ANNUAL PROGRESS REPOR ON THE GOALS AND TARGETS WE COMMITTED 2025-2026



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL PROGRESS

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



INTRODUCTION

Navoi State University (NSU) is firmly dedicated to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a strong institutional commitment to SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities. Through inclusive policies, equitable admissions frameworks, financial support mechanisms, and barrier-free campus environments, the university actively works to eliminate discrimination, reduce socioeconomic disparities, and ensure equal opportunities for all students and staff.

Key Targets and Actions:

Promoting Social Inclusion & Equity:

Ensure equal access to higher education and university resources for individuals from diverse backgrounds, remote areas, and vulnerable socioeconomic groups.

Support for Vulnerable & Marginalized Groups:

Implement targeted policies, quotas, financial aid, and special accommodations for low-income families, women requiring social protection, orphans, and persons with disabilities.

Eliminating Discrimination & Fostering Diversity:

Maintain a non-discriminatory institutional culture that respects diversity, guarantees equal rights, and promotes fair treatment across all academic and administrative activities.

Equal Opportunity & Career Advancement:

Provide equitable career development, professional training, and employment support to empower all graduates regardless of their background.

Tracked groups

Navoi State University systematically tracks and measures student applications and admissions across various underrepresented categories, including women, students with disabilities, low-income students, orphans, and applicants from remote regions.

Tracking mechanism:

The university utilizes the state-mandated digital admission platform (HEMIS / State Testing Centre database), which records demographic indicators, quota allocations, and social status data for every applicant and enrolled student.

Description:

Navoi State University (NSU) is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible campus environment for all students, staff, and visitors, including those with physical disabilities, special needs, and maternity requirements. The university has implemented a comprehensive range of facilities and initiatives to ensure equal participation in academic and social life.

Navoi State University is deeply committed to ensuring transparency, equity, and social inclusion across all stages of student recruitment and admission. In alignment with the principles of Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality), the university maintains a robust monitoring mechanism to systematically track and measure applications and admissions among various underrepresented and vulnerable groups.

Utilizing advanced digital institutional frameworks (including the HEMIS database and integrated state admission portals), the university continuously evaluates demographic representation, quota execution, and social indicators. This tracking encompasses women, low-income and socio-economically disadvantaged students, individuals with disabilities and special educational needs, orphans, and applicants from remote or rural regions. By systematically analyzing these admission metrics year-over-year, Navoi State University ensures data-driven decision-making, identifies existing regional or social gaps, and continuously refines its affirmative action policies to promote equal higher education opportunities for all segments of society.

1. Handicapped Accessible Walkways

Navoiy State University has established a fully inclusive, barrier-free physical environment across its entire campus to ensure safe and independent mobility for wheelchair users and individuals with physical limitations. Paved, ramped, and step-free pathways connect all academic buildings, student dormitories, administrative offices, and social facilities. Furthermore, clear directional signage, tactile guiding lines, and ramps with optimal inclination angles have been implemented to facilitate seamless navigation throughout the campus.



2. Truncated Domes and Tactile Paving Systems

To guarantee independent and safe navigation for visually impaired students, staff, and visitors, Navoiy State University has installed specialized tactile paving with truncated dome patterns. These tactile indicators are strategically placed at pedestrian crossings, building entrances, staircases, and key transition points across campus. They serve as essential sensory guidance mechanisms, enabling individuals with visual impairments to safely perceive environmental changes and navigate the campus with confidence.



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3. Assistive Technologies and Braille Resources in the University Library

Navoiy State University's Information-Resource Center (Library) provides specialized digital and physical resources to ensure equal educational access for students with visual impairments:

· A dedicated, specialized study room is fully operational for blind and low-vision students, providing a quiet and supportive learning environment.

· The room is equipped with modern computers pre-installed with NVDA (NonVisual Desktop Access) screen reading software, enabling users to independently navigate operating systems, browse the internet, and study via voice synthesis guidance.

· A specialized audio library comprising 565 academic resources (textbooks, manuals, and literature) is stored and accessible through these workstations, allowing students to listen to educational materials in Uzbek and other languages.

· The library maintains an active collection of Braille books and tactile educational tools, offering direct access to written learning content for blind students.









4. Audio (Talking) Traffic Lights

To enhance pedestrian safety around the campus, Navoiy State University has collaborated with local authorities to install audio (talking) traffic lights at key pedestrian crossings adjacent to university buildings. These specialized signals emit audible cues indicating when it is safe to cross the road, significantly reducing risks and providing an extra layer of safety and independence for blind and low-vision members of the university community.



