



WESTMINSTER

International University in Tashkent

An Accredited Institution of
the University of Westminster (UK)

Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023



November 2024

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International University in Tashkent

Message from the Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent



“This is the third year our university is applying for The Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. We take inspiration from the 17 United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in how we drive our actions, activities and governance across our University. Annual submission to the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings is one of the core instruments for us to measure our progress against the SDGs.”

Komiljon Karimov

WIUT has adopted the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework to support this core mission and to record, measure, and improve our contribution to a range of social, environmental, and economic outcomes. Every colleague plays a role in furthering this commitment as well as baking the SDGs into everything we do across our operations, teaching, and research and knowledge exchange.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) – itself couched within the SDGs – is the mechanism we use at WIUT to deliver on our commitment to embed sustainable development and the SDGs into our education offer.

The 17 SDGs enable us to frame and bring together our extensive collective energies towards helping our part in addressing the needs of the region’s labor markets and environmental challenges. This SDG Report shares our experience and records our achievements in 2023 against each SDG goal.

This is the third time that the University has submitted its application to the Times Higher education Impact ranking. Moving forward, we are continuing to work in collaboration with colleagues and students across our community through our operations, with the focus on linking our research, teaching, operations and communications to the SDGs.

Introduction

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are used to frame the University strategic decisions helping us to become compassionate, progressive, and responsible



WIUT adopted the SDGs in 2022, and recently turned its focus on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). There are many examples of ESD already happening throughout WIUT curricula in one way or another, even it is not labelled or articulated as such. Through the official adoption of ESD – we must ensure:

- Early in their time at WIUT, all students are introduced to the concept of holistic sustainable development using the SDGs.
- All students are taught to connect their discipline to sustainable development throughout their studies.
- Teaching colleagues and the University, as an ecosystem, are consistently reinforcing and building on the two points above.

Empowering students to become sustainable citizens will only happen if they are taught about sustainable development and how their professional knowledge and skills and unique personal experiences can deliver a sustainable future. We will be demonstrating an excellent standard of ESD by doing the below:

- Teaching students a holistic view of sustainability
- Connecting that sustainability learning to their discipline in core modules throughout their education
- Reinforcing the former two points through assessment which arms them with the competencies to live and lead sustainably

Doing so in all courses across WIUT by 2025 is our goal and will mark the University out as a leader in ESD. To achieve this, an ESD Action Plan has been developed for by Academic Council in June 2024 to facilitate the rollout of ESD with targeting milestones from now through to the 2025-26 academic year.

Progress on education for Sustainable Development

WIUT students travel to London!



Eight WIUT students and their tutor travel to London on May, 2023 to take part in the 2nd Annual University of Westminster Conversations Conference and the 6th Annual Democratic Education Network (DEN) International Student Conference. The trip is highly educational for our students combining field trips, Sustainable Development Goals

(SDG) network meetings and participation in conversations that engage students from all over the world and provide them with the opportunity to improve their employability skills and modern knowledge.

WIUT Teaching, Learning, and Research Symposium



The Centre for Professional and Lifelong Education (CPLE) and the Graduate School of WIUT recently hosted the annual Teaching, Learning, and Research Symposium. This year's theme was "Embedding Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Higher Education Curriculum and Research

Clusters." The symposium brought together educators, researchers, and higher education experts. They discussed innovative strategies, best practices, and the challenges of incorporating ESD and SDGs into higher education.

The key thematic areas included:

- Curriculum Design
- Pedagogical Strategies
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration
- Student Involvement and Empowerment

- Institutional Transformation

The event featured a keynote presentation, sharing of best practices, research work, interactive Q&A sessions, and networking opportunities. The announcement of the Symposium winners marked the conclusion of the event.

The United Nations in Uzbekistan, in collaboration with Westminster International University in Tashkent, hosted an event entitled ["Championing Business Sustainability in Uzbekistan"](#).

This year's event, held on 5th of September 2023, hosted at Westminster International University in Tashkent, focused on a "Conversation Unveiling Uzbekistan's Private Sector Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals." As in its inaugural forum, the Conversation provided a platform for key stakeholders to engage in discussions on the private sector's role in advancing sustainable development in Uzbekistan. The event sought to amplify the contributions of the private sector to Uzbekistan's journey towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It recognized the private sector's significance beyond economic growth, acknowledging its role as a catalyst for social progress and environmental sustainability.

Bakhrom Mirkasimov, Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent, stated, "The academic sector, in general, and, in particular, Westminster International University, plays a pivotal role in this ecosystem. Our research, expertise, and commitment to education on sustainable development contribute to evidence-based solutions that drive progress."

Ambassadors from several embassies were present at the event - UK, Palestine and Kuwait making this a high-level event.

