Approved by the Academic Council
non-profit joint stock company
«S.Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical
Research University»

date of creation 13/11/2024
date of revision 13/11/2026

S.SEIFULLIN KAZAKH AGROTECHNICAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS

1. General Provisions

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, as well as the preservation of biodiversity on campus and in the regions where the University operates.

The scope of this policy is all University employees, students, faculty, contractors and visitors, as well as all lands and buildings under the control of the University.

2. Sustainable Campus Grounds Management

Greening and Biodiversity:

- Priority for Native Species: when planning landscaping and greening efforts, prioritize the use of native plant species to support local biodiversity and reduce the need for irrigation/maintenance.
- Conservation of Green Spaces: minimize impact on existing green areas during construction or renovation, and conduct compensatory planting (e.g., "tree for tree").
- Creation of "Green" Spaces: Develop ecological zones for scientific, educational, and recreational purposes.

Soil and Waste Management:

- Reduction of Chemical Use: Prohibition or strict limitation of the use of pesticides and herbicides on campus grounds. Use of organic maintenance methods.
- Composting: implementation of composting programs for vegetative waste (mowed grass, fallen leaves) to produce organic fertilizers.

Rational Resource Use:

- Water Management: implementation of rainwater harvesting systems and maximum reuse of water for irrigation.

Reduction of Ecological Footprint:

- Limiting vehicle emissions on campus, encouraging walking, cycling, and the use of public transport.

3. Education and Scientific Research

Research Activities

Research Support: Stimulation of scientific projects aimed at the study, protection, and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems, biodiversity, as well as the development of sustainable land use methods.

Integration with Infrastructure: Use of the campus grounds as a "living laboratory" for practical classes and research in ecology, soil science, and landscape design.

Educational Process

Ecosystem Approach: Integration of the principles of sustainable ecosystem use and biodiversity conservation into the curricula of relevant Educational programs (6B08302 Landscape design and gardening, 6B08303 Protective forestation, 6B08103 Soil science and agrochemistry, 6B08101 Agronomy, 7M08301 Forest park, 8D08301 Sustainable forest management etc.).

4. Engagement and Awareness

- Environmental Education: Regular organization of ecological campaigns, cleanup days, lectures, seminars, and excursions aimed at raising awareness about the importance of terrestrial ecosystems.
- Public Information: Publication of reports on the university's activities concerning SDG 15, creation of informational boards about the campus flora and fauna.
- Community Interaction: Participation in regional and national greening and nature conservation projects, cooperation with local authorities and non-profit organizations.
- Volunteering: Encouragement and support of student initiatives and volunteer programs aimed at protecting nature.

5. Special Requirements for the Educational Scientific and Production complex in Shchuchinsk

Given the strategic location of the Educational Scientific and Production complex in Shchuchinsk in close proximity to Specially Protected Natural Areas (SPNAs) and its specialized role, additional requirements are established to ensure maximum contribution to SDG 15.

5.1. Increased Responsibility for Natural Areas:

- Buffer Zone": The Educational Scientific and Production complex must serve as a model for sustainable land use in the border area with the natural park/forest, complying with all regulations and restrictions established for SPNAs.
- Minimizing Impact: Strict adherence to standards for zero discharge of pollutants and noise control to prevent negative impact on surrounding ecosystems.
- Fire Prevention: Implementation and strict adherence to enhanced fire safety measures, especially during the fire hazard season.

5.2. Research and Educational Potential:

Living Laboratory: The Educational Scientific and Production complex territory and adjacent ecosystems are actively used as a training and research field for studying biodiversity, forestry, and environmental monitoring.

Specialized Programs: Development and delivery of specialized field practices and courses on ecotourism, conservation of mountain and forest ecosystems for students in relevant majors.

Biodiversity Monitoring: The Educational Scientific and Production complex initiates and supports long-term programs for monitoring the flora and fauna in its micro-region, providing data for scientific research and conservation organizations.

5.3. Interaction and Outreach:

- Partnership with SPNAs: The Educational Scientific and Production complex establishes close cooperation with the management of the State National Nature Park "Burabay" to conduct joint research, ecological patrols, and educational events.

6. Monitoring and Evaluation

Annual analysis and reporting on the progress in achieving the Policy's goals, including: area of new green spaces and restored territories, number of scientific publications and educational activities related to SDG 15.

Policy Review: Regular review and update of the Policy in accordance with new scientific data and the university's strategic goals.