5. Volunteer and Social Responsibility Initiatives

As part of the nationwide "Thursday — Youth Day" initiative, a dedicated group of student volunteers from Navoiy State University organized a charity outreach visit to the Navoiy Regional Center for Rehabilitation and Prosthetics for Persons with Disabilities. During the visit, student volunteers spent meaningful time with children undergoing medical treatment in the neurology department, organizing interactive games, recreational activities, and distributing gifts to bring joy and encouragement. Such civic initiatives play a vital role in fostering deep values of empathy, humanism, and active social responsibility among the university's student body.







6. Discussion on Inclusive Education Issues

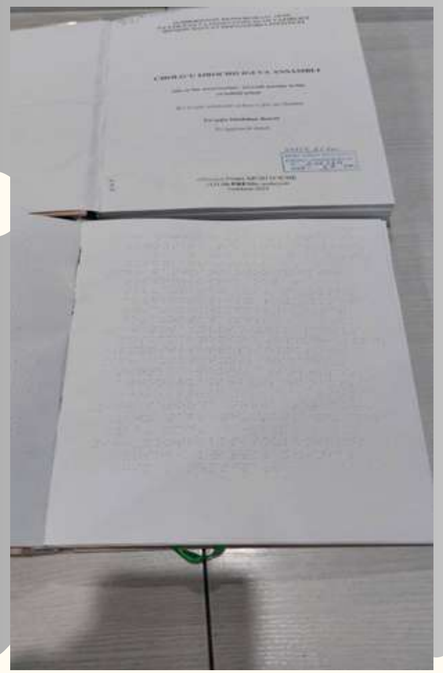
A commission meeting was held at Navoiy State University, chaired by Shukhrat Dzhuraev, the Regional Representative of the Authorized Person of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Human Rights (Ombudsman) in Navoiy region. The meeting was attended by the Rector of the University, Mukhiddin Kalonov, and relevant officials.

Within the framework of the implementation of Presidential Resolution No. PQ-266, the condition and facilities created for students with disabilities at the university, as well as the ongoing efforts to ensure a barrier-free environment in the new campus under construction, were thoroughly reviewed.

It was highlighted that constant attention is given to providing opportunities for 179 students with disabilities currently studying at the university. In the construction of the new campus, infrastructure features such as ramps, elevators, tactile paving, accessible restrooms, and other specialized facilities have been fully integrated into the design and are being implemented under continuous technical supervision.









7. Events Organized on the Occasion of December 3 — International Day of Persons with Disabilities

On the occasion of December 3 — International Day of Persons with Disabilities, various events are being organized by the faculties of Navoiy State University. In particular, during the organized charity and goodwill events, special attention was paid to socially vulnerable individuals, providing them with both material and moral support. The faculty teams conducted direct dialogues, cultural programs, and charity initiatives:

Faculty of Exact Sciences;

Faculty of Preschool and Primary Education.

As part of the events, gifts were presented to the participants. Most importantly, their commitment to acquiring knowledge, the resilience demonstrated on their life paths, and their efforts to take a worthy place in society were specially acknowledged and praised.









8. Enhancing Inclusive Education: University Library Expands Specialized Braille Learning Resources

Navoiy State University continues to reinforce its commitment to educational equity and social inclusion by continuously expanding specialized learning resources for students with visual impairments. Within the framework of the university's inclusive academic framework, the Information-Resource Center (Library) has significantly enriched its collection with specialized Braille-printed literature.

Through the strategic support of the Information Resource Center under the Higher Education Development Research Center of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the university library fund was supplied with 8 distinct book titles comprising a total of 88 physical copies in Braille script. These specialized tactile educational materials cover fundamental academic subjects, enabling blind and low-vision students to access core educational texts independently and conduct effective self-directed learning.

Combined with the library's existing assistive digital infrastructure—including speech-synthesized screen readers (NVDA software) and a comprehensive audio repository—the acquisition of these Braille resources ensures fully accessible, barrier-free higher education opportunities aligned with global inclusion standards

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SPECIAL ADMISSION EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED APPLICANTS

- Admission examinations were successfully organized at Navoi State University for registered applicants with visual impairments (blind and visually impaired individuals) seeking entry into undergraduate degree programs for the 2025/2026 academic year.
- The specialized adaptive entrance examinations were conducted across various fields of study, including Biology, Psychology, National Idea, Foundations of Spirituality and Law Education, History, Physical Education, Social Work, Mathematics, Pedagogy, and Music Education.
- This initiative demonstrates Navoi State University's commitment to ensuring equal educational access, inclusive student recruitment practices, and specialized support services for applicants with special needs.











1. Extended Orientation and Ethical Guidance Session for First-Year Students at the Faculty of History

· Orientation Context: Within the framework of the "First-Year Student School" program at the Faculty of History of Navoiy State University, an awareness and explanatory session was conducted for first-year students focusing on the core principles of the University Code of Ethics.