SDG 1: No Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere



Scholarships and opportunities for students

University scholarship and opportunities for students

- University scholarship – 30 students (100% scholarship)
- Government scholarship – 70 students (100% scholarship)

Scholarships from public and private sectors

- Ipak Yuli Bank Scholarship– 6 students (August 2023)
- Sturgeon Foundation Scholarship – 2 students (November 2023)
- “El-Yurt Umidi” Foundation Scholarships – 9 students and 1 staff (August 2023)

Support for socially vulnerable students

- Single parent / personal disability support scheme – 9 students

WIUT Staff Support Schemes

WIUT has unique social support and professional development schemes for staff members. Staff members willing to do their postgraduate (masters) studies can apply for a discount from 20% to 70% of the tuition fee, the amount of support depends on a year of experience and contribution made by colleagues who applied for the scheme. In the 2022-2023 academic year, more than 30 staff members received such support. Staff spouses studying at WIUT can also get discount support of up to 40%. Staff members are also eligible to support the studies of their dependents. This scheme is not only one of the employee benefits provided by the university, but it also serves as a means of social mobility and contribution to the development of society. The discount to finance dependents' studies ranges from 25% to 100% depending on the number of years worked at WIUT. In 2022-2023 academic year, around 70 staff members supported their dependents' studies.

WIUT also supports Lyceum staff members with a premium to their salary.

WIUT participates in the 2nd International Forum on Poverty Reduction

In Tashkent, on May 18, 2023, the Hilton Tashkent City Hotel hosted the [2nd International Forum on Poverty Reduction](#), organized by the Center for Economic Research and Reforms (CERR) jointly with the Ministry of Employment and Poverty Reduction of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Ministry of Employment), with the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in Uzbekistan and the United Nations Children's Fund in Uzbekistan (UNICEF).



UNDP and OPHI, in partnership with WIUT hosted a workshop on Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) in Tashkent



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), jointly organised a five-day training workshop on September, 2023 entitled “The Technical Process of Creating a National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)” in Tashkent. The primary objective of this workshop is to provide both a conceptual and technical understanding of multidimensional poverty measurement, with a strong emphasis on the Alkire-Foster (AF) Method.

Participants gained insights into how MPIs (Multidimensional Poverty Index) can be effectively used in policymaking and within national contexts. The training equipped attendees with practical skills using Stata software that are crucial for the accurate assessment and computing of multidimensional poverty.

WIUT hosts an Ideathon event dedicated to International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

On the 17th of October, 2023 the innoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab and UNDP jointly organised an Ideathon event during the "InnoWEEK 2023", an interactive competition designed to engage university students dedicated to the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty and Creative Education and Innovation. Ideathon encourages young people to brainstorm and develop creative solutions that promote decent work and social protection, thereby contributing to the global effort to eradicate poverty. Ideathon concluded with pitch presentations where students from 8 Uzbekistan Universities pitched their projects, and the top 3 projects received memorable awards such as laptops.





SDG 2: Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Development of evidence-based agri-food policy analysis capacities in Uzbekistan- IAMO

The main goal of the project is to develop a tool that helps agriculture policy makers to make evidence-based decisions and enhance the capacity of the newly established ISCAD – think tank center in the Ministry of Agriculture. A kick-off event for the project was held on November 29, 2022. The project is led by Dr Nodir Djanibekov at the Leibniz Institute of Agriculture Development in Transition Economies (IAMO). The CPRO will participate in developing a policy simulation tool for Tashkent region and in capacity building on development and application of policy simulation tools for Uzbekistan. <https://cpro.wiut.uz/project> (Projects 2023)

AgriTech4Uzbekistan Innovation Challenge Bootcamp



On September 13, 2023, as part of the CGIAR Regional Integrated Initiative, Fragility to Resilience in Central and West Asia and North Africa (F2R-CWANA), the CGIAR Accelerate for Impact Platform (A4IP) co-designed the AgriTech4Uzbekistan Innovation Challenge with CGIAR centers including ICARDA, IWMI, Alliance of Bioversity

International and CIAT. The project is implemented in collaboration with innoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab of Westminster International University in Tashkent, FAO, the United Nations Development Programme, the Agency of Innovative Development under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan through the AKIS Center, IT Park, Indorama,

the Uzbekistan Venture Capital Association, the International Agriculture University, and the Tashkent State Agrarian University.

This project aims to promote ideas, accelerate, and fund science-based agri-food and climate-tech innovations (i.e., products, services, technologies) that can make agriculture in Uzbekistan more sustainable, more efficient, and resilient to climate change whilst contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals.

Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation Systems

On June 21, 2023, **WIUT** hosted a workshop on “**Evidence-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Systems for Policy-Making and Implementation**”.

The workshop was organized by the Agency for Strategic Reforms under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (ASR) and The International Strategic Center for Agri-food Development



(ISCAD) as part of the Global Evaluation Initiative mission to Uzbekistan on Strengthening Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Systems. The workshop targeted senior managers from the public sector of Uzbekistan. Global Evaluation Initiative mission representatives presented international best practices on Monitoring and Evaluation Systems, while workshop participants shared their experiences on the existing Monitoring and Evaluation Systems in Uzbekistan and proposed their ideas on the potential of implementing methods and strategies discussed during the workshop in the context of Uzbekistan's development strategies.

Factors Influencing Patronage of Fast-Food Delivery Services

Adzovie, D.E., Adzovie, R.H., Attor, C. and [Jibril, A.B.](#) (2023). Factors Influencing Patronage of Fast Fc Delivery Services Among University Students in Cape Coast, Ghana: A Qualitative Approach. *Conference Proceedings. 19th International Bata Conference for Ph.D. Students and Young Researchers Tomas Bata University in Zlin. Czech Republic. (Page 10)*

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages



Sport brings us closer!

WIUT organized a men's basketball tournament - the 'WIUT RECTOR'S CUP 2023' with the participation of 12 universities from Tashkent.

