

**Approved by Decision of the Management Board of
the NJSC “Aktobe Regional University named after K. Zhubanov”
Protocol #21
dated from 17.09.2024**

**AKTOBE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY NAMED AFTER K. ZHUBANOV CLIMATE
ACTION POLICY**

Aktobe Regional University named after K. Zhubanov (hereinafter - University) recognizes the importance of climate change and its impact on global ecological balance. University acknowledges its role in shaping a sustainable future through education, scientific research, and the implementation of environmentally-friendly practices. The Climate Action Policy (hereinafter - Policy) aims to integrate environmental responsibility into every aspect of the University’s activities. University strives to become an example for other educational institutions in the field of sustainable development and environmental awareness.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNITION

In 2021, the University won the "Best Higher Educational Institution" award as part of the "Zhasyl El" (Green Country) project, confirming active efforts in implementing environmentally sustainable practices. This achievement serves as the foundation for further improving University initiatives to enhance the ecological situation both in the region and within the University campuses.

In September 2024, the University was awarded state funding to establish the Center for Academic Excellence. This project is supported by program-targeted financing of the Science Committee of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2024–2026. The center will specialize in research on recycling of technogenic waste, which will significantly improve the environmental situation in the region and promote sustainable technologies.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Policy is to foster a sustainable environmental culture among the students and staff of the University, minimize the carbon footprint of the campuses, and continue to develop scientific research in the field of ecology. University is committed to active implementation of sustainable practices and addressing environmental challenges through its daily operations, education and research activities.

1. OPERATIONS

Action Plan:

- *Energy Efficiency:* The University utilizes gas for campus heating, reducing reliance on more polluting energy sources such as coal. Future plans include the introduction of more efficient heating and lighting systems with modern technology.
- *Carbon Footprint Reduction:* Optimization of energy systems and the implementation of energy-efficient technologies.

- *Waste Management:* A waste separation system has been introduced on campus, promoting recycling and reuse of materials.
- *Sustainable Campus Development:* Greening of the campus and the integration of solutions for processing industrial waste.

SMART Objectives:

1. Reduce fossil fuel consumption by modernizing heating systems.
2. Increase waste recycling rates by 50% through the implementation of a comprehensive waste separation system.
3. Implement energy-saving systems across the university buildings.

2. EDUCATION

The University continues to develop educational programs aimed at training specialists to address environmental challenges. It also actively promotes knowledge of ecology and sustainable development among students and staff.

Action Plan:

- *Curriculum Integration:* Training specialists in ecology through academic programs such as 6B05201 "Ecology" and 6B05203 "Landscape Design."
- *Student Engagement:* Students participate in environmental projects, campus greening initiatives, and waste management activities to mitigate environmental impact.
- *Awareness Campaigns:* Courses and lectures on sustainable development and ecology are offered to students and faculty to raise awareness of climate change issues.

SMART Objectives:

1. Ensure at least 70% of students participate in sustainability initiatives annually from 2024 onward.
2. Conduct at least five open lectures and seminars on climate change and sustainable development each year.
3. Engage faculty members in training programs on environmentally sustainable practices.

3. RESEARCH

Scientific research plays a key role in finding solutions to mitigate climate change and develop sustainable technologies. Zhubanov University actively conducts research on industrial waste recycling and reducing the environmental impact of industrial processes. Collaboration with leading scientific institutions and industrial enterprises enables the implementation of innovative environmental solutions and promotes sustainable regional development.

Action Plan:

- *Innovative Environmental Solutions:* The University was awarded state funding for research on industrial waste recycling to improve regional environmental conditions.

- *Industry Collaboration:* The Center for Academic Excellence partners with the Chemical and Metallurgical Institute named after Zh. Abishev and KazMagnoChromite LLP.

SMART Objectives:

1. Establish three new research laboratories in metallurgy, materials science, and ecology by 2025.
2. Develop new technologies for processing industrial waste to enhance environmental conditions in the region.
3. Develop high standards for wastewater treatment in the city of Aktobe.