· Institutional Guidance & Mentorship: The event was attended by the Dean of the Faculty Z.T. Tog'ayev, Deputy Dean for Youth Affairs I.A. Quljonov, Advisor to the Dean on Women's Affairs G.M. Sultonova, and faculty tutors. Essential guidance and practical recommendations were delivered regarding academic discipline, internal campus regulations, code of conduct, dress code, and social responsibility.

· Core Values & Ethics: Special emphasis was placed on maintaining mutual respect between faculty members and students, upholding communication standards, and promoting personal accountability to safeguard the university's academic reputation.

2. IF A WOMAN IS EDUCATED, THE NATION IS EDUCATED!"

On September 16 of this year, a spiritual and educational roundtable discussion titled "If a Woman Is Educated, the Nation Is Educated" was organized at the Karmana District Information and Library Center in cooperation with the leaders of the district's "Oqila Ayollar" (Wise Women) Council and Vocational School No. 2!

Dilbaram Imomova, Head of the Karmana District Information and Library Center; Gulchehra Norqulova, Head of the district's "Oqila Ayollar" Council; council members Ma'rifat Ansorova, Mo'mina Egamova, and Shoira Islomova; Hafiza Eshniyozova, Leading Specialist for Family Relations at Military Unit 20022; and students of Vocational School No. 2 participated in this meeting!

Nargiza Yoqubova—a special guest of the meeting, a 2nd-year student majoring in Philosophy at the Faculty of History of Navoi State University, Chairperson of the university's "Qizlarjon" club, young creator, and active poetess—shared her life path, student years, creative research, achievements, and experiences in utilizing the opportunities created for youth, especially girls, during a heartfelt conversation!

The life experiences, aspiration for knowledge, and bold steps toward goals of the young creator served as a unique motivation for the young girls of the vocational school. After all, behind every major achievement lies perseverance, hard work, the advice of mentors, and confidence in one's own capabilities!









3. STUDY AND ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED AT STUDENT DORMITORY № 2

🌶️ An assessment study was conducted to inspect the living conditions, educational opportunities, and leisure facilities provided for students residing in Student Dormitory No. 2, belonging to the Faculty of Preschool and Primary Education at Navoi State University.

🌶️ During the assessment, Sh.Sh. Alimova, Advisor to the Dean on Women's Issues of the Faculty of Preschool and Primary Education, conducted face-to-face interviews with female students to closely review their dormitory living conditions, individual needs, and propos

🌶️ Furthermore, the operational activities of the library and sewing workshop, established to ensure that students spend their extracurricular time productively and effectively, were evaluated. Special attention was paid to creating opportunities for students to m full use of these rooms, engage in useful activities, and further develop their creative potential.















4. "GIRLS' ETIQUETTE — THE BEAUTY OF SOCIETY"

🌶️ Today, a heartfelt open discussion titled "Girls' Etiquette — The Beauty of Society" was organized for 1st-year female students at the Faculty of Exact Sciences of Navoi State University.

🌶️ During the conversation, valuable insights were shared regarding the effective use of student years, adherence to internal university regulations and code of conduct, respect for teachers and mentors, fostering friendly peer relations, and maintaining high communication ethics.

🌶️ Furthermore, special emphasis was placed on acquiring modern knowledge and vocational skills, engaging in regular reading, spending extracurricular time productively, continuous self-improvement, and developing into well-qualified future specialists.

🌶️ Conducted in an atmosphere of open dialogue and mutual exchange of ideas, the session provided female students with an opportunity to share experiences and define their life goals. Indeed, discipline,

Institutional Policy Matrix: General vs. Disability Provisions

Policy Parameter	Standard Students	Group 1 & 2 Disabled Students	Legal Reference (Resolution 59)
Contract Fee Stipend Source	Self-funded via contract fee	Fully covered by Republican Budget	Paragraph 2, Clause 2 & Chapter 5, Clause 12
Monthly Stipend Rate	100% Base Rate (120% for 'Excellent')	150% (+50% Increased Rate Unconditional)	Chapter 5, Clause 13 & Annex 2, Item 5
Low Academic Performance Effect	Stipend suspended if >=30% satisfactory	Exempt from suspension (Stipend Retained)	Chapter 2, Clause 6b
Additional Emergency Relief	Subject to Council Criteria (Up to 10x Base)	Priority Access to Fund (Up to 10x Base)	Chapter 7, Clause 20