WIUT's team was the winner with INHA taking second place and Turin Polytechnic University finishing third. All winners received medals, certificates for their participation and prizes.

Football is a game of billions around the world



From February 20th to February 28th, 2023, a prestigious football tournament for the prize for "WIUT RECTOR'S CUP" was held at WIUT sports center. 13 Universities from Tashkent took part in the tournament. Management Development Institute of Singapore won this tournament. Second place was taken by the WIUT Wolves team and third place

was Webster University in Tashkent. All winners were awarded medals and certificates.

WIUT hosts Table Tennis tournament

On March 15, 2023, WIUT just wrapped up an exciting Rector's Cup tournament in table tennis. This year we hosted 12 international university teams in Tashkent. The tournament was a huge success, showcasing some of the best table tennis student talents. WIUT students won the tournament! Congratulations to all the winners and participants! The Rector's Cup tournament is just one of many initiatives the

university aims to inspire all students to lead active, healthy lives and continue pursuing their sports passions!

MSc in Public Health Science at the Health Forum Uzbekistan - India

Dr. Evgeniya Shalaeva (Economics Department/WIUT) participated in the Health Forum Uzbekistan - India held Tashkent on April 13- 14, 2023. Health sector decision makers of Uzbekistan and India have participated in Forum. During the Forum, Dr. Shalaeva provided information about the MSc in Public Health Science course WIUT to the Forum participants and made contacts with representatives of research and medical institutes a university in India.

Publication

Blockchain-Based Healthcare Monitoring System Using Patient Electronic Health Record

Jain, S., Kumar, A., [Kiran, P.](#), and Kartini, S. (2023). Blockchain-Based Healthcare Monitoring System Using Patient Electronic Health Record: - Global Conference on Emerging Technologies, Business, Sustainable Innovative Business Practices, And Social Well-Being. Asia Pacific Journal of Health Management.

COVID-INDUCED INEQUALITIES: EDUCATION, HEALTH SERVICES, DIGITAL ACCESS, AND FEMALE LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION: Case Studies from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan

Khakimova, N., Mukhammedov, E., Abdigapparov, D., [Kiran, P.](#), Rozikova, R., Kurbanliyazov, I., Akhmedova, F., Shalaeva, E. and Malvicini, P. (2023). COVID-Induced Inequalities: Education, Health Services, Digital Access, and Female Labor Force Participation: Uzbekistan Case Study. Chapter 4. CTTN Joint Regional Project Report on COVID-Induced Inequalities in Education, Health Services, Digital Access, and Female Labor Force Participation Mar 2023; CAREC Institute.



SDG 4: Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

WIUT showcases its EdTech platform



On the 5th of April 2023, WIUT hosted training on the fundamentals of developing an education management digital platform to support the joint Swiss project "Support for Vocational Education Reforms in Uzbekistan" (VET4UZ) and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovations of Uzbekistan. During the training our IT

Manager, Avaz Khalikov presented WIUT's Intranet, Student Record System, Learning Management and Document Management systems. Following the presentation, there was an in-depth discussion about the adoption of similar systems by vocational schools and technical colleges, costs associated with it and more importantly the advantages of adopting such digital platform for the benefit of students and educators.

Widening Access to Higher Education: Inclusive University working group meeting

On November 24, 2023, a session of the Working Group, dedicated to priority initiatives to support inclusion and presentation of the first draft of Inclusive Higher Education Good Practice Guide, was held at the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovations (MHESI) of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The group, which includes key stakeholders from the MHESI, University Rectors, the British Council in Uzbekistan, and the University of Westminster, delved into key focus areas such as



expanding educational opportunities for girls and women, creating provisions for individuals from low-income backgrounds, and supporting people with disabilities.

[Quality Standards in Higher Education Institutions: Supporting Higher Education Reforms](#)

On December 4-6 of 2023, intensive seminars were held for the working group on ensuring the quality of education, created in the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation. **WIUT** senior management are the members of the working group. The project plans to create a framework for the development of new principles and standards for quality assurance in higher education institutions to support systemic and sustainable changes in higher education. The first stage of the project is part of a three-year strategy for the development of the concept of effective quality assurance in higher educational institutions, which is one of the main conditions for the successful development of the modern education sector.

Winter School on Applied Econometric Analysis for Young Economists



Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) jointly with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) delivered another week-long Training Course on Applied Econometric Analysis on December, 2023. This workshop is designed to enhance the skills of more than 20 young economists in Uzbekistan, with emphasis on applying their knowledge

in quantitative research, publishing and writing in economics and employing econometric methods using Stata and R.

WIUT hosts Training Course for Young Economists in Uzbekistan



To meet the growing demand and interest in modern techniques and tools of applied policy analysis and research in Uzbekistan, WIUT held a Training Course on January 31, 2023, in Applied Quantitative Methods and Data Analysis for "Young Economists" in Uzbekistan. The main objective of this specialized training course is to strengthen the capacity of young researchers to conduct credible and transparent applied policy research and impact assessments in the agri-food sector and related sectors. The major emphasis was made on empirical applications with a focus on detection of causality in empirical data. The training was co-organised by IFPRI, ICARDA and ISCADA. 75 economists applied for the course, out of whom 25 participants were selected. Participants come from Tashkent and the regions throughout Uzbekistan.

