



WESTMINSTER

International University in Tashkent

An Accredited Institution of
the University of Westminster (UK)

Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022



November 2023

WESTMINSTER

International University in Tashkent

Message from the Rector of Westminster International University in Tashkent



“This is the second year our university is applying for The Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings. I hope that WIUT’s unwavering dedication to the Sustainable Development Goals will support us to be among the leading universities in Uzbekistan, and to improve our positions at the regional and global levels in the coming round of the rankings”.

Bakhrom Mirkasimov

The academic year 2021-2022 was a significant milestone in our University’s history. On 17th January 2022, Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) celebrated its 20th birthday and the 20th anniversary of its longstanding partnership with the University of Westminster in the United Kingdom.

In 2021-2022, we made significant progress towards our vision of consistently leading the international higher education in Uzbekistan and in Central Asia, by offering our students all the knowledge and necessary skills to become independent leaders and socially responsible citizens of the world. Our progress and achievements would not have been made possible without the expertise, commitment and passion of our staff and without the talent, dedication and strive for excellence of our students.

During this year, we saw our teaching, research and student experience return to almost normal after the challenges of Covid-19. Despite the extremely unusual circumstances we all lived through the period of the pandemic, I am proud to say that at WIUT we made significant progress in delivering against our key priority areas – Inclusive Education, Research and Innovation, Sustainability and Graduate Employability.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our academic and professional staff for making 2021-2022 a truly successful and impactful year and our students for making us all proud as WIUT community members. I trust that this report engages, informs and provides for us all with further motivation as we continue to work together to make our positive impact on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Introduction

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



WIUT formally joined forces with UN in Uzbekistan for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The declaration solidifies the existing co-operation between the two organisations 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 joint 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.

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

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

This is the second time that the University has submitted its application to the Times Higher education Impact ranking. Among the universities in Uzbekistan, WIUT has been ranked top university for the *Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth* and the *Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals* in our first rankings. 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.

Progress on education for Sustainable Development

UoW X WIUT SDG Summer School



In May 2022, we welcomed on our Campus 15 Undergraduate Students and their Tutors from the University of Westminster (UoW) in London. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Summer School programme between UoW and WIUT have exemplified both institutions' commitment to the United Nation's 17 SDGs and has been designed to help its 30 participants to

become responsible, compassionate, and progressive graduates and professionals and to equip them with modern knowledge and skills enhancing their employability.

Summer School students joined a research workshop organized by the WIUT Student Research Society on the topic "Creating solutions for reaching the Sustainable Development Goals" on May 24, 2022. Four WIUT students presented their final year research projects and received feedback from WIUT and UoW students.

The United Nations celebrates its 77th anniversary

The UN in Tashkent, the "Yuksalish" nation-wide movement, the Arts Academy of Uzbekistan and Westminster International University in Tashkent celebrated together United Nations Day marking this year its 77th anniversary on October 21, 2022. This event was held inside the grounds of WIUT.



For the event, an art exhibition entitled "Arts for SDGs" was organised. 90 works of arts of students from 16 universities and schools of Uzbekistan participated in the exhibition with paintings, visual installations and photographs dedicated to global and national sustainable goals. This arts exhibition focused on climate change, securing peace and safeguarding nature, urban pollution, gender equality and food security.

Sustainable Business and Economic Integration



WIUT and the University of Westminster (UoW), hosted the Tashkent Business & Economics Conference (TBEC). TBEC is a part of the Forum for Uzbek and Silk Road Studies, aimed at building strong research links across the region and stimulating intellectual interest in Central Asia (CA). The keynote speakers of the conference were – Prof. Richard Pomfret, Professor of

Economics at the University of Adelaide and Dr. Karen Jackson, Associate Professor in Economics, Westminster Business School, UoW.

TBEC is an important strategic initiative for the School of Business and Economics at WIUT. Uzbekistan's commitment to join the WTO, a recent agreement with the EU GSP+ and the role of CA as a trade and connectivity hub are key highlights of the discussion. Sustainable development and evidence-based policy play a key role to support the government and private sector decision-making.

