



# BAN KI-MOON INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

# ANNUAL REPORT

Almaty, 2019

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## **UNDERGRADUATES FROM KAZAKHSTAN IN THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IN NEW YORK**

Graduates of Al-Farabi KazNU and the Institute of Diplomacy of the Presidential Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan took part in a "round table" on the UN Model on the results of Kazakhstan's activities in the UN Security Council. The debate was organized by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the UN in New York together with Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development and the youth organization "UN Model - New Silk Road."

The main issues on the agenda of the round table were "The Situation on the Korean Peninsula", "The Problem of Settling the Syrian Crisis in the Context of the Astana Process on Syria" and "The Development of the Situation in Afghanistan". A number of undergraduates made reports as experts on these topics and questions from other participants were answered in the discussions. During the debate, students of Kazakhstani universities exchanged views on many tense crises of modern international relations and put forward ways to solve these problems.



\*Kazakhstani students after the debate talking about the outcomes.

**EXPERT OF “TOTAL” ENERGY COMPANY FROM FRANCE DELIVERED LECTURES ON “LEADERSHIP AND CAREER MANAGEMENT” FOR AL-FARABI KAZNU STUDENTS**

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development in cooperation with the Total Corporation has implemented a training program "Development of Global Citizenship for "Sustainable Development" at the al-Farabi Kazakh National University in the frame of the UNAI initiative.

Within the framework of partnership and cooperation, Professor Hervé Oberreiner delivered lectures and practical seminars on talent management entitled "Developing Talents and Leadership." A series of lectures and seminars were tailored for undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students of the University in various specialties.



**THE EXPERT OF THE TOTAL ENERGY CORPORATION, PROFESSOR CHRISTINE GASTINEL LECTURED AT AL-FARABI KAZAKH NATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Professor Christine Gastinel of Total Corporation (France) conducted a series of lectures and seminars on “Intercultural Management” for undergraduates, master and doctoral students at KazNU. This program was jointly organized by the UNESCO Chair of International Journalism of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, in coordination with Ban Ki-Moon Institute for Sustainable Development, United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) program and Faculty of Geography with the support from Total Energy Corporation.

An introductory lecture by Ms. Gastinel was devoted to understanding the problems of intercultural management, as well as the consequences of actions of religious, interracial, intercultural stereotypes of communication.



## SMART CITIES ON THE SILK ROAD

As a global Hub of the United Nations Academic Impact, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University held a meeting of the working research group chaired by Burkitbaev Mukhambetkli Myrzabayevich. The working research group discussed the progress and schedule of organizational work on the project collective monograph «Smart Cities on the Silk Road».

Participants of the meeting noted the importance of the project “Smart City on the Silk Road” and learning about the international experience in the development of smart and sustainable cities and campuses in Kazakhstan and Central Asia.



## **MODEL UN-NEW SILK ROAD (UN SECURITY COUNCIL): DISCUSSION OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN AFGHANISTAN “THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE DOHA MEETING ON BUILDING PEACE IN AFGHANISTAN”**

On March 11, 2019, in the framework of the UNAI, Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development jointly with the Faculty of Journalism of al-Farabi Kazakh National University held a MUN round table on the theme: “The Implication of the Doha meeting on building peace in Afghanistan” as part of a series of the Model UN-New Silk Way conferences (MUN NSW).

The agenda of MUN NSW round table covered such topics as: youth and sustainable development; education; education for women; the media and youth, the work of Kazakhstan in the UN Security Council. Thus, the event was an excellent opportunity to put into practice the accumulated experience, the use of the most effective forms of training in Kazakhstan.

One of the important initiatives for the peaceful settlement of problems in Afghanistan is the Doha negotiations, where important issues of building peace in Afghanistan were discussed. The Government of Afghanistan, in cooperation with its partners, wants to negotiate a political settlement of the conflict.



## **A SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL SEMINAR ON “KAZAKHSTAN ON THE GREAT SILK ROAD”**

On the basis of global academic exchange programs in the frame of the United Nations Academic Impact, al-Farabi Kazakh National University nowadays covers more than 500 international students in various fields creating a global platform to exchange knowledge and skills. In particular, on the topic: “Kazakhstan on the Great Silk Road” it held a scientific and practical seminar for Japanese students. The scientific-practical seminar is carried out in order to implement the strategic development of the university, the development of external academic mobility in accordance with the Agreement with the University of Tokyo on July 1, 2018.

The agenda covered such topics as youth and sustainable development, quality education, education in Kazakhstan and Japan. During the presentation, the guests were able to familiarize themselves with the structure and activities of the Kazakh government and its policies on the Great Silk Road. During the seminar, students of the University of Tokyo spoke about their research papers about Kazakhstan and the Great Silk Road and about the huge interest in the Republic of Kazakhstan among students in Japan.



