



# The Republic of Azerbaijan

## *National experiences in the implementation of the SDGs: voluntary national reviews, progresses and challenges*



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National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development**





# Background for Sustainable Development Goals

*The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with its accompanying 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets and 244 indicators, was endorsed on 25-27 September 2015 at the UN Summit in New York*





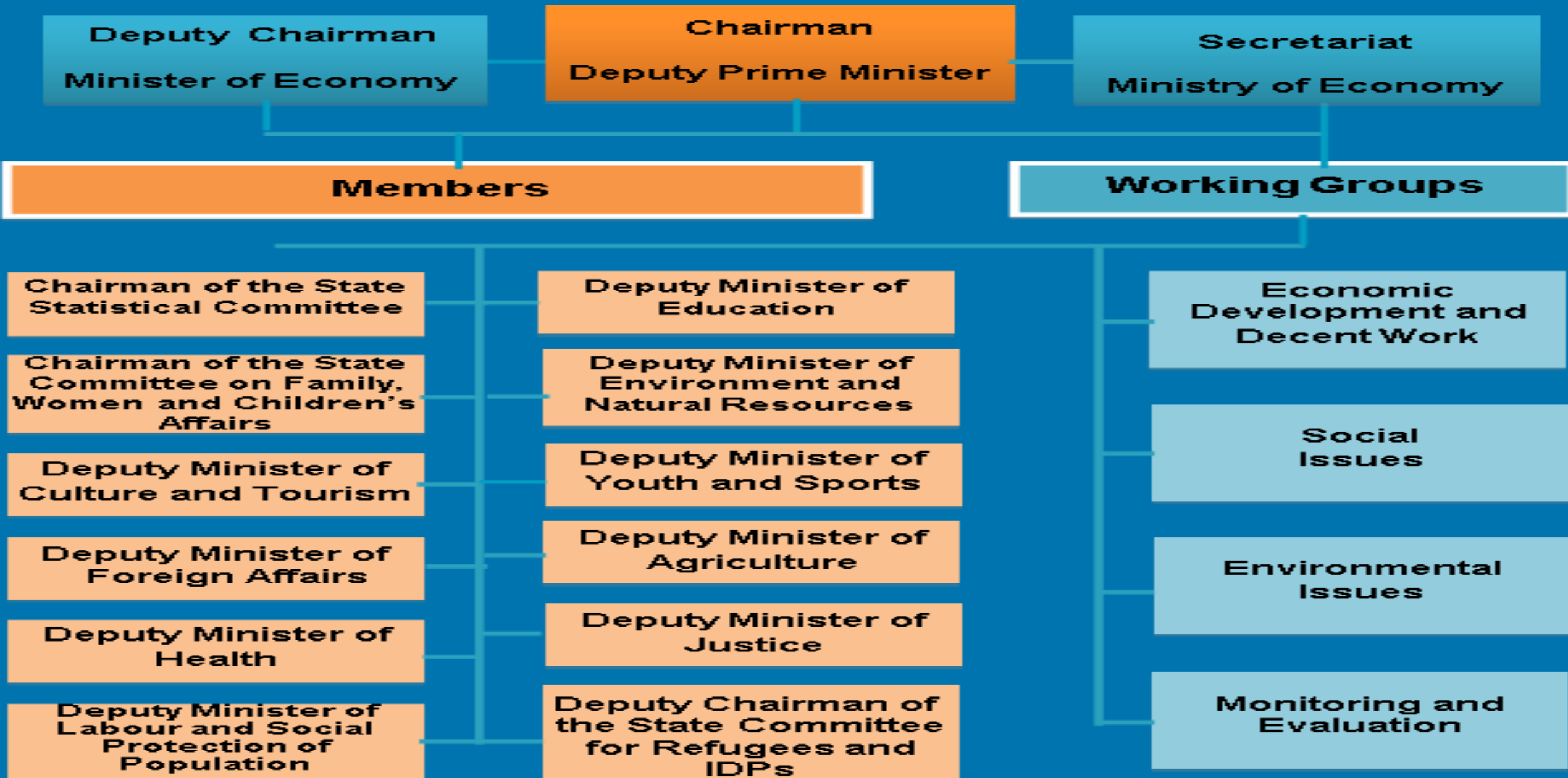
# ***Institutional structure Initiative***

*Pursuant to the Decree issued by the  
President of the Republic of  
Azerbaijan on 6 October 2016 the  
National Coordination Council for  
Sustainable Development was  
established.*

*The Decree stipulated the establishment of the Council Secretariat and the  
Ministry of Economy was vested with the responsibility to oversee the Secretariat  
operations.*