Visual Representation of Stipend Multipliers

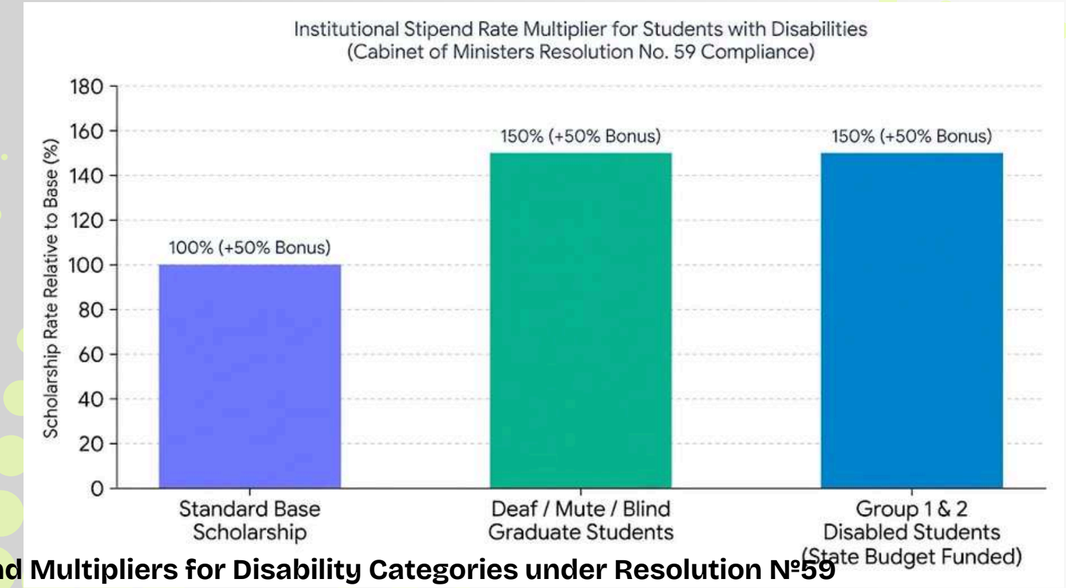




Figure 1: Comparison of Stipend Multipliers for Disability Categories under Resolution №59

1. Executive Summary & National Context

In accordance with state regulations supporting inclusive education across higher education institutions (HEIs) in Uzbekistan, a total of 3,907 additional state-funded grant quotas (a dedicated 2% allocation) were established nationally for applicants with disabilities. This allocation is distributed across three primary study modes:

· Full-time Study Mode: 2,968 quotas (75.97% of national total)
· Evening Study Mode: 575 quotas (14.72% of national total)
· Distance Learning Mode: 364 quotas (9.31% of national total)

2. Navoiy State University Admission Quota Breakdown

Navoiy State University was allocated a total of 70 state grant quotas specifically reserved for students with disabilities across three modes of study:



Category / Mode of Study	National Total	Navoiy State University	NSU Share of Total
Full-time Study Mode	2,968	51	72.86%
Evening Study Mode	575	15	21.43%
Distance Learning Mode	364	4	5.71%
Total Quotas	**3,907**	**70**	**100.00%**

Analytical Commentary & Institutional Alignment

The data and visualization above reflect Navoi State University's structured implementation of national affirmative action policies for inclusive education:

• Dominance of Full-time Education (72.9%): The majority of allocated quotas (51 out of 70) are concentrated in full-time degree programs. This ensures that students with disabilities have direct access to on-campus learning, campus infrastructure (such as accessible classrooms, libraries with Braille/NVDA software, and adapted sanitary facilities), and face-to-face mentorship.
• Flexible Learning Paths (Evening & Distance - 27.1%): A combined total of 19 quotas (15 Evening, 4 Distance) offer crucial flexibility for students who may face severe mobility challenges, health treatments, or work commitments, enabling them to pursue higher qualifications at their own pace.
• Alignment with SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities): By offering dedicated state-funded grants across all three study modes, Navoiy State University actively removes financial and physical barriers, ensuring equitable access to higher education for underrepresented and vulnerable groups.



Conclusion

As universities and higher education institutions increasingly integrate sustainability frameworks into their strategic reporting, SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) serves as a critical pillar for measuring inclusive development, social equity, and accessibility.

Key Takeaways and Institutional Impact

Targeted Support and State Quotas: National frameworks—such as dedicated state-grant quotas for orphans, children deprived of parental care, and female applicants from low-income families—demonstrate an active commitment to narrowing socioeconomic gaps in higher education.

Inclusivity and Accessibility: Compliance with inclusion standards (such as Cabinet of Ministers regulations regarding enhanced stipends for students with disabilities and specific support groups) ensures that financial barriers are actively mitigated.

Holistic Student Welfare: Effective reduction of inequality extends beyond admissions to encompass psychological support systems, specialized academic accommodations, and career integration pathways tailored to diverse student needs.

Ultimately, achieving SDG 10 within higher education requires a continuous commitment to equitable resource distribution, transparent policy implementation, and comprehensive support structures that empower every student to succeed regardless of background.