17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Sustainable Development Goal 17

Progress Report 2025

Afrasiab University

(formerly the Institute of Social and Political Sciences, ISFI)

Non-state higher education institution, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Reporting period	1 January – 31 December 2025
Website	afrasiabedu.uz

This report presents the progress of Afrasiab University towards SDG 17 during 2025. In 2025 the institution operated under its former name, the Institute of Social and Political Sciences (ISFI); activities and evidence from that period therefore show the former name.

1. Introduction

Afrasiab University (formerly the Institute of Social and Political Sciences, ISFI) is a non-state higher education institution in Tashkent, licensed in December 2022. The university recognises that the Sustainable Development Goals can only be achieved through partnership. In line with SDG 17, Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, it works with government-affiliated bodies, NGOs and universities in Uzbekistan and abroad.

This report summarises the university's progress towards SDG 17 between January and December 2025. It covers dialogue with external organisations on SDG-related issues, international academic partnerships and comparative work on the SDGs, collaboration with NGOs, SDG reporting, and education for the SDGs. It closes with priorities for further development.

2. Highlights of 2025

Area	What the university did in 2025
Cross-sectoral dialogue	Round table with the Center for People's Diplomacy of the SCO in Uzbekistan (27 October 2025)
International comparative work	International webinar series "Agritourism and Ecotourism" with Universiti Putra Malaysia (November 2025)
New international partners	Memoranda or cooperation agreements with UNIKOM and UNJANI (Indonesia), UIBE (China), UPSI (Malaysia), Michigan State University (USA), NARICO Enterprises (Malaysia); academic exchange with Shymkent University (Kazakhstan)
Collaboration with NGOs	Lecture by the Association of Non-State Higher Education Institutions (10 September 2025); HIV prevention training with the public association "Imkoniyat" (3 December 2025); Ibn Sino Public Foundation health seminars (1 December 2025)
Student engagement	Progressive Youth Movement volunteers helped organise the "Eco Intellect" environmental quiz with the Ecological Party of Uzbekistan
SDG reporting	Separate progress reports published for SDGs 3, 4, 8 and 17
Education for the SDGs	SDG topics integrated into all degree programmes; dedicated sustainability courses; free courses for the community; student survey covering sustainability

3. Dialogue with external organisations on the SDGs

3.1 Round table with the SCO Center for People’s Diplomacy

On 27 October 2025, the institute hosted a round table between representatives of the Center for People’s Diplomacy of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Uzbekistan and its students. Participants discussed the Center’s role in shaping Uzbekistan’s international image, models of people’s diplomacy, cultural, humanitarian, educational and ethno-geographical relations, and the SCO’s strategic priorities for regional cooperation (SDGs 16 and 17).



Round table with the SCO Center for People’s Diplomacy, 27 October 2025.



Students at the round table, 27 October 2025.

Evidence: t.me/afrasiabuniversity/1289

3.2 Lecture by the Association of Non-State Higher Education Institutions

On 10 September 2025, Nurimon Abulxasan, Chairman of the Association of Non-State Higher Education Institutions of Uzbekistan, a non-governmental, non-profit organisation, delivered a lecture for students on “The Impact of Globalization on International Relations”, covering cooperation between states and contemporary political developments (SDGs 4, 16 and 17).



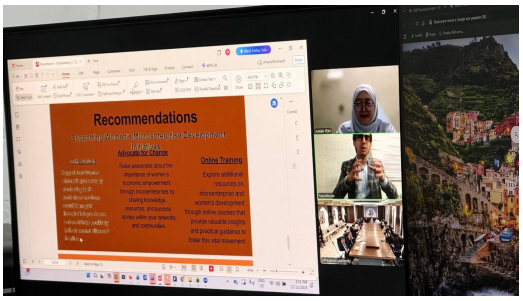
Lecture “The Impact of Globalization on International Relations”, 10 September 2025.

Evidence: afrasiabedu.uz/news-info/Globallashuv-va-xalqaro-munosabatlar-muhim-mavzu-samarali-muloqot

4. International collaboration and comparative approaches to the SDGs

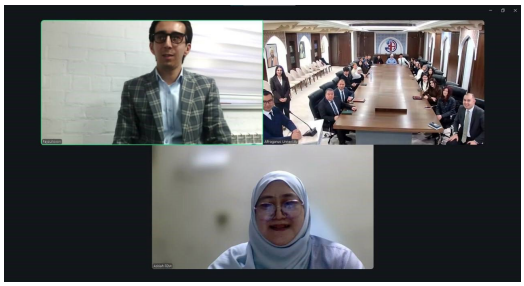
4.1 Webinar series “Agritourism and Ecotourism” with Universiti Putra Malaysia

In November 2025, on the institute’s initiative, the next webinar in the international series “Agritourism and Ecotourism” was held with Universiti Putra Malaysia (QS #134), with faculty and students of Alfraganus University. Aziza Sadullayeva (Alfraganus University) presented “Developing an innovative marketing plan for coordinating tourist visits to protected natural areas”, and Dr Askiah Binti Jamaluddin (Faculty of Human Ecology, UPM) presented “The impact of microenterprise on women’s economic development in Malaysia”. Researchers from Uzbekistan and Malaysia compared national approaches to sustainable tourism and women’s economic empowerment (SDGs 5, 8, 12, 15).



