

# NAO "South Kazakhstan University named after M. Auezov»



conservation of terrestrial ecosystems

## Introduction

Auezov University is the greenest university in our city, which every year strives to become a world leader in sustainable development and pursues a policy of preserving terrestrial ecosystems. Various scientific research activities are carried out on campuses to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We are taught to treat flora and fauna with care and responsibility.

Auezov University today develops leadership qualities in students and works to introduce environmental thinking and worldview.

Declining forest areas, land degradation in drylands and loss of biodiversity are a global problem. The UN calls on countries to preserve forests and forest plantations and more rational use of terrestrial ecosystems. The university implements programs in the field of ecology, and also conducts research on the terrestrial ecosystem with the aim of further protecting and restoring it.

## University strategy

The primary purpose of this policy is to provide the university's leadership and commitment to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems by promoting sustainable practices, research, education, and community engagement.

The scope of the policy applies to all university operations, including campus properties, university-managed lands, and education and research programs. Our university actively wants to protect and restore important terrestrial ecosystems on and off campus.

- Integrate terrestrial ecosystem conservation principles into all relevant land management policies and practices.
- Support research and educational programs aimed at studying, understanding, and conserving terrestrial ecosystems.
- Engage students, faculty, staff, and community members in ecosystem conservation initiatives.
- Partner with other organizations to advance conservation efforts locally, regionally, and internationally.

The University recognizes the following basic principles for the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems:

- Terrestrial ecosystems are vital to the health and well-being of people and the planet.
- The conservation of terrestrial ecosystems requires an integrated approach that includes protection, restoration and sustainable management.
- Research and education play a critical role in promoting understanding and awareness of ecosystem conservation efforts.
- Collaboration and partnerships are critical to achieving conservation goals.
- Each generation has a responsibility to preserve terrestrial ecosystems for future generations.

University named after M. Auezova will implement this policy by:

- Develop and implement a land management plan to protect and restore terrestrial ecosystems on university property.
- Implement sustainable land use and management practices in all relevant operations.

- Promote research aimed at understanding and conserving terrestrial ecosystems.
- Integrating conservation principles into curricula and experiential learning opportunities for students.
- Create opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and community members to participate in conservation initiatives.
- Collaborate with local communities, government agencies, and other organizations to support conservation efforts at a broader level.

The University will monitor and evaluate implementation of this policy through regular reports and evaluations. Monitoring results will be used to adapt and improve conservation strategies for terrestrial ecosystems as needed.

On behalf of the head of state, the environmental campaign “Taza Kazakhstan” is taking place across the republic. As part of the campaign called “Clean Land”, during the first week, residents of populated areas, public figures, and employees of organizations clean yards on their territory. Teachers and students of South Kazakhstan University named after M. Auezov took an active part in the cleanliness campaign. The area around the buildings of the educational institution was cleared of ash, and debris from dirt stuck in the water ditches. The bottoms are whitewashed, the grass is mowed, collected and swept. In addition, the youth of the university also participated in the cleaning carried out in other areas of the city and contributed to the cleanliness of the city. About 3,500 people from the teaching staff and students of the university took part in today’s environmental action. This event will be held at the university on an ongoing basis.

The fight against desertification. By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded lands and soils, including lands affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve zero land degradation worldwide.

Ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems. By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their ability to provide the benefits necessary for sustainable development. Take immediate meaningful action to curb the degradation of natural habitats, stop the loss of biological diversity and by 2020 year to ensure the conservation and prevention of extinction of endangered species.

# **Responsibilities of the University**

Universities play a critical role in conserving terrestrial ecosystems. Our university fully supports and actively desires the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems through the following responsibilities:

Research and Education:

- Conduct scientific research to understand ecosystems, identify threats, and develop conservation solutions.
- Preparing future ecologists, conservation managers and decision makers through teaching and practical experience.

Land management and restoration:

- Manage university-owned natural areas using sustainable conservation methods.
- Restoring degraded ecosystems by planting trees, removing invasive species and improving habitats.

Raising awareness and community participation:

- Involving students, faculty and the public in conservation initiatives by organizing events, workshops and volunteer programs.
- Collaborate with local communities to support conservation efforts and raise awareness of the importance of terrestrial ecosystems.

Policy and protection:

- Support the development and implementation of policies that protect terrestrial ecosystems at local, regional and national levels.
- Serving as experts and consultants on conservation issues to government, industry and other interested parties.

The international cooperation:

- Participation in international conservation projects, sharing knowledge and collaborating with scientists and practitioners from other countries.
- Support research and educational initiatives on conservation in developing countries.

Other important responsibilities:

- Encouraging sustainable purchasing and business practices on campus.
- Use of renewable energy sources and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Encouraging environmentally responsible behavior among students and staff.

By fulfilling these responsibilities, universities can make significant contributions to the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems now and in the future.

The UN Decade Strategy reflects the direct relationship between youth well-being and recovery goals. Education for restoration will develop today's children as ambassadors for ecosystem restoration, help them learn the skills needed for sustainable jobs, and help us build on the gains of the Decade for years to come.