

APPROVED BY
Al-Farabi Kazakh National University
Member of the Board – Vice-Rector for
Sustainable Social Development

B. B. Omarov

« *september* 2025 y.



**AL-FARABI KAZAKH NATIONAL UNIVERSITY'S PROGRAMME ON
POVERTY ERADICATION (SDG 1)**

INTRODUCTION

One of the key priorities of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** is “*No Poverty*.” The essence of this goal lies in ensuring equal economic and social opportunities for all, supporting vulnerable groups, and fostering a fair and inclusive society.

As a leading institution in Kazakhstan’s higher education system, **Al-Farabi Kazakh National University** not only provides high-quality education but also acts as a socially responsible center contributing to the social development of society. One of the University’s strategic priorities is to promote the Sustainable Development Goals at the institutional level — advancing the principles of sustainable growth through education, science, and innovation.

In line with this mission, the **University Programme on Poverty Eradication for the 2025–2026 Academic Year** aims to strengthen the principles of social justice, improve the welfare of students and staff, and provide targeted support to economically vulnerable groups.

This comprehensive initiative promotes equal access to educational opportunities, enhances student social engagement, and fosters a culture of social innovation. It represents a key strategic document directed toward strengthening the University’s social responsibility and developing sustainable human capital.

Basis for Programme Development

The Programme has been developed in alignment with the following national and international strategic documents:

- The **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 1: No Poverty)**
- The **Times Higher Education Impact Rankings (THE IR) Roadmap** for improving university performance indicators
- The **Development Programme of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University for 2022–2026**
- Strategic policy documents of the **Republic of Kazakhstan** in the field of social policy and education

I. Objectives and Tasks of the Programme

Objective:

To ensure equal educational and professional development opportunities for socially vulnerable and low-income students, thereby enhancing their economic independence and well-being through educational, social, and volunteer-based initiatives aimed at poverty reduction.

Tasks:

1. **Enhancement of social support mechanisms:** Establish a system for providing material, psychological, and educational support to low-income, orphaned, and large-family students.

2. **Development of financial literacy and entrepreneurship skills:** Introduce training programmes to improve students' personal finance management and income-generation competencies.

3. **Promotion of social entrepreneurship:** Support student startups and business ideas aimed at creating socially beneficial projects.

4. **Fostering a culture of volunteering:** Strengthen volunteer movements and engage students in socially significant initiatives to enhance civic responsibility.

5. **Utilization of scientific and research potential:** Launch academic projects focused on poverty reduction, social policy, and inclusive development.

6. **Expansion of international partnerships:** Collaborate with UN agencies, UNESCO, UNICEF, and other organizations to share best practices and implement joint social projects.

7. **Enhancement of information and media outreach:** Raise public awareness about poverty eradication initiatives and promote the Sustainable Development Goals within and beyond the university community.

MAIN DIRECTIONS AND ACTION PLAN

No.	Direction	Key Activities	Implementation Period	Responsible Units
1.	Social Support and Equal Opportunity Policy	• Allocation of additional social grants for low-income students; • Regular organization of the charitable campaign “<i>One Student – One Opportunity</i>”; • Provision of discounts for dormitory fees; • Implementation of the “<i>Kind Campus</i>” programme (assistance with food, clothing, and stationery).	September 2025 – August 2026	• Provision of tangible material support to socially vulnerable groups; • At least 150 students receive assistance annually.

2.	Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship Development	• Organization of “<i>Financial Literacy Week</i>” and open training sessions; • Launch of the “<i>Young Entrepreneur</i>” competition; • Free business courses under the “<i>StartUp Academy</i>” initiative; • Micro-grant programme for student business start-ups.	October 2025 – May 2026	• 500 students enhance their entrepreneurial competencies; • Student business ideas are supported and implemented.
3.	Volunteering and Community Initiatives	• Organization of social campaigns “<i>Share Warmth with Others</i>” and “<i>From Heart to Heart</i>”; • Establishment of partnerships with nursing homes, orphanages, and social centers; • Creation of a student club “<i>SDG Volunteers Club</i>”; • Free educational webinars and mentoring programmes in disadvantaged areas (e.g., IELTS preparation); • Implementation of <i>Farabi UniHelp</i> and <i>Farabi SocialStartUni</i>	September 2025 – August 2026	5,000 students participate in social initiatives; Number of volunteers increases by 30%.
4.	Research and Analytical Activities	Scientific conference “ <i>The Role of Education and Science in</i>	November 2025 – June 2026	At least 3 academic papers published on SDG-related topics.

		<i>Poverty Reduction</i>		
5.	Partnership and International Cooperation	• Exchange of international experience in social entrepreneurship; • Conducting the “<i>Global Poverty Awareness Week</i>”.	December 2025 – July 2026 Increased	Strengthened international image of the University
6.	Information, Awareness, and Media Engagement	- Participation in UN, UNESCO, and UNICEF initiatives - Organization of joint programmes and summer schools	September 2025 – August 2026	University’s international image is enhanced; At least 20 materials published on social media platforms.

Expected Outcomes

- A culture of social responsibility will be established within the university community;
- An effective support system for students from socially vulnerable groups will be developed;
- The number and quality of volunteer and charitable initiatives will increase;
- The university’s performance in international sustainable development rankings will improve;
- New partnership projects aimed at poverty reduction and strengthening social justice will be implemented.

The “No Poverty” University Programme for the 2025-2026 Academic Year represents one of the key strategic initiatives of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, aimed at fostering a socially responsible, inclusive, and equitable society.

Through the implementation of this programme, the university will strengthen its role not only as a leading center of education and science, but also as an important social institution contributing to the stability and well-being of society.

Measures directed at reducing poverty and improving quality of life will enhance the system of social support for students, promote the culture of volunteering and philanthropy, and increase youth civic engagement and responsibility.

Moreover, the programme will contribute to enhancing the university’s international reputation and advancing its position in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings indicators.