Best Practices for Developing the National Education System

Center for the Development of Higher Education and the Introduction of Advanced Technologies under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovations of the Republic of Uzbekistan approved the education manual / guide / handbook (*o'quv qo'llanma*) of **Dr. Khikmatullo Urazbaev** (Associate Dean – Teaching and Learning, SOLTE, WIUT) titled “**Studying the opinion of students in ensuring and improving the quality of higher education**” (“Oliy ta’lim sifatini ta’minlash va takomillashtirishda talabalar fikrini o’rganish”).

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Women staff profile

In 2023, the total number of staff at WIUT, including academic, administrative and professional, equaled 470 people. Among them 210 staff members or 45 percent were women.

Out of 200 publications in 2023, 48 per cent of publications were published by female faculty members.

CPRO: Gender Equality Foresight



On October 20th, 2023, **Dr. John Sweeney**, UNESCO Chair in Anticipatory Governance and Sustainable Policymaking at CPRO, led a Gender Equality Foresight workshop within the "Gender Equality Project" (GEP). The event, organized by UNDP Uzbekistan, in collaboration with the Senate of Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan, aimed to develop innovative strategies using a foresight approach to shape a brighter future for women in

Uzbekistan. The event brought together experts from various fields, including representatives from the Senate, ministries and agencies, youth and civil society institutions, as well as foresight and gender experts. The primary objective of the workshop was to explore forward-looking approaches to address gender equality and women's empowerment in Uzbekistan. Participants engaged in in-depth discussions and shared their expertise to develop strategies that promote positive change, improve opportunities, and protect the rights of women in Uzbekistan. **Dr. Nilufar Rashitova**, Acting Director of the Center for Policy Research and Outreach at WIUT, also joined the workshop.

Joining 'National Dialogue on Women in Science'

Dr Etenesh B. Asfaw (Senior Research Fellow at CPRO) participated and gave a speech at the 'National Dialogue on Women in Science' hosted by the National Research University (TIIAME) on March 2, 2023. Objective of the dialogue was to exchange experiences on how to achieve gender equality in Science, Technology and Innovation and SDG target 5.



Gender Equality in Uzbekistan – an assessment of private companies

[Mirkasimov, B.](#) (2023). Gender-Based Discrimination in Uzbekistan – an assessment of private companies. [Forum for Uzbek and Silkroad Studies](#). (Blog).



SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

University provides full access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities to all students and staff. WIUT Student Union and WIUT Ecology Club promote among the students and staff sustainable and environmentally friendly water usage.

Conference Participation - Oxford Desert Conference

Dr Iroda Amirova (CPRO) participated in the **6th Oxford Interdisciplinary Desert Conference 2023** hosted by the University of Oxford on March 16-17, 2023. She presented on the topic **“Community, state, market: understanding water governance evolution in Central Asia”**. The Oxford Desert Conference brings together academics and non-academics who research, work and live across the world's desert and semi-desert regions for two days of vibrant talks, presentations, panels and networking opportunities. It is a truly interdisciplinary event that encourages social and physical scientists to exchange views, develop lasting collaboration and make a positive global impact.

Participating in Central Asian Water Conflict and Migration Network Workshop

Akhtem Useinov (Graduate School – Research) and **Nilufar Abduvaliyeva** (Graduate School – Research) from WIUT participated in the *CAWAMNET Workshop - Central Asian Water Conflict and Migration Network* on 27-28 April 2023 held in Tashkent. The workshop was organized by IAMO, CAREC and the DAAD.

World Environment Day Video

June 5th, 2023 marks the 50th anniversary of the World Environment Day. This is an important day that encourages awareness and celebrates action for the protection of the environment. This 3-minute video “SUV” (WATER) has been initiated by WIUT and prepared within the “Change Makers for Sustainable Development Goals” student contest that demonstrates how each and every one of us can take an

immediate action to create a greener and more sustainable planet for current and future generations.



Please follow https://t.me/wiut_official_telegram/1328, to watch the video.

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy



Efficient energy usage on campus and energy self-sufficiency

1. Solar Panel Installation

Following the initial installations in 2022, solar panels have now been installed across additional university rooftops, helping WIUT increase its reliance on renewable energy sources. These panels are making a meaningful contribution to campus electricity needs, reducing dependence on conventional energy.

2. LED Lighting and Energy Efficiency

The transition to LED lighting throughout campus buildings was completed this year, enhancing energy efficiency and lowering electricity consumption. Outdoor lighting now uses sensor-based systems that adjust lighting based on time and activity, reducing unnecessary energy usage.

3. Solar Water Heating

Solar water heating devices installed in university facilities are now a primary source for hot water needs, further reducing reliance on traditional electric heating systems and promoting sustainable energy use.

4. Dormitory Heating Systems

The coal-fired boilers in university dormitories, coupled with an established coal reserve, ensured consistent heating throughout the winter months. However, WIUT is also actively exploring more sustainable heating solutions to gradually reduce reliance on coal and minimize carbon emissions.

Publication

[The Impact of Pak and China Cultural influences on CPEC Energy Project Moderating effect in South Asia: A Case Study from Pakistan](#)

Siddiqui, M. B., Khokhar, M., Makhdoom, T. R., [Hossain, M. B.](#), Ejaz, S., Ejaz, F., & Dunay, A. (2023). The Impact of Pak and China Cultural influences on CPEC Energy Project Moderating effect in South Asia: A Case Study from Pakistan. International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy, 13(6), 211–219.