# *Institutional structure*





# Core State Policy Documents



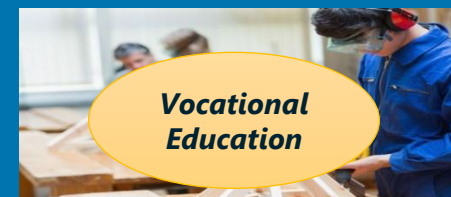
- **Towards a highly competitive economy**
- **The improvement of the transport, transit and logistic infrastructure.**
- **The balanced development of regions**
- **The development of information and communication technologies and ensuring transition to an information society**
- **The development of human capital and the establishment of an effective social security system**
- **The improvement of legislation and strengthening of institutional potential**
- **The development of civil society**
- **The protection and effective management of cultural heritage**
- **Environmental protection and ecological issues**



# Core State Policy Documents



**Strategic Road Maps**  
covering national economic perspectives on 11 economic sectors was approved on 2016





# ***Sustainable development as a cornerstone of Azerbaijan's national development agenda***

## ***State programs under the implementation***

***The State Strategy on the  
Development of Education  
in the Republic of  
Azerbaijan***

***A National Program of the  
Republic of Azerbaijan on  
Women's Issues***

***The State Program on the  
Improvement of Maternal  
and Child Health for  
2014-2020***



# ***Sustainable development as a cornerstone of Azerbaijan's national development agenda***

***The Employment  
Strategy of the  
Republic of Azerbaijan  
for 2017-2030***

***State  
programs***

***The State Program on  
Environmental  
Improvement and  
Efficient Use of Natural  
Resources in the Republic  
of Azerbaijan***

***The State Program  
in the Population  
Occupancy and  
Demographic  
Development in the  
Republic of Azerbaijan for  
2017-2030***

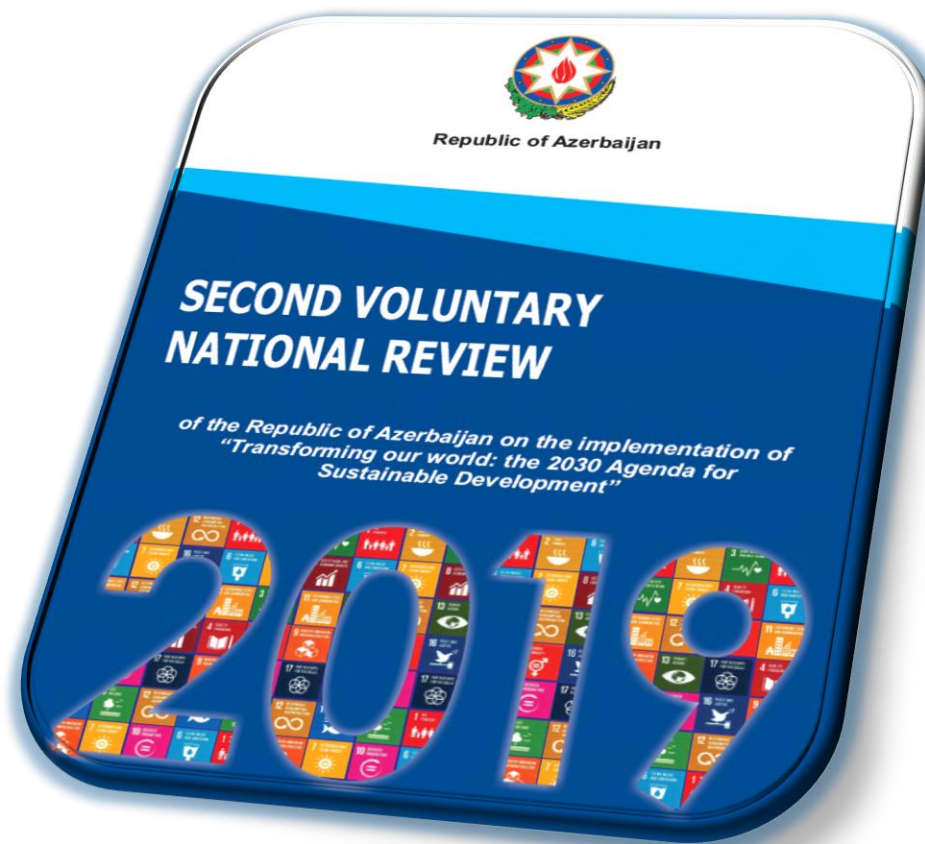
***The State Program  
on Azerbaijani Youth  
Development for  
2017-2021***





## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

# VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS





# HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## POLICY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

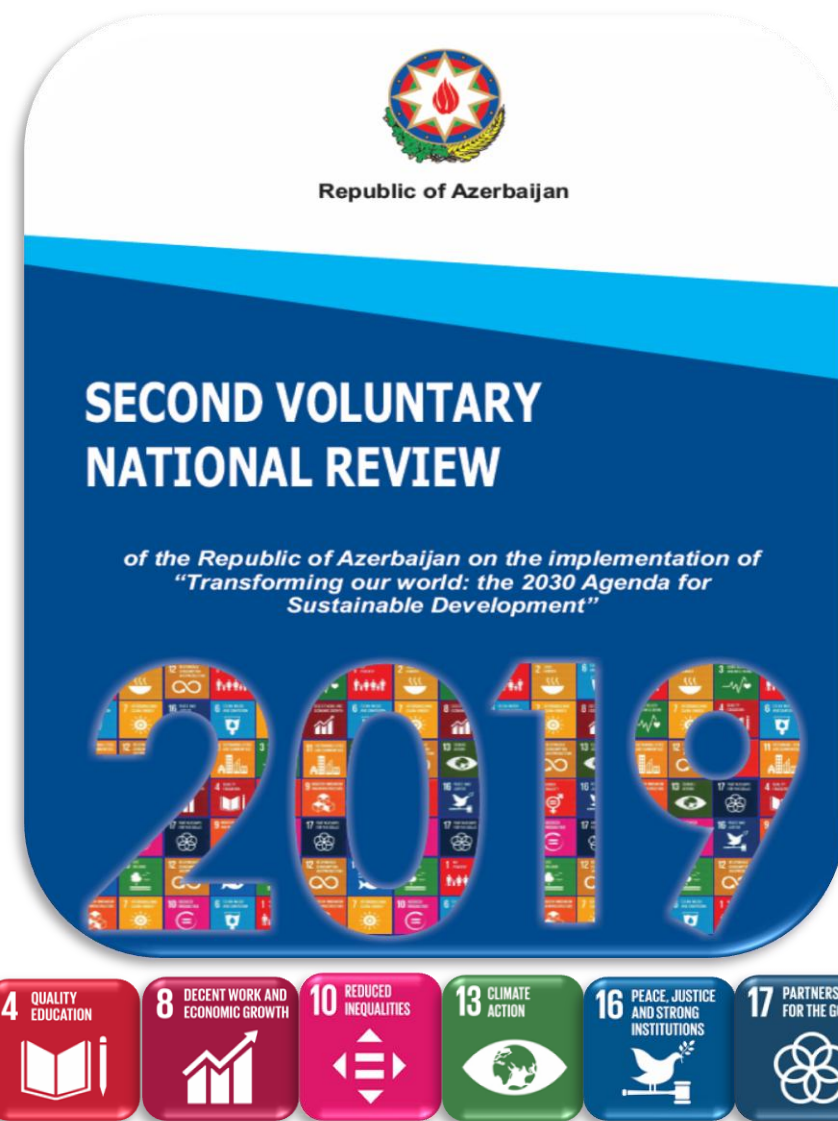
RESULTS OF ANALYSES AND EVALUATION OF  
MAPS MISSION IN AZERBAIJAN

PROGRESS IN THEMATIC GOALS AND TARGETS

STRENGTHENING MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

## WAY FORWARD

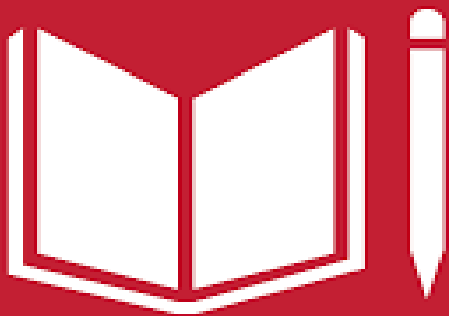
LESSONS LEARNED AND POLICY  
RECOMMENDATIONS





**E**nsure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

## **4** **QUALITY EDUCATION**



- According to the results of the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), the reading skills of Azerbaijani pupils in 2016 increased to 472 points from 462 points (or by 10 points) compared to the relevant indicator of 2011.
- The Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan “On preschool education” was approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 14 April 2017, in order to ensure a more effective regulation of the preschool education system.
- During the period of 2010-2017, the proportion of schools with access to the Internet for pedagogical purposes went up from 39.1 percent to 56.8 percent (an increase of 17.7 percent), and those provided with computers for pedagogical purposes rose from 83.9 percent to 94.7 percent (an increase of 10.8 percent).

