



>> **Mingachevir State University**

Report

2 ZERO
HUNGER



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GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The second goal of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), “Zero Hunger,” aims to end hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030. This goal seeks to ensure that all people, especially vulnerable groups such as children, women, and low-income populations, have access to sufficient and nutritious food. SDG 2 also emphasizes the need for sustainable agricultural practices, the protection of ecosystems, and resilience to climate-related challenges.



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE AND CHALLENGES

Globally, hunger remains one of the most pressing issues affecting sustainable development. According to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), over 700 million people face chronic hunger, and approximately 2.3 billion experience moderate or severe food insecurity. Climate change, conflicts, and economic crises continue to threaten food systems and global nutrition. SDG 2, therefore, encourages the development of sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, reduction of food waste, and improvement of access to modern agricultural technologies and markets.



NATIONAL CONTEXT

In the Republic of Azerbaijan, ensuring food security and the sustainable development of agriculture are among the national strategic priorities. The government has implemented programs that focus on efficient use of water resources, modernization of agricultural technologies, and the promotion of local food production. The “State Program on Food Security and Nutrition” and the “Rural Development Strategy” support the expansion of agricultural innovation, entrepreneurship, and rural employment. Public awareness campaigns on healthy eating, ecological sustainability, and resource management are also conducted at both local and regional levels.





RELATION TO MDU'S ACTIVITIES

- Conducting scientific research on regional development, agriculture, and food security;
- Organizing educational projects and workshops on sustainable agriculture, eco-friendly technologies, and biodiversity;
- Promoting healthy eating habits and environmental responsibility among students and local communities;



- Implementing cooperation programs with local government bodies, NGOs, and businesses to address food and nutrition challenges;
- Encouraging student participation in innovation and start-up projects focused on sustainable food systems;
- Integrating sustainability, agricultural management, and food security topics into academic curricula and extracurricular activities;
- Raising awareness on ecological balance, resource management, and community-based environmental stewardship.





1. <https://greencampus.mdu.edu.az/mdu-da-yasil-iqtisadiyyat-v%99muasirt%99hsil-n%99z%99ri-v%99praktik-yanasma-movzusunda-elmi-seminar-kecirilib/>
2. <https://greencampus.mdu.edu.az/mdu-greenagrohack-hakaton-yarismasinda-t%99msil-olunub/>

Regular meetings, discussions, and awareness sessions on food security, food shortages, and solutions to these challenges are held at Mingachevir State University (MDU). These events focus on improving food supply at the local and regional levels, promoting efficient resource use, and advancing sustainable agricultural models.

Types and Categories of Food

Food products are divided into numerous types. This classification can be based on various criteria. The most common classification is as follows:

- Fresh products:** fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs, meat, fish, etc.;
- Dry foods:** flour, rice, pasta, sugar, salt, legumes;
- Canned foods:** pickles, compotes, canned fish and meat;
- Semi-finished products:** frozen dough, cutlets, dumplings, pelmeni, etc.;
- Sweets and snacks:** biscuits, wafers, chocolate, dried fruits;



- Beverages:** fruit juices, dairy products, mineral waters, tea, coffee.

Food products are also classified according to their origin: **plant-based** and **animal-based**. Experts recommend a balanced consumption between these types for healthy nutrition. At the same time, specific categories such as **halal food**, **organic food**, and **GMO-free food** are among the important factors that attract consumers' attention.



ANALYTICAL OVERVIEW AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Through its educational, scientific, and community initiatives, MDU actively contributes to addressing the regional aspects of SDG 2. Research projects on agricultural sustainability, food technology, and environmental protection help to strengthen local capacities and innovation potential. The university also plays an essential role in raising community awareness on food waste prevention and promoting local agricultural entrepreneurship. These initiatives contribute to the development of a sustainable and resilient agricultural system in the region, aligning with national and global development strategies.

CONCLUSION

MDU's strategic focus on sustainability, regional development, and social responsibility directly contributes to the realization of SDG 2 – Zero Hunger. By fostering agricultural education, innovation, and awareness, the university supports the creation of food-secure and environmentally conscious communities. These activities strengthen MDU's role as a regional center for knowledge, research, and sustainable progress.

