agencies to organize training sessions, awareness programs, and seminars that enhance professional competencies and ensure compliance with national standards.

RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

LSU conducts applied research tailored to the ecological and climatic characteristics of the subtropical Lankaran. Key research priorities include:

- Enhancing tea and citrus productivity;
- Development of disease-resistant crop cultivars;
- Promoting organic farming and soil conservation practices;
- Optimizing food supply chains to reduce post-harvest losses.

Black velvet Lankaran Tea

Brewing procedure: For every 200 ml of water, 2 teaspoons of dry tea leaves should be added to the hot dry teapot and freshly boiled water should be added to it and brewed in a warm place for 6-7 minutes. Contains no GMOs. It should be stored in a dry and fragrance-free place where the relative humidity does not exceed 70%.



PRACTICAL TRAINING IN SUSTAINABLE AGRO-ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

Hirkan National park

Students participate in field-based learning experiences, including practical training in Students' field-based training is conducted in Hirkan National Park and its surrounding areas, enabling the practical application of theoretical knowledge in real-world ecological and agricultural contexts.



THE IMPACT OF FORESTRY AND BIODIVERSITY ON FOOD SECURITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

LSU regularly hosts national and international scientific-practical conferences

To foster academic dialogue, LSU regularly hosts national and international scientific-practical conferences. On May 8, 2025, the University organized the International Scientific-Practical Conference entitled **“The Impact of Forestry and Biodiversity on Food Security and Public Health.”**

The conference provided a platform for interdisciplinary discussion on ecosystem preservation, biodiversity management, and their relationship to sustainable food systems, bringing together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.



THE 19TH CENTURY IREVAN CUISINE

The University promotes research into traditional food systems and culinary heritage. The presentation of the book “The 19th Century Irevan Cuisine” co-authored by Doctor of Philosophy in History and Honored Cultural Worker Tahir Amiraslanov, highlighting the historical and cultural dimensions of traditional food systems.

It reflects LSU’s broader academic interest in historical dietary models and cultural food systems, contributing indirectly to discussions on sustainable nutrition and food identity.





SOCIAL WELFARE AND FOOD ACCESSIBILITY

LSU recognizes that food security begins within the university community itself. The University allocates more than 30,000 AZN annually to support social welfare initiatives. These resources are directed toward:

Financial and food assistance for socially vulnerable students and staff;

Social support programs implemented through the Trade Union Committee;

Discounted meal arrangements in selected cafés and restaurants in Lankaran.

These measures strengthen food accessibility and directly contribute to SDG target 2.1.

ON-CAMPUS CAFETERIAS

LSU reinforces student well-being and academic performance

Three on-campus cafeterias provide students with access to balanced and safe meals. These facilities operate in accordance with food safety and sanitary-hygienic standards, hold relevant certifications, and are subject to regular monitoring procedures. By ensuring safe and affordable nutrition on campus, LSU reinforces student well-being and academic performance.



EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Food security is closely linked to economic stability and employment. LSU contributes to regional development and human capital formation through:

- Annual recruitment across various academic and administrative fields;**
- Organization of career fairs for students and graduates;**
- Collaboration with public and private sector institutions to facilitate job placement;**
- Internship and practical training programs designed to enhance professional competencies.**

These initiatives support the development of qualified specialists in agriculture and food-related sectors and indirectly advance SDG target 2.3 by strengthening productive capacity and livelihoods.



SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

LSU integrates sustainability principles into campus operations. The University maintains citrus gardens and training-practice fields that function as living laboratories for students.

Mechanisms for organic waste recycling and food waste reduction are implemented to promote resource efficiency and environmental responsibility. These practices demonstrate the University's commitment to sustainable agricultural systems not only in theory but also in daily institutional practice.



AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

Lankaran State University plans to procure modern agricultural machinery, including a new-generation tractor, in order to enhance the efficiency of its horticulture and crop production activities. This initiative will ensure more effective and timely field operations, improve land management practices, promote resource efficiency, and strengthen students' practical competencies in contemporary agricultural technologies.



MONITORING, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The implementation of this policy is evaluated through measurable indicators, including:

The annual number of soil analyses conducted;

The number of students benefiting from social support programs;

The annual volume of allocated social funding;

Participation rates in career fairs;

Graduate employment rates within the region.

Annual reports are submitted to University leadership and inform strategic planning processes, ensuring transparency and continuous improvement.

Risk Management

The University acknowledges potential risks, including:

Climate change impacts on agricultural productivity;

Financial resource constraints;

Regional economic fluctuations.

To address these challenges, LSU applies evidence-based adaptation strategies, strengthens partnerships, and promotes innovation in sustainable agricultural practices.

CONCLUSION

Lankaran State University approaches SDG 2 – Zero Hunger as a multidimensional commitment that extends beyond academic instruction. By integrating research, education, social welfare mechanisms, employment initiatives, and sustainable campus management, the University contributes meaningfully to food security and regional resilience.

Through its scientific expertise, annual social investments, and institutional partnerships, LSU serves as a strategic partner in advancing sustainable food systems and human capital development in the region.