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

## 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



- In 2018, within the framework of the self-employment program, 7,267 unemployed persons, including 1,174 young men successfully defended their business plans and as a result more than 5,000 households were provided with assets and created small family businesses.
- In 2017, the average nominal monthly wages of male employees was 663.1 manats, and that of female employees was 335.7 manats. The average monthly nominal wage of female and male employees was higher in the private sector compared to the public sector.
- During 2010-2017, on average the national unemployment rate dropped from 5.6% to 5.0%, wherein the unemployment rate among men dropped from 4.4% to 4.1%, and from 6.9% to 5.9% among women.



## Reduce inequality within and among countries.

### 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



- The minimum monthly wage in the country was substantially increased and reached the cost of living in the country.
- Pursuant to Decree of the President on 19 April 2018 on improving the social protection of family members of military servicemen who died for the territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan, a lump sum payment of 11,000 AZN to the heirs of these servicemen is stipulated. During 2018, payments were made to the heirs of 5,491 servicemen.
- According to the President's 26 February 2019 Order "On increasing the single monthly allowance for internally displaced persons and persons equated to them," the amount of single monthly allowance for IDPs and equivalent persons has been increased from 40 AZN to 60 AZN (or by 50 percent) as of 1 April 2019. The single monthly allowance increase applied to 496,557 IDPs.

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.



- Significant efforts are undertaken by the Ministry of Environment protection in collaboration with other state and none-state bodies and partners in creating a legal basis for the sustainable development, including efforts to mitigate climate change and adaptation.
- On 21 November 2018, the awarding ceremony for the winners of the “Eco Travel” National Short Film Festival for Children was held at Nizami Cinema Centre with the purpose of increasing the public attention towards the environmental issues
- Environmental Education for Sustainable Development project was implemented in frames of the 2018-2019 Action Plan for Education Program signed between the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) under the framework of the 2016-2020 UNICEF Azerbaijan Country Program Action Plan.



**P**romote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



- During the period of 2010-2017, the number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population decreased by 0.5 point, falling from 2.3 to 1.8. During this period, this indicator for men decreased by 1.0 point falling from 3.2 to 2.2, and for women it increased by 0.2 point, rising from 1.3 to 1.5.
- The rate of intentional homicide went down from 194 incidents in 2010 to 162 incidents in 2017. During the compared period, the proportion of homicide in the structure of main types of crimes fell from 0.8 percent to 0.6 percent.
- In 2018, Azerbaijan was awarded the “Crystal Scales of Justice” prize by the Council of Europe for its accomplishments in the judicial system.

## Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



- Between 2010-2017, the number of fixed broadband internet subscribers per 100 population increased by 5.8 points, going up from 0.6 to 6.4. As per the trend of the last eight years, the number of fixed broadband internet subscribers in the country continues to grow.
- During the period of 2010-2017, the proportion of individuals using the internet increased by 33 percent, going up from 46 percent to 79 percent.
- During the period of 2010-2017, Azerbaijan's share of global exports dropped by 0.05 percent, falling from 0.14 percent to 0.09 percent. In 2017, the amount of exports to about 116 world countries totaled 15,319,977,100 USD, which is 1,862,385,000 USD more than in 2016.



# *Country development on international rankings*



*Azerbaijan was named among the top ten reformers in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Report for 2018, allowing the country to secure 25th place as a favorable investment destination among 190 countries.*

*According to the Inclusive Growth and Development Report – Inclusive Development Index 2018 of the World Economic Forum published in 2018, Azerbaijan is ranked third among emerging economies.*

# *Tailoring the SDGs to national priorities*





# ***MAPS MISSION (Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support Mission)***

**Technical and policy support for adaptation of SDGs to national priorities.**

**Meeting with state agencies;  
Collect and analysis official documents administrative and statistic data**

**Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support REPORT**

# *Core Platforms of MAPS Analysis*

1

**Inclusive labour markets, promotion of increase in labour-intensive sectors;**

2

**Promotion of “greener” development, comparison of “green” economy scenario, sustainable management of land, water resources and agriculture;**

3

**Improvement of introduction of public of social services, elimination of regional disparities, social protection, early childhood development.**



# *Recommendations of MAPS MISSION*

Formulation of “Azerbaijan 2030” new development strategy;

Further alignment of SDGs with national policy documents;

**Establishment of SDG priorities and defining of 3-4 SDG accelerators for Azerbaijan in the light of national development context, development-related results achieved in the last decade, uncompleted matters on MDGs, RIA results;**

Role of private sector and increase of opportunities to involve it in achieving of SDGs in Azerbaijan:

Building of national SDG Monitoring and Evaluation system, acceleration of adapting of SDGs to the local conditions as well as establishment of statistical basis for drawing up of international reports on SDGs.