University Sector Support to the UN's Decade of Action

The Rector of WIUT, Bakhrom Mirkasimov, joined [*SDSN University Presidents Meeting: Asia, Europe and the Middle East*](#) on January 18, 2022. The event brought together University Presidents, UN and Government representatives, along with experts from the region, SDSN Network Chairs, Managers, and members of the SDSN Leadership Council, to discuss how universities can contribute to the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement and engage with local governments and communities through their key functions. Jeffrey Sachs, President of the SDSN, welcomed the participants by stating that universities have an important role to play, and carry a unique responsibility, in a world whose complexity has been stressed by the global pandemic. As the world faces many global challenges relating to the environment and the pandemic, as well as widening inequalities and rising geopolitical tensions, a tsunami of problems - environmental, social, technological, developmental- is overwhelming the governments all over the world.

SDG 1: No Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere



Scholarships and opportunities for students

University scholarship and opportunities for students

- University scholarships – 79 students (100% scholarship)
- Government scholarships – 138 students (100% scholarship)
- Dean's list – 486 students (15 % discount merit-based)
- Rector's list – 3 students (35 % discount merit-based)

Scholarships from public and private sectors

- Central Bank Scholarship – 2 students (November 2022)
- State Scholarship – 3 students (December 2022)
- Islam Karimov State Scholarship – 1 student (November 2022)

Support for socially vulnerable students

- Single parent / personal disability support scheme – 14 students

WIUT Staff Support Schemes

WIUT has a 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 years of experience and contribution made of colleagues who applied for the scheme. In 2021-2022 academic year, 36 staff members received such support. Staff spouses studying at WIUT can also get a 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 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 2021-2022 academic year, 67 staff members supported their dependents' studies.

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



SDG 2: Zero Hunger

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

Evidence-based research solutions in agriculture

Agriculture is an important sector of Uzbekistan's economy and is considered as one of the most promising industry sectors with huge potential. Agriculture accounts for approximately 25% of the GDP and employs about 26% of the labour force in Uzbekistan. To further improve the sector, the national network of experts, WIUT jointly with the Ministry of Agriculture, The



International Strategic Center for Agri-Food Development, International Food Policy Research Institute, the Science for Resilient Livelihoods organised on “Evidence-Based Agri-Food Policy Research Stakeholder Meeting” workshop.

Sustainable Partnership with FAO



In the last year report, we mentioned the Uzbekistan Food Price Monitoring and Analysis (FPMA) Tool - a user-friendly web-based tool to facilitate dissemination and analysis of food price data. FAO mission visited WIUT between the dates of September 19 – 23, 2022. WIUT hosts the tool and regularly updates food prices data to inform policy makers and research

community on food price changes. The tool is available publicly at <https://fpma.wiut.uz/>.

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

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



Government Scholarships - Public Health

In October 2022, the [Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan](#) provided **50 scholarships** for studying in the MSc Public Health Science Master's program at WIUT. The course is designed to develop public health professionals, managers and leaders in the public health sector.

Conference on Public Health and Cardiology



WIUT and the Republican Specialized Scientific and Practical Medical Center of Cardiology co-hosted a multidisciplinary conference on Public Health and Cardiology on November 1, 2022. The keynote speaker of the conference, **Professor Franz H. Messerli**, a world-renowned expert in hypertensive cardiovascular disease and preventive cardiology, addressed various

topics on arterial hypertension, cardiogenetics, cardiovascular services and new methods of treating hypertension due to COVID-19. The participants highlighted the methods that are used locally to decrease the burden of arterial hypertension and cardiovascular complications.

WIUT-Uzbekistan is registered with #UKBiobank

[Uzbekistan has become the 100th registered country with the UK Biobank](#). UK Biobank is a large-scale biomedical database and research resource, containing in-depth genetic and health information from half a million UK participants.



Sport brings us closer!

Sports at WIUT play an important role for personal and professional development of students and faculty. Sports facilities such as badminton, mini football (indoor and outdoor), gym, basketball court, fitness club enable students and faculty to spend their leisure time actively and healthily.



2022 was full of sports and healthy life activities to support health and wellbeing of WIUT community, including staff children. During 2022, WIUT organized and hosted:

- Chess Tournament amongst 12 International Universities, December 2022 (WIUT students have been the winners of the Tournament)
- "RECTOR'S CUP" in Volleyball, November 2022
- Football Cup, September – November 2022
- WIUT Staff team building, June 2022
- WIUT Family Day, June 2022
- WIUT Open Badminton Championship, May 2022

Our staff and students had a blast during the WIUT Family Day!