[Are clean energy markets efficient? A multifractal scaling and herding behavior analysis of clean and renewable energy markets before and during the COVID19 pandemic](#)

[Memon. B.A.](#), Aslam. F., Asadova. Sh., and Ferreira, P. (2023). Are clean energy markets efficient? A multifractal scaling and herding behavior analysis of clean and renewable energy markets before and during the COVID19 pandemic. Heliyon.



SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

WIUT places a lot of emphasis on the recruitment, support and development of its academic and professional staff. In 2023, efforts were concentrated on improving the performance management system and on creating and implementing a grade review policy. Over 150 members of staff were awarded merit-based salary increases before the beginning of the 2022-2023 academic year. Other WIUT benefits offered in 2022-2023 include the agricultural produce allowance, leave allowance and financial aid paid on special occasions (marriage and others). WIUT also offered other resources to help its employees maintain their well-being and cope with stress such as flexible working hours, free of charge art, vocal and drama clubs and yoga lessons.

As WIUT keeps growing by increasing the number of its students and courses, new positions are also being introduced. In 2022-2023 more than 75 permanent and 140 temporary employees were recruited and on board.

In 2023, the university provided paid internship opportunities for 30 WIUT students.

Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and WIUT cooperation



Boston Consulting Group (BCG), the global management consulting company representatives visited their first university in Uzbekistan - Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) on February 22, 2023, to discuss potential cooperation and career opportunities in management consulting for our students and recent graduates.

During the event, WIUT students and graduates had a unique opportunity to learn more about the BCG culture, strategy and its operations in Uzbekistan. The

highlight of the event for participants was the personal Q&A engagement with the Managing Director and Partner of the company - Igor Alekseev.

Successful Closing of the Ustoz-Shogird@WIUT Employability Project

On the 2nd of December 2023, the "Ustoz-Shogird@WIUT" career mentoring project reached a successful conclusion. Over the past eight weeks, close to 100 students of Westminster International University in Tashkent and six leading local Universities dedicated themselves to enhancing their professional skills and gaining valuable mentorship, knowledge and insights from industry experts. As a result of this innovative employability project, the HR directors of such companies as Kapitalbank, Beeline Uzbekistan, Enter Engineering, Fido-Biznes, Murad Buildings, Orano Group, Tenge Bank, Texnomart, UzBAT, UzCarlsberg, and others, provided job offers and internships to outstanding students to join their companies as a Colleague.



WIUT JOB FAIR 2023

On April 6 and 7, 2023, WIUT hold annual "Job Fair" event on WIUT Campus. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to meet with more than 120 top employees in the country including local and international organizations. WIUT "Job Fair" promotes the employment of students and university graduates and contributes to the development and improvement of the labor market of Uzbekistan. At the same time, our students communicate and establish direct contact with the organizations they aspire to work for after their graduation.

WIUT STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THEIR FUTURE CAREERS!

WIUT's Career Development Centre organizes Guest Lectures each month with representatives from big international and local companies. These lectures help our students to: Develop their professional skills; Learn about the company's requirements for job applications; Create professional CVs and prepare for job interviews.

Over the past several weeks, we welcomed to WIUT Campus the following companies:

- UzCard
- UzCarlsberg
- UzAuto Motors
- TBC bank
- PwC
- Enter Engineering
- Boston Consulting Group
- Central Bank of Uzbekistan

During these guest lectures, companies often offer to our students internship opportunities so that they can improve their experience and obtain a good job offer in future.

WIUT Internship Fair 2023



On February 9, 2023, more than 30 employees attended an Internship Fair - a unique event organized by WIUT Career Development Centre to present internship opportunities to WIUT students. During this Internship Fair, more than 500 students met with prospective employers, exchanged CVs, discussed their interests, opportunities for short term employment and established contacts with leading companies in Uzbekistan.

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



innoWIUT – the entrepreneurship lab of WIUT – supports student startups, forms innovative teams, and connects students & faculty with industry from Uzbekistan and across the region.

WIUT is in the top 1% globally in the Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge 2023



The WIUT team competed against over 2,000 University teams from around the world in the Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge 2023. Our WIUT Team was ranked 1st in Uzbekistan and 23rd globally. The team representing WIUT at the Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge did a spectacular job using our Bloomberg Terminal platform. Congratulations to the participants

and their coaches!

WIUT wins SAP ERPsim Game Rest of Us 2023 and qualified to compete at SAP ERPsim International Competition 2023!

SAP ERPsim Game is a joint project of ERP Sim Lab of HEC Montreal & SAP University Alliances. It is a virtual competition in which students will have the opportunity together with team mates to manage their own virtual company! ERPsim is a business simulation game for SAP ERP and SAP S/4HANA in which participants use a real ERP system to manage their virtual company in a competitive market. Win or lose, participants will improve their knowledge of business processes and their understanding of how ERP systems are effective at managing those processes. SAP ERPsim Games Rest of Us 2023 was among 3 countries: Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan &

Azerbaijan. Team WIUT collected maximum number of points and qualified to participate at SAP ERPsim International Competition 2023 in June!

SAP experience for students and faculty members



On 13th of June, 2024, innoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab of Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) and SAP organized open talk discussion on "SAP experience for students and faculty members", with our guest speaker Yuri Kupriianov, SAP University Alliances Country Manager for CIS (Berlin, Germany). During the open talk session students, faculty members, and management discussed several initiatives such as SAP University Alliances Program, Central Research Services, Student Zone of SAP Learning including training & certification, ERPsim Games, SAP Student Day and cloud-based Curriculum for Academia.