# *Support to strengthening of capacity in implementation of Sustainable Development Goals*

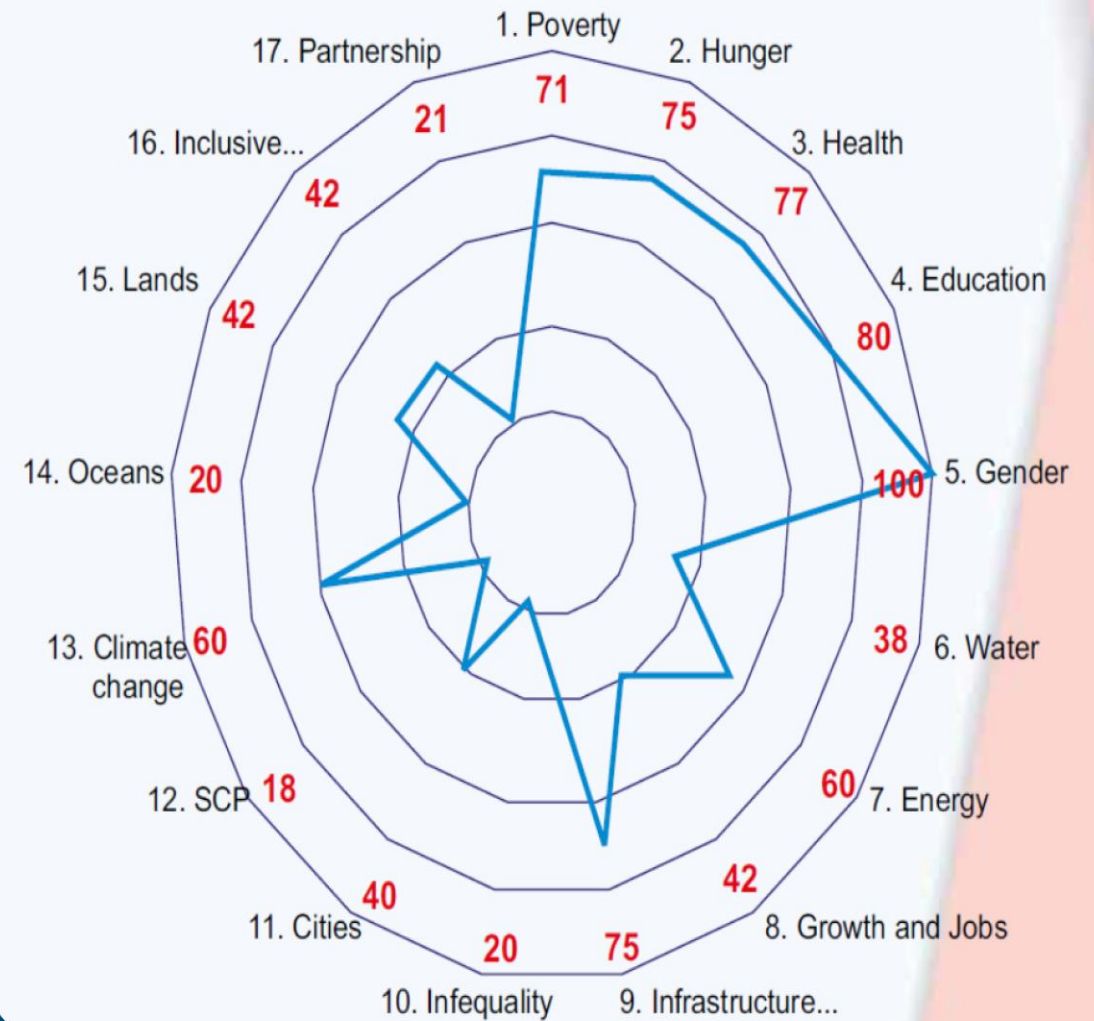




# Rapid Integrated Assessment

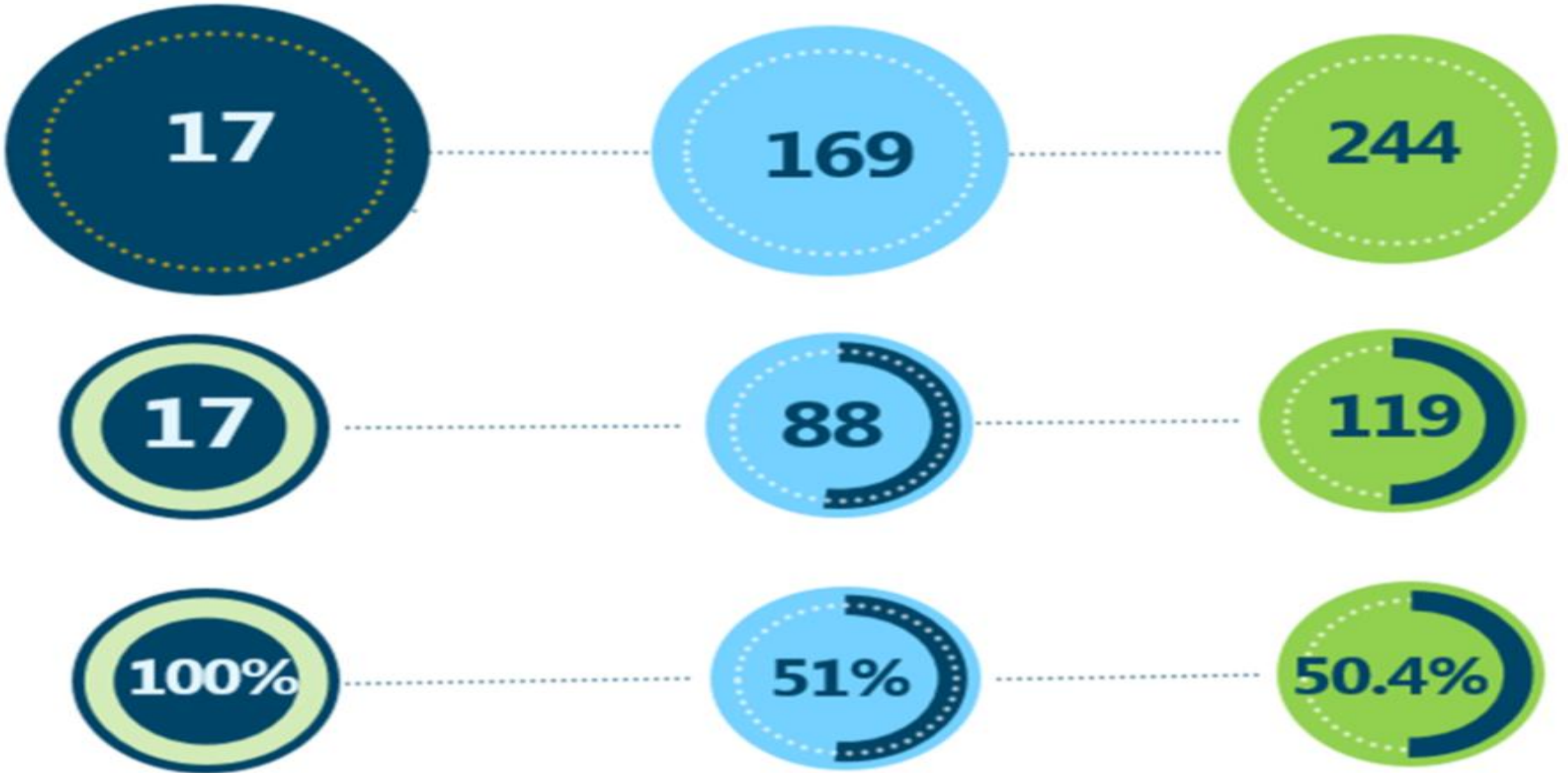
Goals	Overall		Selected	
	Number of targets	Number of indicators	Number of targets	Number of indicators
Goal 1. No Poverty	7	14	4	6
Goal 2. Zero Hunger	8	13	6	7
Goal 3. Good Health and Well-being	13	27	9	19
Goal 4. Quality Education	10	11	9	10
Goal 5. Gender Equality	9	14	9	12
Goal 6. Clean Water and Sanitation	8	11	6	8
Goal 7. Affordable and Clean Energy	5	6	3	3
Goal 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth	12	17	8	10
Goal 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	8	12	6	8
Goal 10. Reduced Inequalities	10	11	5	5
Goal 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	10	15	4	6
Goal 12. Responsible Consumption and Production	11	13	2	2
Goal 13. Climate Action	5	8	1	1
Goal 14. Life Below Water	10	10	2	2
Goal 15. Life on Land	12	14	3	4
Goal 16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	12	23	6	9
Goal 17. Partnerships for the Goals	19	25	5	7
<b>Sum</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>119</b>

Alignment with SDGs on 54 reviewed policy and regulatory documents in Azerbaijan, %