Relays, zumba, cycling, football, basketball, badminton and many other challenges kept everyone busy and happy on WIUT Campus! It was a wonderful opportunity for our colleagues and their children to get together, meet each other and have some exercise and lots of fun!



In 2021 - 2022, WIUT continued to provide extra support for its employees' health and wellbeing by tripling the amount of medical insurance coverage. In addition, 33 members of staff received financial support for COVID-19 treatment.



SDG 4: Quality Education

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

Effective Management Trainings

As part of the joint project between UNDP Uzbekistan and the Agency for Public Services, and with the support of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis and the European Union, WIUT's academic staff prepared a 3-day training programme on "Effective management for local government in Uzbekistan" specifically designed for employees of public-facing and executive government bodies.



Train the Trainer course for school teachers

The Centre for Professional and Lifelong Education (CPLE) at WIUT hosted a three-day intensive Train the Trainer course on "Enhancing public school teachers' pedagogical skills to enable advanced teaching using Cambridge techniques". 47 representatives across six universities in Tashkent including experts from the Education Center under the Ministry of Public Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan participated at the training.



"Research Methods" in local language



WIUT Graduate School conducted the year-long training on "Research Methods" in Uzbek language for researchers from local higher education institutions during 2022. Around 100 offline and online participants joined the training. The training aims to support local social science research development.

WIUT's Research Ethics best practices – workshop to local universities

Associate Prof Dr Ikrom Rikhsiboev (Dean of the Graduate School – Research) conducted a virtual seminar-workshop on “Research Ethics” to the representatives of local universities on December 16, 2022. The workshop was conducted in Uzbek language. More than 60 representatives of universities participated in the workshop.

AL WIUT Academy

The training course "ALWIUT Academy" organized under the Academic Lyceum of WIUT prepares students of the 9th grade for the entrance exams to the lyceum. The course involves two directions: (1) English and (2) Mathematics. Classes have been conducted in Russian and Uzbek languages.

TEDxWIUT

WIUT organised its second annual TEDxWIUT event in December 2022. 14 ambitious young speakers, including students from WIUT and other local universities highlighted a wide range of issues on personal development and motivation.



Coursera Representative Visited WIUT

Representative of Coursera visited WIUT on December 16, 2022. Eduard Kan is the Business Development Director for Central Asia in Coursera. The aim of the visit was to discuss joint collaboration between WIUT and Coursera.



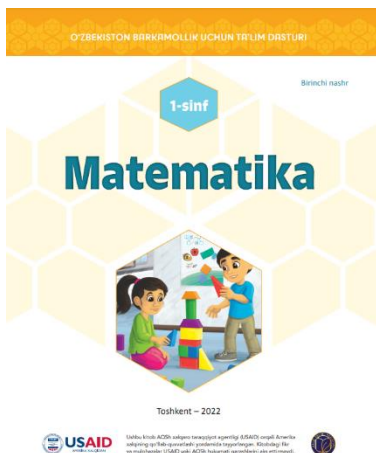
Workshop for Psychologists in Higher Education



WIUT in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher and Secondary-Specialized Education of Uzbekistan organized a workshop to 150 psychologists from different universities of Uzbekistan on September 29, 2022. The workshop aimed to discuss best practices and experience of WIUT to provide psychological and counselling services at university. Workshop

participants also discussed situation and opportunities of psychological and counselling services in higher education at national level.

Contributing to “Mathematics” for grades 1-4 textbooks and teacher's guide



Rano Khamraeva (Pre-University) contributed to the development of eight textbooks and teacher's guide for the subject "Mathematics" for grades 1-4 as a member of authors-consultants working group. The textbooks and guide were developed within the framework of the Uzbekistan Education for Excellence Program, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Women staff profile

In 2022, the total number of staff at WIUT including academic, administrative and professional, equaled 450 people. Among them 199 staff members or 44 percent were women.

Out of 65 senior academic staff, 22 were women in 2022. Out of 103 publications in 2022, 44 per cent of publications were published by female faculty members.