Cooperation is being established between WIUT and leading Universities in Malaysia



On September 27, 2023, The Uzbek Embassy in Kuala Lumpur witnessed a momentous occasion of signing a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU) from Malaysia and Westminster International University in

Tashkent (WIUT). This ceremony signifies the intent for a collaborative partnership that aims to foster teacher and student exchange and cooperation between the institutions as well as the establishment of Kuala Lumpur Summer Schools on creative industry, cyber security and artificial intelligence. Moreover, this partnership sets the stage for the establishment of a scientific-research center on cyber security in Uzbekistan and a joint research program emphasizing the importance of global education partnerships. Additionally, the Rector, Bakhrom Mirkasimov, and the First Deputy Rector (Academic), Dr. Michael Clarke, of WIUT met with other renowned Malaysian Universities such as Taylor's University, UOW Malaysia KDU Penang University, INTI International University, and the British Council in Malaysia to discuss further partnership opportunities.

Innovative minds from Uzbekistan participated in Falling Walls Lab Tashkent 2023.

The final stage of the Falling Walls Lab Tashkent 2023 was held at Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) on September 20, 2023. The organisation of Falling Walls Lab Tashkent 2023, a commendable initiative, was the result of collaborative efforts between the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Uzbekistan and innoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab of WIUT. The jury of Falling Walls Lab Tashkent selected the winner, who will have the opportunity to represent Uzbekistan at



global finale and participate in the summit in Berlin scheduled for the 7th November, 2023. The total of 24 projects across Uzbekistan were submitted during the call and only 10 projects were shortlisted to pitch their idea today in 3 minutes.

Role of venture funds in scaling the startup and growth of Uzbekistan's venture capital market



On 2nd of May 2023, innoWIUT Entrepreneur's Lab of Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) and UzVC National Venture Capital Fund organized round table discussion on "Role of venture funds in scaling the startup and growth of Uzbekistan's venture capital market", with our guest Mr. Tim Eun, Managing Partner of TRACE

Capital Holdings (San Francisco, California) and Dr. Alisher Shaykhov, advisor to CEO of UzVC National Venture Capital Fund. Over the last 13 years, Mr. Eun has operated in Silicon Valley in technology to start up space leading, investing and advising at early-stage venture fund companies. During the round table students, faculty members, and management discussed role of venture funds, assessing the scalability and funding potential of startup. In addition, discovered the key elements that investors look for in a business, ways to increase startup scalability and how to attract capital for funding.



SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Raise awareness about Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

Every year June 26th is observed as International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, also known as World Drug Day.

UNODC held an informative session at WIUT to strengthen action and cooperation in achieving a world free of drug abuse and to increase awareness of its negative consequences. To empower young people and communities Tashkent International Model United Nations (TIMUN) presents a short video that calls to prevent drug use and addiction.

Transforming Governance Culture in Uzbek Universities: A Path Towards Higher Education Reform

The Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovations of the Republic of Uzbekistan has partnered with the British Council in a visionary collaboration hosted at Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT). This initiative is set to revolutionize the governance landscape of universities across Uzbekistan. This initiative, known as the University Governance project, is a cornerstone in establishing a comprehensive University Code of Governance. With a focus on long-term, sustainable development, the project's initial phase is part of a three-year strategy aimed at building both national and local capacities to drive effective governance within the higher education sector. Between October 29th and November 4th, 2023, the National University Governance Working Group under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovations of the Republic of Uzbekistan, in collaboration with the project consultant John Rushforth from Advance HE, assessed several key components integral to the forthcoming University governance code in Uzbekistan.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



[Explore WIUT's modern campus on our guided tour!](#)

Visit the historic Istiqbol Building (IB), one of the oldest structures. Discover the Learning Resource Center (LRC), a treasured trove of knowledge. Explore the Sports Hall, where students stay active and healthy. Visit the vibrant student community center, Amir Temur Building (ATB). Step into the innovative and modern Shahrissabz Building (ShB).

Please visit [here](#) for video!

[Urban Solutions & Sustainability R&D Congress 2023](#)

John A. Sweeney, Senior Research Fellow with the UNESCO Chair in Anticipatory Governance and Sustainable Policymaking at the Center for Policy Research (CPRO), recently participated in the Urban Solutions & Sustainability R&D Congress 2023 in Singapore, held on October 4-5, 2023. Sweeney presented on “Re-imagining Urban Futures: How Cities Can Leverage Strategic & Transformative Foresight” in Panel Session 1, focusing on a science-based approach to future scenario planning. His presentation highlighted innovative ways for cities to employ strategic foresight in addressing sustainability challenges and envisioning transformative urban futures.

Publication

[Migrants remittances and fertility in the Post-Soviet states](#)

[Boburmirzo Ibrokhimov](#), [Rashid Javed](#) & Mazhar Mughal (2023). Migrants remittances and fertility in the Post-Soviet states. Post-Communist Economies.



SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

WIUT organised a field trip to PROMEAT factory



WIUT Career Development Centre and lecturers on the Quality and Operations Management module organised a field trip to PROMEAT factory, Halal-certified livestock cluster that implements all the processes of the production cycle. Students had an opportunity to hear the success story from the founders on the family business model which grew tremendously over the past

decades. WIUT students were glad to be able to observe not only the full meat production process, but also to observe the link between their studies and real-life quality and the operations management of the factory which gives the sense of connection to the real industry.

Publication

[Visual encoding of nudge influencers and exploring their effect on sustainable consumption among children](#)

Banerjee, J., Moorthy, V., [Kiran, P.](#), Kishore, S.V.K., Ekiz, E., Chatterjee, R. (2023). Visual encoding of nudge influencers and exploring their effect on sustainable consumption among children. Cleaner and Responsible Consumption.

[Twenty-Five Years of Consumer Vulnerability Research: Critical Insights and Future Directions.](#)

Basu, R., [Kumar, A.](#), & Kumar, S. (2023). Twenty-Five Years of Consumer Vulnerability Research: Critical Insights and Future Directions. Journal of Consumer Affairs.

SDG 13: Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



Dialogue on climate change at WIUT



On the 1st of June, 2023, WIUT in collaboration with the UNICEF Representatives and the Ministry of Natural Resources of Uzbekistan held a discussion on urgent actions to mitigate the risk of climate change in Uzbekistan and its impact on children's well-being. Close to 100 children and young eco-Volunteers, U-Reporters, participants of the social

innovation programme UPSHIFT, and educational STEM programme UniSat - participated in the dialogue with decision-makers and exchanged ideas with their peers.

Joining the International Conference on ESG and Climate Governance in Singapore

[Zamira Ataniyazova](#) (Management and Marketing Department at WIUT) attended the International Conference on ESG and Climate Governance on 26-28 June 2023 in Singapore. The conference was co-organised by the Sim Kee Boon Institute for Financial Economics ("SKBI") and the Singapore Green Finance Centre at the Singapore Management University ("SMU"), and Centre for Climate Engagement, Hughes Hall at the University of Cambridge and the Climate Governance Initiative. It invited academic experts in the field of corporate climate governance to provide a platform to understand the latest research and findings and engage board directors to put this research into practice.



SDG 14: Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

SDG 14 in the context of Uzbekistan

Although, Uzbekistan is double landlocked country and have no access to oceans and seas, our university has relevant research and discussions to water resources management, which is crucial for the region.

Uzbekistan is one of the most water-stressed countries in the world

The water stress level, or the ratio of water used relative to available water, has significantly increased in the last 20 years from around 50% to almost 70%. The agriculture sector uses over 90% of the freshwater withdrawn. This and other findings have been reported in the national assessment of designing and implementing green and inclusive economic development measures - “Green Recovery in Uzbekistan Project” together with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

SDG 15: Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainability use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss



The Inaugural Seminar of the "UzFarmBarometer" Research Project was held at Westminster International University in Tashkent



On October 12, 2023, the primary objective of this seminar was to introduce the concept of the "UzFarmBarometer" project to potential stakeholders, marking the commencement of a collaborative research endeavor. This project, a part of the joint initiative between Germany and Uzbekistan for scientific project funding, is aimed to enhance our understanding of

the motivations and constraints faced by farmers in Uzbekistan. Special emphasis was placed on promoting the voluntary adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and exploring innovative ideas that can help develop effective strategies for promoting sustainability in Uzbekistan's agriculture sector. Given the current lack of modern, high-quality, dynamic micro-level data for studying farmers' behavior in Uzbekistan, another vital goal of the project is to establish a fully functional digital platform called the "UzFarm Barometer."

Joining SUSADICA Symposium

Dr. Ikrom Rikhsiboev (Dean of Graduate School) participated and represented WIUT in the Panel Session on the *Reforms in Higher Education of Uzbekistan* at the "SUSADICA – Structured doctoral programme on Sustainable Agricultural Development in Central Asia" project closing symposium, organized at the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers – National Research University, on October 12-13, 2023.



SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

WIUT Law Students participated in Vis Moot WIUT



WIUT Commercial Law students **Mokhigul Ganieva, Mekhrangiz Turaeva, Sitora Kozimjonova, Feruza Ataeva and Zufarjon Ochilov** (virtual)

participated in the 3rd Annual IAC Central Asia Vis Pre-Moot Competition in Astana and The Vis East Moot in Hong Kong. The International Arbitration Centre (IAC) held its 3rd Annual IAC Central Asia Vis Pre-Moot Competition during 10-15 March 2023. The competition happened at the IAC premises in Astana, Kazakhstan, and with some participants online. [The 20th Vis East Moot Competition](#) was held in Hong Kong on 19 -26 March 2023. The Vis East Moot Competition is the sister competition to the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna. Given the continuous and rapid expansion of the economy in Asia, international commercial transactions and, inevitably, cross-border disputes in Asia are on the rise. The Vis East Moot provides law students, academics, and professionals with a similar exposure to, and experience in, international arbitration and trade law as the Vis Moot in Vienna, but with an Asian context. Importantly, the guidance and countless support of student supervisors, particularly **Kholida Sabirova** and **Musojon Rizoiev**, must be acknowledged.

Collaboration with the Academy of the General Prosecutor's Office



On July 12, 2023, WIUT signed a memorandum of understanding with the Law Enforcement Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan (the Academy of the General Prosecutor's Office). The Academy welcomed the WIUT senior management team and discussed future collaboration opportunities in the framework of the memorandum. Both

parties agreed to develop a partnership in law and legal science research, expand internship opportunities for students and develop student and staff exchange programs.