# *Integration of Sustainable Development Goals*



# *Dimensions of Priority SDG Targets*

**Environmental**

**9**



**5**

**Economic**

**14**



**2**



**9**

**Social**

**37**



**12**

# Alignment of SDG Targets, by sector





# *Raising awareness and engaging stakeholders*



**LEAVE NO  
ONE BEHIND**

# ***Raising awareness and engaging stakeholders***

## ***Republic Innovation Contest Targets***

***Promote the objectives of the United  
Nations Sustainable Development  
Agenda  
2030***

***Support the implementation of  
"Azerbaijan 2020: Vision of the Future"***

***Encouraging innovations***

***Stimulation of innovation projects***

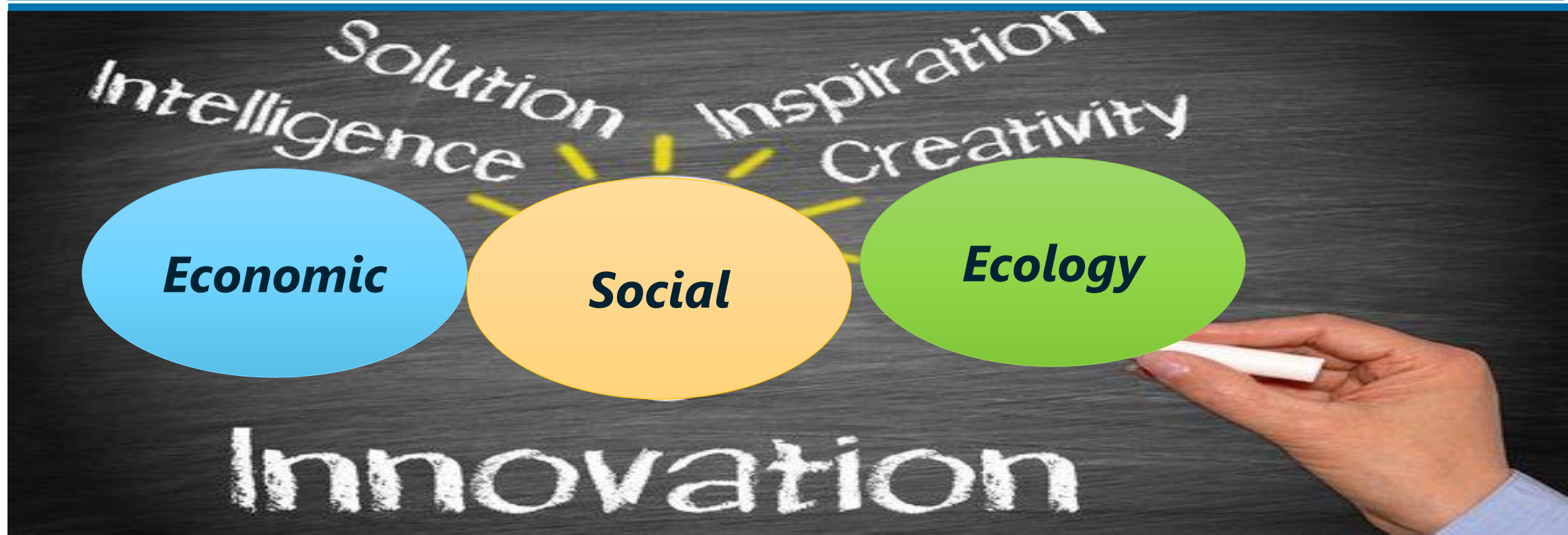
***Support the implementation of "Strategic Road Map on National Economy"***