251 staff
members (56%)



199 staff
members (44%)

Gender Equality in the Workplaces in Uzbekistan



The Centre for Policy Research and Outreach (CPRO) at WIUT and the UNFPA held a business dialogue based on the key findings of the study entitled “Gender Equality in Workplaces in Uzbekistan” and discussed the prevalence, perceptions, and attitudes towards gender equality in the workplace. The survey was conducted earlier this year and engaged 23 companies based in Tashkent and Tashkent region involving 1,303 employees sharing their experiences and reflections on the topic.



SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

The 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.

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.

Note: this video has been prepared in June 2023

Research Publication on Water Governance

Amirova, I., Petrick, M. and Djanibekov, N. (2022). [Community, state and market: Understanding historical water governance evolution in Central Asia](#). Discussion Paper 2022, No. 200. Halle (Salle): IAMO.

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy



Efficient energy usage on campus and energy self-sufficiency



In 2022, WIUT started works on installing solar panels on the roofs of the university campus buildings to diversify its electricity sources. The university also continues installing more efficient and environmentally friendly equipment and devices, including led panels, solar water heating devices, outdoor lighting with sensors.

Both university dormitories have been equipped with coal-fired boilers, and coal reserves were created.

Measuring Economic Efficiency of energy resources in Uzbekistan



Together with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Ministry of Economy and Finance, WIUT conducted a national assessment of designing and implementing green and inclusive economic development measures - “Green Recovery in Uzbekistan Project”. The study also includes assessment of efficiency in using natural resources and

environmental services. The report captures the efficiency with which economic activities use energy, natural resources and materials.



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 2022, particular focus was placed on further enhancement of the performance management system as well as on the development and implementation of a grade review policy.

Over 140 members of staff were awarded with merit-based salary increases before the beginning of the new 2022-2023 academic year. Other WIUT benefits offered in 2021-2022 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 2021-2022 more than 70 permanent and 130 temporary employees were recruited and on boarded.

In 2022, the university provided paid internship opportunities for 35 WIUT students.

WIUT-UoW Employability Workshop

On November 22, 2022, UoW and WIUT organized a workshop on Employability, where both universities shared the best practices to learn about the updates regarding their employability strategy. The workshop covered topics such as current activities at the universities to support and promote graduate success.



WIUT is Connecting Young Leaders with Industry



In 2022, WIUT continued its innovative project - the University "Connecting Leaders" breakfast series held at Bon Cafe. The initiative aims to actively connect WIUT's industry partners and alumni with the University of Westminster. During the breakfast, employers and alumni discuss ways of close collaboration with WIUT with a special focus on networking connections,

guest lectures, training courses, career opportunities and work-based learning for our students and graduates.

WIUT develops HRM in Central Asia

WIUT successfully completed the joint WIUT and CBHE TALENT ERASMUS+ project on HRM and Talent Development in Central Asia. On this occasion, the University held the final conference between 26-28 September and discussed project implementation outcomes, feedback and recommendations from project partners, as well as students' thesis presentations.



Inspiring Alumni Success Stories



With more than 5,000 alumni, Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) constantly acknowledges and celebrates the outstanding achievements of its alumni at national and international levels. WIUT hosted the "Alumni Success Stories" event during which our alumni shared their inspiring stories and progress in their careers in all sectors of Uzbekistan's public life.

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 and faculty with industry from Uzbekistan and across the region.

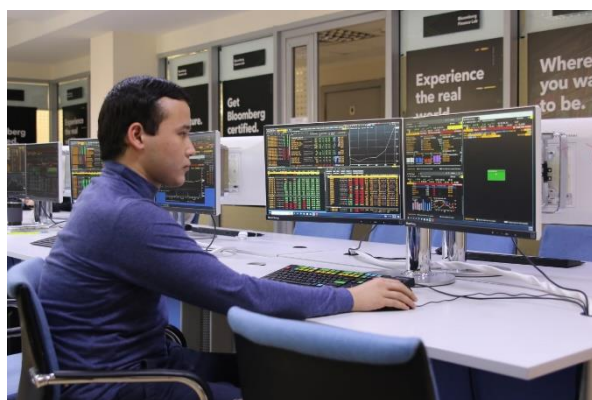
WIUT partners with the Economic Assembly

September 23, 2022: WIUT in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Investments & Foreign Trade, and the Senate of Oliy Majlis, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Economic Assembly of Uzbekistan. This MoU promotes cooperation between entrepreneurs, investors, and students within the framework of the Corporate Innovations of innoWIUT. Further cooperation will stimulate and motivate students to become part of the Economic Assembly and make a positive contribution to the economy of Uzbekistan overall.

Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge 2022 Results

Congratulations to our WIUT Wizards student team led by Jamoladdin Omonbaev and Samuel Lammi, which was ranked 6th regionally and 26th globally in the Bloomberg Global Trading Challenge 2022.

The challenge lasted for 5 weeks in October and November. Our students competed against more than 1000 university teams from across the world and were ranked in the top 20% globally and regionally.



WIUT students joined the Final Stage of the Red Bull Basement



WIUT students represented Uzbekistan in the Final Stage of the Red Bull Basement student innovation competition. On March 24-29, 2022, the Global Final of the Red Bull Basement competition took place in Istanbul, Turkey. Mokhinur Botirova (Level 4, Economics with Finance) and Abdullokh Abdugafforov (Level 5, Business Management & Marketing), participated in the competition with their project E-Med. They represented Uzbekistan among 44 country teams across the Globe.

Tashkent Based Startup Made it to 500 Global Accelerator Program



Shakhzod Umirzakov, WIUT alumnus and his team were selected to participate at 500 Global among 500 best startups in the world. Shakhzod is a CEO & Co-Founder of TASS VISION, a startup company specializing in computer vision based on artificial intelligence and embedded technologies. The startup focuses on in-store analytics, which runs on small embedded computers or AI cameras.

EPAM Conference

WIUT and EPAM jointly organised the Rolling Scopes conference on November 12, 2022. The event aimed at supporting and training professional and young developers in Uzbekistan to improve and enhance their skills and competencies. More than 250 participants attended the conference.

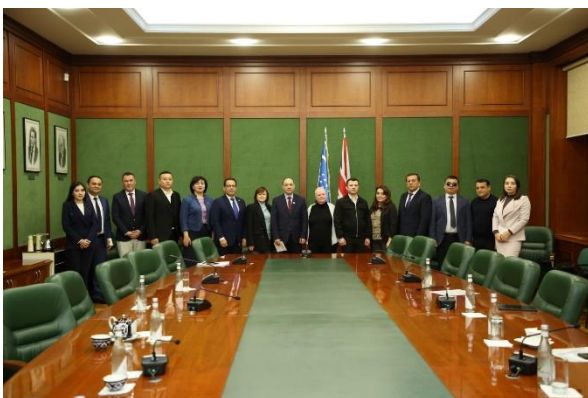




SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries

Widening access to Higher Education



WIUT hosted the first meeting of the national Inclusive University working group under the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised education. The group is the outcome of the Inclusive University Conference organised on May 17th, 2022 as a joint initiative of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialised Education, the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, the

British Council in Uzbekistan, WIUT and the University of Westminster, UK. The group agreed to focus on widening access for people with disabilities and people from low-income families, as well as on women's and girls' empowerment.

HIV & AIDS Awareness Day



WIUT organized HIV & AIDS Awareness Day on December 7, 2022. The speakers of the event were Mashkhura Saipova, the representative of UNODC and Tatyana Nikitina, the medical professor, director of NGO "Intilish". The session discussed outreach activities to inform youth and parents on healthy lifestyle habits, social involvement at schools - including sports &

arts, instruments and methods to prevent addictive behavior, and other questions on HIV & AIDS awareness and prevention. The session included a quiz to brainstorm student questions and thoughts on the topic, with prizes from UNODC.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



WIUT Lyceum's New Social Zone & New Facilities



WIUT community (university and lyceum) can now enjoy new social zone located on the second floor of the lyceum building. The new facilities have been launched on September 30th, on the occasion of the Teacher's Day - celebrated with a festive plov. Staff and faculty members were congratulated from the Ministry of Higher and Secondary-Specialized Education of

Uzbekistan, and the University. Classrooms on the 6th and 7th floors of the academic lyceum building have been equipped with electronic boards.