## **CO-MODERNIZATION AND “SMARTING” OF CITIES**

According to the implementation of the UNAI programs, Al - Farabi KazNU presented its research project on smart green camp and smart cities as the “NETEXPLO smart cities” Global Summit organized by the NETEXPLO, UNESCO, the Mayor's office of Paris and the Minister of Transportation of France in Paris on April 17-19, 2019.

The conference was thematically organized comprising three subject areas: livability, connectivity, and mobility in the smart cities. The conference has brought together the world’s leading experts and practitioners from UNESCO and UN agencies, scholars from the World’s top universities and government officials from developed and developing countries. They discussed the global trends in urbanization and the growth of Global urban hubs and new approaches in dealing with the challenges of the new urban economies.





## ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "MODEL UN - NEW SILK ROAD"

The conference was held at the Library of Al-Farabi Kazakh National University organized in the framework of the UN Initiatives on Academic Impact (UNAI) and the Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development (BKMISD) and with the support of diplomatic missions in Kazakhstan and the United Nations Information Office (UNIC) in Almaty.

The Model UN - New Silk Road Organizing Committee organized discussions and debates on the most pressing global and regional issues, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), various aspects of international migration and refugee issues, economic, political and strategic issues between the North and South and some other issues. A special part of the conference in 2019 was devoted to the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace.

The Model UN-New Silk Road reproduces the activities of various UN agencies in real-time and teaches diplomatic and negotiating skills. Participants include college and university students, high school students, young researchers, and teachers, as well as all people who are interested in UN activities. Members of the UN Model acquire diplomatic, leadership, public speaking and language skills and the ability to come to a compromise.

The International Conference “Model UN-New Silk Road” is the largest UN Model in Central Asia, which has been held in Almaty every year since 2010.



## **AL-FARABI KAZNU TAKES PART IN THE XII ASTANA ECONOMIC FORUM**

At the the XII Astana Economic Forum held in Nur-Sultan al-Farabi KazNU has taken a part with the initiative of international collaboration with various universities which have outstanding capacity building. Briefly, the theme of the forum was “Inspiring growth: people, cities, economies” covering 5,500 delegates from 74 countries participating in the event that comprised more than 50 sessions on topical global issues. The third annual Kazakhstan Global Investment Roundtable (KGIR-2019) was also held as a part of the XII Astana Economic Forum. This forum is divided into five key areas: global agenda; regional macroeconomic agenda; cities of the future; technology agenda; human capital is the inclusive development of Kazakhstan.

Moreover, within the framework of the AEF in the direction of the “city of the future”, the Global Silk Road Forum of the City Mayors Forum was held of which one of the organizers go to al-Farabi KazNU.



## AL-FARABI KAZNU ACTIVITIES TOWARDS TO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS UN AGENDA 2030

As a Hub of United Nations Impact, Kazakh National University takes different actions to implement strategic development milestones in education and research. Consequently, the Memorandum of Understanding dedicated to cooperation on Islamic Finance was signed between Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Hamad Bin Khalifa University (Qatar), and the Astana International Financial Centre (AIFC) within the framework of the XII Astana Economic Forum.



BKMISD<sup>1</sup> al-Farabi KazNU, BKMC<sup>2</sup> Vienna and IGEE<sup>3</sup> Yonsei held the First Regional Preparatory Meeting GEEF-2020.



<sup>1</sup> Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU <http://bkmisd.kaznu.kz/>

<sup>2</sup> Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens in Vienna <https://bankimooncentre.org/>

<sup>3</sup> The Institute for Global Engagement & Empowerment <https://igee.yonsei.ac.kr/>

## THE SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING FOR GEEF

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi Kazakh National University took part in the second preparatory meeting at GEEF, which was held in South Korea, Seoul, at Yonsei University with the IGEE team on June 20, 2019. The meeting was broadcasted via Skype (14:30 – 16:00 Korean Standard Time). The meeting focused on various discussions of the Forum, especially on developing a common vision for a peaceful future and the inclusive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The agenda was a preliminary discussion on holding GEEF 2020 (GEEF’s plans on 2020 and GEEF AEARU, plenary session topics, possible joint organizers / partners / donors, roles and responsibilities).

Al-Farabi KazNU presented the book of the monograph “Smart Cities on the Silk Road: International Experience on Sustainable Urban Development” and is preparing for its final release.