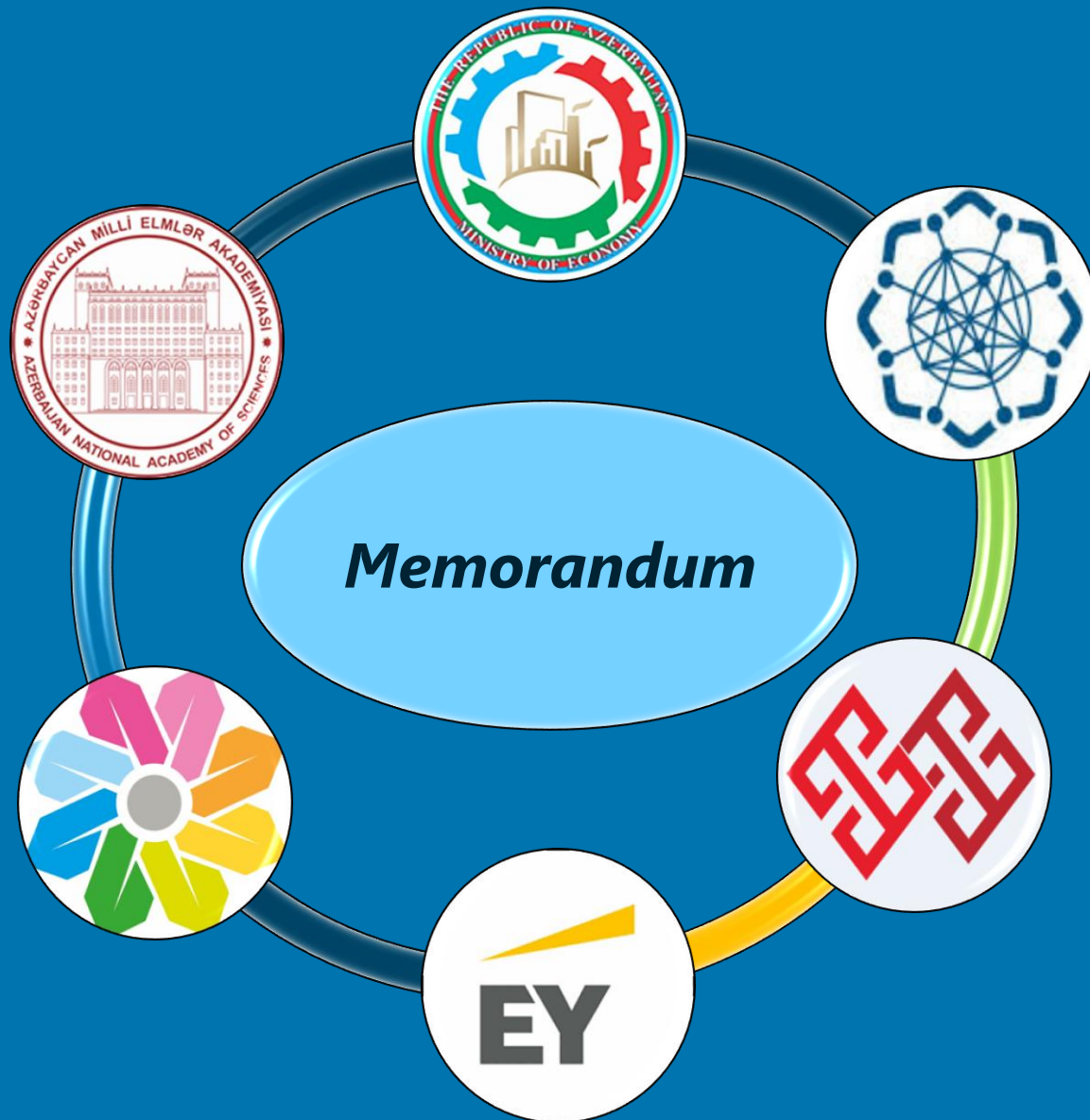
# *Republic Innovation Contest*

***220 proposals, projects and innovative ideas from young Azerbaijani entrepreneurs, researchers and scientists***





# Republic Innovation Contest



**Ensuring continuity of Contest**

**Organization of Annual Contest**

**Collecting, evaluating and rewarding ideas and projects**

# *Involvement of Stakeholders*



Experiences on  
challenges,  
opportunities and  
solutions

Share lessons  
learned and best  
practices

Contribute to the  
High-Level  
Political Forum  
2019

Adopt the  
Baku  
Principles

Increasing the  
role of all  
stakeholders



# Baku Forum 2018

**High-level  
representatives  
from 26 countries  
and international  
organizations**



**5 Sessions  
Adoption of Baku Principles**



# ***Challenges towards the acceleration of the SDG implementation process***



**Nagorno-Karabakh conflict represents a serious threat to peace, security and cooperation in the South Caucasus**



**Acceleration of the development and diversification of non-oil sectors in the national economy, strengthening of innovation and export potential, enhancement of the effectiveness of social services and consolidation of environmental safety**



**Improve the collection and analysis of sustainable development data**



**Creation of direct SDG funding mechanisms, building of efficient partnership**

# ***The Way Forward***



***Select several SDG accelerators on goals, targets and indicators that are considered priorities for Azerbaijan***



***Draft National Action Plan (strategy 2030) on SDG implementation.***



***Implementation of targeted projects on priority targets***



***Continuously improve the statistical framework for SDGs and relevant data infrastructure and capacities***



***Study international best practices and proven methodologies in the area of data collection and processing***



***Enhancement of cooperation with international organizations***



***To organize the next Baku Forum on Sustainable Development in 2020 on the theme of "Strengthening regional partnership on implementation of Sustainable Development Goals"***



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

# GOALS



# Thank you for your attention!