CPRO joins World Cities Summit 2022

Dr John Sweeney (CPRO) participated in the World Cities Summit 2022 jointly organised by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) on July 31 – August 3, 2022, in Singapore. The biennial World Cities Summit is an exclusive platform for government leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and forge new partnerships.



What can this bot do?

What can do this bot? 🚗

🇺🇰 This bot helps WIUT students to relieve parking and save time

🇷🇺 Этот бот помогает студентам разгрузить парковку и сэкономить время

🇺🇿 Bu bot talabalarning mashinalar to'xtash joyidan qulay foydalanish va vaqtni saqlash uchun yordam beradi

Powered by Students' Union



SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

WIUT participates in ecological #pet2natureuz challenge!



The Coca-Cola Company and the Youth Affairs Agency of Uzbekistan launched the ecological challenge #pet2natureuz among universities, as part of the "Wasteless" programme dedicated to improving the environment. In two of our buildings, students and staff can find special bins where they can drop plastic bottles. The collected bottles will be recycled and used

in the construction of an artificial reservoir.

Corporate Social Responsibility Research

Ataniyazova, Z., Friedman, B.A. & Kiran, P. (2022). New corporate social responsibility brand evaluation in a developing country: Uzbekistan. *Int J Corporate Soc Responsibility* **7**, 3. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40991-022-00071-3>

Ataniyazova, Z. (2022). Innovation Integration of Corporate Social Responsibility into Brand. *Logistics and Economy*, 2022 (4), 22-27.

SDG 13: Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts



WIUT supports the “Yashil Makon” initiative!



WIUT staff and students planted 20 trees in the campus to support the “Yashil Makon” initiative by the President of Uzbekistan. Climate change is causing serious problems to the world, the region of Central Asia and the WIUT community wishes to contribute to the greening of our country.

In addition to planting trees in the WIUT surrounding areas, you can also see bicycle paths, bicycle parking, separate eco-garbage bins. Our University strives to be green, sustainable and makes every effort to be socially and environmentally responsible.

Measuring economic opportunities and policy responses

Together with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Ministry of Economy and Finance, WIUT conducted a national assessment of designing and implementing green and inclusive economic development measures - “Green Recovery in Uzbekistan Project”. The study also includes assessment of economic opportunities and policy responses, that comprise (1) research and development expenditure in green growth; (2) environment-related innovation; (3) international financial flows in green growth.



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.

- Amirova, I., Petrick, M. and Djanibekov, N. (2022). Community, state and market: Understanding historical water governance evolution in Central Asia. Discussion Paper 2022, No. 200. Halle (Salle): IAMO.
- Amirova, I., Petrick, M. & Djanibekov, N. (2022). Investment traps and resilience to shocks: An experimental study of Central Asian collective water governance. Irrigation and Drainage, 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ird.2704>

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



WIUT promotes research in Central Asia



On October 2022, Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) organised a workshop on researching in Central Asia, lessons learned and future perspectives. The main objective of the workshop was to initiate and develop a discussion on the ongoing research efforts in Central Asia in the areas of employment, education, **agriculture, nutrition**, gender and youth development. WIUT

partnered with the International Security and Development Center (ISDC), the Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops (IGZ) and Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany. The participants provided insights into their past and ongoing research efforts in Central Asia and illustrated how rigorous analytical and innovative methods can lead to high-quality academic output, robust impact evaluations and actionable policy advice.

Evidence based research in agriculture has been WIUT's core research areas since 2016. Recently, WIUT researchers have developed capacity in climate related questions, specifically in agriculture.

Mirkasimov, B., Askarov, Z., Asfaw, E. and Mukhammedova, A. (2022). Determinants of green growth in Uzbekistan. CPRO Policy Brief. <https://cpro.wiut.uz/publications>

Asfaw, E. (2022). Greening Uzbekistan's Agriculture: Status and Prospects. CPRO Policy Brief. <https://cpro.wiut.uz/publications>



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 set new records!

WIUT Team wins National Rounds of Jessup



WIUT Commercial Law students are the winners of National Rounds of Jessup Competition held on February 17, 2022. WIUT Jessup Team will represent Uzbekistan in the International Rounds in March 2022. Laylo Mardiyeva (Level 5) won the Best Oralist award, and Dilshodjon Orifjonov (Level 5) won the Runner-up Best Oralist award. The WIUT Jessup Team has

been awarded the King & Spalding Spirit of the Jessup Award as the team that best exemplified the Jessup Competition's spirit of camaraderie, academic excellence, competitiveness, and appreciation of fellow competitors.

