



# REPORT ON SDG 5

## **1. Overview of Urgench State University and Gender Equality Context**

Urgench State University (UrSU), officially Urgench State University named after Abu Rayhan Biruni, is one of the major public universities in Uzbekistan, with a large student body and numerous academic programs.

Gender equality is a national priority in Uzbekistan under the “Uzbekistan-2030” development strategy, which guides educational and social reforms to expand women’s rights, participation, and opportunities in academic, political, and economic life.

Today, many decisions on Gender equality are being made and strengthened, and at the same time, Urgench State University pays great attention to Gender equality. For example, it ensures that women and men have equal rights and opportunities for development. At the same time, it promotes and promotes true equality between women and men. The University strives to ensure a balanced representation of women and men at all levels. The dignity and integrity of every human being must be respected. Sexual harassment is an attack on human dignity and UrSU condemns such actions. The University will take all necessary measures to prevent sexual violence.

Since the establishment of the University, such Gender Equality Violations have not occurred and relevant information is regularly collected to ensure equal opportunities, the University is linked to management tools and analyzed to monitor progress and lay the groundwork for further action. Gender equality policy is implemented at the University level and the University Women’s Committee advises staff and students on all aspects of gender policy and educates them on their rights. Everyone's dignity should be respected, regardless of gender!

Section 10 Article 46 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan stipulates that "women and men have equal rights" and those who violate this law will be held accountable within the framework of the law.

The University will work on this basis and will take the necessary measures.

Currently, every faculty of the University holds weekly student meetings and provides enough information. In addition, students submit their articles on gender equality to faculty leaders in writing and are consulted on all aspects of gender policy.

## **2. Institutional Initiatives at Urgench State University**

### **Gender-Focused Audits and Information Dissemination**

The university has established dedicated gender equality activities, including carrying out a gender audit in accordance with national law. This audit evaluates institutional practices, policies, and campus culture to assess how well the university ensures gender equity in education and workplace environments.

The university's online gender equality resource also provides guidance for reporting harassment and safety issues, with links to national hotlines and support mechanisms — an important tool for student and staff protection.

## **3. Seminars, Training, and Awareness-Raising**

UrSU has hosted major seminars focused on gender equality, women's social and political participation, and gender culture:



Republican seminar on “Increasing women’s social and political participation, issues of gender equality and gender culture” — organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, the Senate of the Oliy Majlis, and the State Committee for

Family and Women. This event brought together over 150 chairwomen from university Women’s Advisory Boards nationwide to discuss legal frameworks, challenges in higher education, and cooperation strategies.



Educational seminars for women’s activists, including lectures on women's rights, children’s rights, and gender equality mechanisms relevant to local community engagement. These were organized jointly with the regional State Committee for Family and Women and the University’s Advisory Council on Women’s Issues.

These activities illustrate UrSU’s participation in broader national gender equality efforts and its role as a regional hub for gender awareness and advocacy.

#### **4. Cultural and Campus Engagement**

UrSU commemorates and facilitates educational and cultural events addressing violence prevention and respect for women’s rights. For example, the university’s Women’s Consultative Council hosted a socially relevant event titled “We are Against Violence” around

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. This event included lectures on legal rights, domestic violence prevention, and students' artistic contributions reinforcing gender-equitable values.

## **5. Policies, Reporting, and Accountability**

While specific policy documents for UrSU are not publicly published in full online, available sources emphasize:

Respect for legal gender equality principles under Uzbek law (e.g., equal rights in employment, non-discrimination).

A Gender Equality Commission at the University that advises students and faculty on gender policy.

Institutional condemnation of sexual harassment and stated measures to prevent gender-based violence and protect dignity.

These elements, documented in university materials, show an institutional policy framework aimed at promoting equality and support.

## **6. Strengths and Achievements**

Active role in national gender dialogues: UrSU partners with government bodies and participates in seminars that shape regional gender policy implementation.

Institutional awareness platforms: Through gender audits, online gender equity resources, and advisory structures, the university makes gender issues visible and actionable on campus.

Community and student engagement: Trainings and events for student activists and local women's leaders highlight UrSU's outreach beyond campus boundaries.

## **7. Challenges & Areas for Further Development**

Although UrSU's gender equality activities are clearly documented through events and audits, specific data on gender representation in student enrollment, faculty composition, leadership positions, and wage equity at the university level are not publicly available in official sources. Publishing regular, disaggregated statistics would strengthen transparency and help track progress against national and institutional goals.

Additionally, embedding gender equality across curricula, research priorities, and administrative decision-making — beyond seminars and events — would further institutionalize equity practices.

### **Conclusion**

Urgench State University is contributing meaningfully to gender equality efforts within Uzbekistan's higher education sector through seminars, gender audits, advocacy training, and policy-oriented activities that align with national objectives. While evidence of structural policies and university leader