Presentation on supporting women’s microenterprise development.

Evidence: t.me/afrasiabuniversity/1578



Participants from Malaysia and Uzbekistan in the webinar.

4.2 New international academic partnerships

In 2025 the university built a network of international partners that provides the basis for joint research, academic mobility and comparative work on the SDGs:

Partner	Country	Outcome
UNIKOM University	Indonesia	Memorandum of Understanding signed: academic exchange, joint international research projects and participation in international grant programmes
Universitas Jenderal Achmad Yani (UNJANI)	Indonesia	Memorandum of Understanding signed on 3 December 2025: academic mobility, staff internships, joint research grants and joint programmes
University of International Business and Economics (UIBE)	China	Short-term academic mobility, faculty research cooperation; joint bachelor’s and master’s programmes planned from 2026/27
Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI)	Malaysia	Online meeting: multidisciplinary projects, joint programmes, student exchange and joint research
Michigan State University	USA	Meeting with Prof. Douglas K. Hartman (14 November 2025): joint research, publications, student mobility and joint events from 2026
NARICO Enterprises	Malaysia	Meeting with CEO Dr Datuk Chris Tan: comparison of education challenges in Malaysia and Uzbekistan, human capital development and joint international projects
Shymkent University	Kazakhstan	Faculty and students took part in class sessions and exchanged experience in modern teaching methods



Signing of the MoU with UNIKOM University (Indonesia), 2025.



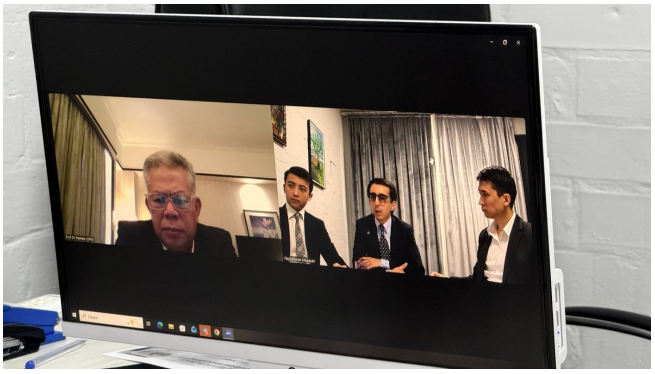
Meeting with UIBE (China), 2025.



Meeting with NARICO Enterprises (Malaysia), 2025.



Prof. Douglas K. Hartman, Michigan State University, 14 November 2025.



Online meeting with UPSI (Malaysia), 2025.



Exchange with Shymkent University (Kazakhstan), 2025.

5. Collaboration with NGOs to tackle the SDGs

NGO / partner	Activity in 2025	SDGs
Association of Non-State Higher Education Institutions	Lecture for students on globalization and international relations (10 September 2025)	4, 16, 17
Public association “Imkoniyat”	Seminar-training on HIV prevention and tolerance towards people living with HIV (3 December 2025)	3, 10
Ibn Sino Public Foundation	Free public health education seminars on campus (1 December 2025)	3
Ecological Party of Uzbekistan	Progressive Youth Movement student volunteers helped organise the “Eco Intellect” environmental quiz	13, 15



“Eco Intellect” environmental quiz with student volunteers of the Progressive Youth Movement, 2025.

Evidence: t.me/afrasiabuniversity/1400

6. SDG reporting

For the 2025 reporting year, the university has published separate progress reports on SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 17 (this report). The reports are available in the SDG section of the university website (afrasiabedu.uz).

7. Education for the SDGs

Commitment	How it is delivered
SDGs across the curriculum	The Mission and Vision (first stage, 2025–2026) includes introducing SDG principles; SDG topics are integrated into all degree programmes: Tourism and Hospitality, Economics, Psychology, Architecture and Jurisprudence
Dedicated courses	Compulsory and elective courses such as Environmental Law, Human Rights, Labour Law, Health Psychology, Inclusive Education, Global Economic Development, Sustainable Architecture and Sustainable and Responsible Management in Tourism and Hospitality
Education for the wider community	Free programming and computer literacy courses for local residents with a certificate (from October 2025); free public health seminars
Measuring sustainability awareness	The student survey, updated in 2025 on the basis of ESG principles, includes questions on sustainability in the curriculum, social responsibility and equality, and the ecological sustainability of the campus



Free programming and computer literacy courses for the community, October 2025.

8. Priorities for development

Priority	Planned action
SDG policy contribution	Offer expert opinions and take part in working groups on national SDG policy
Joint SDG research	Turn the 2025 partnerships into joint research and data projects on the SDGs with UPM, UNIKOM, UNJANI, UIBE and Michigan State University
NGO partnerships	Formalise cooperation with NGOs through memoranda and develop student volunteering programmes
SDG reporting	Publish an overall sustainability report covering all 17 SDGs
Sustainability literacy	Introduce a dedicated sustainability knowledge test (e.g. Sulitest) for students

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