Commercial Law students participated in the Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court

WIUT Commercial Law students Zarrukh Shavkatov, Mokhinur Rakhmatullaeva and Dina Abdel Madjid successfully participated as team members in the 14th edition of the Frankfurt Investment Arbitration Moot Court and ranked #29 in the General Rounds.

Delivering training on “International Private Trade Law”

WIUT Law Department faculty members have supported The USAID Legal Reform Program training on “International Private Trade Law” organized on December 27-29, 2022, in collaboration with the Lawyers’ Training Center.

The USAID Legal Reform Program supports Uzbekistan’s efforts to ensure further development of rule of law principles, build the capacity of legal professionals and training institutions, enhance citizens’ access to justice, improve the legal operating environment for civil society, promote gender equality, and create a healthier investment climate.

Partnership between WIUT, AIFC Court and International Arbitration Centre



WIUT, the Astana International Financial Centre Court (AIFC) and the International Arbitration Centre (IAC) signed a framework agreement of cooperation. Based on the agreement, there will be a new "International Standard Hearing Room" at WIUT where private organisations in dispute will have the opportunity to participate in the AIFC Court and IAC

hearings to resolve outstanding issues and disputes. The cooperation will also allow WIUT Law students to participate in internships at the AIFC Court and the IAC, with the possibility of further employment at AIFC resident companies.

Central Asian Law Forum 2022



On May 27, 2022, Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) hosted the Central Asian Law Forum. For the second year in a row, the forum brings together domestic, regional, and international law experts from academia, industry, and legal practice, and students.

SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals

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



WIUT is Becoming Transnational Research University of Excellence!

2022 has seen the 20th anniversary of the University of Westminster's Transnational Education (TNE) partnership with Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT), a leading international Higher Education Institution (HEI) located in the heart of Central Asia. Graduates of WIUT, graduating with a University



of Westminster degree in subject areas such as Business Management, Business Information Systems, Finance, Economics, Commercial Law, Human Resources Management and Public Health Science constitute a powerful force for growth and change, within a society whose transformation is accelerating.

UNESCO Chair in Future Studies for Anticipatory Governance and Sustainable Policymaking

UNESCO has approved WIUT to formally establish the UNESCO Chair in Future Studies for Anticipatory Governance and Sustainable Policymaking. Prof John A. Sweeney and Dr Peter Malvicini have been appointed as Co-Chairholders. The UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme involves over 850 institutions in 117 countries, promoting international inter-university cooperation and networking to enhance institutional capacities through knowledge sharing and collaborative work.

UNESCO Chair in Knowledge Economy

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

Erasmus+ Partnership



The Opening of a **Jean Monnet Chair** announced the launch of the Central Asian Center for European Trade Law (CACETL) on October 21, 2022. The representatives from EU Delegation in Uzbekistan made an introductory speech. The project aims at expanding trade relations of Central Asia with the European Union through legal education on trade-related aspects of

European Union law and assisting in establishing a new generation of legal professionals competent in substantive areas of EU trade law.

- Partnership within **Central Asian Law project**, including with the Marmara University (Turkey) and Lund University (Sweden)
- Partnership within **Erasmus+ TALENT project**

Partnership in Education with the Government

The Annual International Week of Innovative Ideas ‘InnoWeek.Uz-2022’ was organized in October 2022 by the Ministry of Innovative Development of Uzbekistan to further improve the implementation system of innovative ideas, technologies and projects throughout Uzbekistan. WIUT Rector, Bakhrom Mirkasimov, took part in the “International Scientific Forum of Science and Innovations” conference where his talk focused on the “Innovative University”. WIUT supports students and staff in innovation and business start-ups at the University. In addition, WIUT has recently introduced a new Masters Degree pathway in Entrepreneurship and Innovation to support its students in business start-ups.

Other highlights for 2022

- 87 research conferences and workshops attended by WIUT faculty members
- 12 recognition and awards received by staff and alumni
- 18 major collaborative research projects
- 9 visiting research fellows
- 25 large-scale events and conferences hosted at WIUT