Strengthening Partnerships between WIUT and Top Law Firms of Uzbekistan

On December 14, 2023 Westminster International University in Tashkent has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with prominent seven law firms in Uzbekistan, including Centil, Dentons, Grata International, Kosta Legal, My Lawyer, Prae Legal and Settle. Their contributions and support, ranging from guest lectures to offering invaluable advice and, notably, employing our students, have been pivotal in cultivating the next generation of legal professionals. We express our profound gratitude for their unwavering commitment.



English Law Day hosted as part of the annual Uzbek Arbitration Week.



This event which was hosted by the Commercial Law department of Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) on September 15, 2023, and co-organised by the Tashkent International Arbitration Centre (TIAC) and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan, brought together eminent legal

practitioners, barristers and solicitors from top international law firms practicing English law and was dedicated to the increasing importance of English Law in Central Asia in the areas of business, finance and arbitration. Distinguished panelists brought important topics of regional legal trends linked with international developments that sparked vibrant discussion with an audience representing a community of legal professionals in Uzbekistan.

Central Asian Law Forum at WIUT 2023

On the 26th of May, 2023, WIUT hosted Central Asia Law Forum on "The legal framework at the time of change: Central Asia, Europe, UK, and Global Relations". The purpose of the Central Asian Law Forum is to study the legal regulation of international trade and investment, assess the dynamics of trade relations in the light of changes in



trade routes, in connection with the revision of the role of Central Asia in the world. The Forum is a platform for the exchange of views between scholars, lawyers, legal practitioners and government stakeholders aimed at sharing regulatory models and best practices in Central Asia, the European Union, the United Kingdom and around the world. In addition, Jean Monnet Chair of the Central Asian Centre for European Trade Law (CACETL) of the European Commission at Westminster International University in Tashkent supported this conference.

SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



WIUT formally joins forces with UN in Uzbekistan for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



For a more sustainable Uzbekistan, WIUT and UN in Uzbekistan signed a momentous Joint Declaration of Intent on May 24, 2023. The declaration solidifies the existing co-operation between the two organizations, and it also shows the way of partnership between the UN and the academic sector of Uzbekistan for creating a more sustainable and equitable future for the country where

no citizen is left behind. By combining their expertise, resources, and networks, WIUT and UN Uzbekistan will work together on selected sustainable development initiatives that will help shape the future of Uzbekistan and will foster sustainable development by promoting social justice.

UNESCO Chair on Futures Studies is established at WIUT



A UNESCO Chair on Futures Studies for Anticipatory Governance and Sustainable Policymaking under the WIUT was officially announced on February 24, 2023. During the event, Komiljon Karimov, First Deputy Minister of Higher Education, Science and Innovations, Enrico Pinali, Officer-in-Charge of the Asian Development Bank in Uzbekistan, Matilda Dimovska, UNDP Uzbekistan

Resident Representative, Aziza Abdurakhmanova, Coordinator of the National

Erasmus+ office and Bakhrom Mirkasimov, Rector of WIUT, discussed the potential use of futures studies by policymakers, business leaders, civil society officers, and the public in Uzbekistan and the Central Asian region. The UNESCO Chair is the first of its kind in Central Asia and will promote research, training, and teaching on futures studies for policymakers by linking to the government's ongoing reforms and for scholars and students by linking to World Futures Review: A Journal of Strategic Foresight.

Uzbekistan Green Transition Foresight Launch

Dr John A. Sweeney, the UNESCO Chair for Futures Studies for Anticipatory Governance and Sustainable Policymaking at the Centre for Policy Research and Outreach (CPRO / WIUT) joined ["The Future of Green Transition in Uzbekistan Report"](#) launch event as the keynote speaker / author and presented the report as a Policy Making Tool. This report is designed and developed by UNDP Uzbekistan and their key national partners. It supports the ongoing reforms and the advancement of the green economy transition strategy and provides a process to identify forward-looking insights through a scenario-driven exploration of the future.

UNESCO Chair in Knowledge Economy

WIUT renewed agreement with UNESCO concerning the UNESCO Chair in Knowledge Economy. The agreement has been extended until 31 December 2026.

Handong Global University visit to WIUT



WIUT hosted students and faculty members from Handong Global University (HGU), Republic of Korea, as part of the Joint Education Program between HGU and WIUT on first week of the July, 2023. Both universities are members of the UNESCO UNITWIN (University Twinning and Networking) on Capacity Building of Sustainable Development in Developing Countries in the Asian Region. Students

worked in teams during the week and presented their joint projects to the faculty members of both universities.

Zhelezka Project Participants visit WIUT



The UNESCO Chair in Knowledge Economy Dr Behzod Alimov at WIUT hosted young scholars, practitioners and artists participating in the "Zhelezka Project: On the Tracks through Central Asia" on August 24, 2023. The Zhelezka Project is an Experimental Mobile Summer School, where participants travel by train from Astana, through several cities (including Tashkent), to Bishkek during two weeks. This Summer School aims to

generate a unique space for young researchers' networking and developing conceptual and methodological approaches, and it is administered by the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography, Social Innovations Lab Kyrgyzstan, and the American University of Central Asia. The project is supported by the Volkswagen Foundation (Germany).