**THE UNITED NATIONS IN KAZAKHSTAN HOSTED A ROUND TABLE ON THE  
THEME: "THE UN AND KAZAKHSTAN: PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE  
COOPERATION"**

UNAI Hub KazNU attends a round table discussion on “The UN and Kazakhstan: Prospects for Future Cooperation”. The main topic was devoted to conducting expert consultations in the “The World Cafe” format in order to determine the scope of activities, results and prospects of cooperation of UN agencies in Kazakhstan and in Central Asia for the development of the UN Framework for Cooperation in Sustainable Development for the 2021-2025 years. According to the results of the event, it is planned to prepare an analytical review entitled “Overall Country Assessment”, which will reflect the national vision of sustainable development, the main priorities of national development, as well as the main opportunities and challenges in achieving the SDGs.



## THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST NUCLEAR TESTING AT THE UN INFORMATION OFFICE IN ALMATY

The International Day against Nuclear Testing was celebrated massively. The event was organized jointly by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Almaty, the UN Information Office in Kazakhstan and al-Farabi Kazakh National University with the active participation of the Ban Ki-moon Sustainable Development. As it is known, on August 29, 1991 the largest Semipalatinsk nuclear test site in the world was closed by the Decree of the First President of Kazakhstan, N.A.Nazarbaev. This date was approved by the initiative of Kazakhstan at the 64th Session of the UN General Assembly as the International Day against Nuclear Testing. The UN General Assembly called for intensified efforts by the UN, states of the world, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to stop nuclear testing all over the world. The purpose of the round table is to implement a dialogue on international security through the active participation of the young generation of the country.



\*The event was also hosting some members of that old generation who personally witnessed nuclear testing process in Semipalatinsk talking much briefly about dire consequences of UV rays on both inhabitants and environment.

## “MY VISION OF SUSTAINABILITY” YOUTH CONTEST

On the UNAI initiative, in the frame of the Sustainable Development Goals, the al-Farabi Univeristy launches a photo/videocontest on the topic “My vision of Sustainability” with the initiave of the UNAI Hub KazNU. The aim of the contest refers to representing the youth’s approches on the sustainable deveopment of ecology, green economy and social well-being of the Kazakhstani people. The main criteria include to get registered to the participation in the contest by October 1. Following the steps, participants have to make an original picture on the context of sustainability, or to make a short video for 30 sec to 1 min. The winners were announced after the selection committes decisions on November 1, 2019.



**Al-Farabi University launches a photo/videocontest!**

Share your vision on sustainable development of the humankind and the world

**MY VISION OF SUSTAINABILITY**

Apply before **01.10.2019**

**2019**  
The year of Youth in Kazakhstan

Don't miss this **CHANCE** to express yourself and share your ideas of a **BETTER** world!

1. Make an original picture in **JPEG format, 300 DPI resolution** or record a short video for 30 sec. in **MP4 format**
2. Create a short commentary to it
3. Send your work stating your name, date of birth, city, place of work/study

**August 12th**  
International Youth Day

Send your works to [abaisadu@gmail.com](mailto:abaisadu@gmail.com)  
For any inquiries, please contact 8 777 812 00 97

## MUTUAL COOPERATION THROUGH WORKING-LEVEL MEETING

Since Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU has been involved in the organizing procedures as a partner research organization for the Global empowerment and Engagement Forum it has hosted a working-level meeting within the framework of the international conference «QS Worldwide University Ranking 2019». The collaborative meeting between Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU (BKMISD) and the Institute for Global Engagement and Empowerment at Yonsei University (IGEE) has successfully taken place. During the discussion, the IGEE representatives invited the BKMISD team to co-organize a plenary session with parallel sessions at the GEEF Seoul 2020 which is annually held on an international scale. The agenda comprised SDG 4, SDG 13, SDG 15, SDG 17 to achieve global trends.





## THE 5<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As a matter of fact that the United Nations Academic Impact initiative has launched its programs, Kazakh National University has held a meeting of the General Assembly of the University Alliance of the Silk Road (SUN) and a Parallel Session on the «Role of Universities for Transforming Silk Roads into Peace Roads with Prominent Human Heritages». Over a hundred delegates from 50 universities from 19 countries took part in its work.

At the opening ceremony of the meeting, Secretary-General of the SUN Assembly, Sandon Hwan, highlighted the importance of this meeting, since such events help build confidence and expand relations between universities and countries. Recently, nine new members from universities in Afghanistan, Poland, Uzbekistan, Korea, Dubai and Iran joined in the organization. Today, the SUN unites more than 135 universities in the world.



## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROBLEMS OF THE ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT TO OVERCOME THE THREATS OF AN ATOMIC CATASTROPHE**

The participants of the International Scientific and Practical Conference «Achievements and Problems of the Anti-Nuclear Movement to overcome the threats of an Atomic Catastrophe» organized within the framework of the International Decade for Rapprochement of Cultures and held on September 18, 2019 in Nur-Sultan, analyzed the activities of the anti-nuclear movement in Kazakhstan and also in the world over a thirty-year period, identified key stages of development and determined future plans. Conference participants noted a significant role in the struggle for peace of the International Anti-Nuclear Movement «Nevada-Semey», the first public organization in Kazakhstan and the most authoritative and effective peacekeeping movement on the planet. By decision of UNESCO its archives were included in the world Register «Memory of World» – list of the documentary heritage of Humanity.



## THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF UNIVERSITIES

The event of world significance, which is aimed at improving the competitiveness of domestic higher education and the export potential of educational services, was attended by over 800 leaders of the academic community - Presidents and Rectors of Universities, scientists and experts from more than 60 countries among which: representatives of the UN, UNESCO and other international organizations, world famous companies Microsoft, the Air Force, Elsevier, Springer Nature, YODAK, AKSON; Heads of Universities ranked in the top 800 international QS ranking «World University Rankings»; members of SUN, USRN, the international organization and university ranking association IREG Observatory; experts of the European accreditation network for engineering education ENAEE.

They participated in the discussion and development of a new model for the future development of Universities in the framework of the integration of education, science, advanced technologies and spiritual values. The organizers are confident that the joint holding of events on one platform will give a synergistic effect in enhancing the role of universities in the formation of human capital and solving global problems.



### AN ACTION TAKEN FOR SDGS 13 AND 15

The volunteers of Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development initiates a climate action on “We support clean environment” carried out in the framework of SDGs 13 and 15. The event is dedicated to the International Peace Day celebrated at the UNAI Hub KazNU on sustainability. A group volunteers take an action to collect waste gathered in one of the crowded parks in Almaty “Xamit Ergali” and call for action towards cleansing and avoiding pollution. Apparently, a brainstorming organized for the team reflected their concepts of “Clean environment” and brought out several solution points on global climate in case of Almaty as a smart city. A round table discussion in the open-air environment revealed more creativity for humanitarian activities not only national but on global climate.



## **CENTRAL ASIAN JOURNALISM SEMINAR IN THE FRAME OF THE UN GLOBAL SUMMIT**

Having been launched on the initiative of the United Nations Academic Impact Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development, focusing on the general concern about the lag of the international community from achieving sustainable development goals, contributed to the I Central Asian Journalism Seminar dedicated to the International Day of Universal Access to Information jointly with UNAI Hub KazNU. According to the UNESCO resolution of November 17, 2015 (38 C / 70), September 28 was proclaimed This International Day is of particular importance for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in particular target 16.10 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which calls for public access to information and the protection of special freedoms. The seminar hosted participants from Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.



## **THE MODEL UN - 2020 ORIENTED MEETING**

UNAI Hub at KazNU on sustainability jointly with Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development organized a working level meeting with the representatives of MUN from national universities such as al-Farabi KazNU, Narxoz University and Almaty Management University. The meeting was also attended by the coordinator of the Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development and Vlastimil Samek the Representative of the Department of Public Relations of the United Nations in Kazakhstan. The board discussed latest reports on activities of the offices in the frame of SDGs. The committee coordinators addressed the working processes and procedures on the MUN – New Silk way. Each side presented particular topics in the frame of SDGs for events fixed on the agenda of the year.



October 15-16, 2019

## **STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION RETREAT FOR THE SDGS 2030 AGENDA**

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, which is Global Hub of UN “Academic Impact” initiative, has taken part in the Strategic Prioritization Retreat in Nur-Sultan city. The key goal of the event is to work out a detailed plan on 17 Sustainable Development Goals implementation in Kazakhstan.

In the frame of the meeting representatives from 19 UN agencies working in Kazakhstan as well as government and non-government organizations. Norimasa Shimomura who is a Permanent Coordinator of the United Nations in the Republic of Kazakhstan opened the conference highlighting the principles of cooperation in the implementation of sustainable development goals. Moreover, it was attended by the representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the representative of the Ministry of National Economy, Associations of Women with Disabilities “Shirak”, President of Nazarbayev University and UNICEF Representative in Kazakhstan. At the solution-oriented conference participants raised planning strategic priorities for cooperation program to achieve goals on the 2030 Agenda.



## AFGHAN YOUTH DAY

UNAI Hub KazNU on sustainability attends “Afghan Journalism in Afghanistan” co-hosted by the Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development with the faculty of journalism of KazNU dedicated to Said Faramarz, a graduate of the faculty of pre-university training (2011), the faculty of journalism (2015) at KazNU, at the same time who was an activist of the UN model program “New Silk Way”. A talented journalist and correspondent of TOLONews (TBC), died on September 5, 2018 in Kabul with his accomplice Razim Ahmadi during the terroristic explosion, which was a harrowing challenge and experience to all people around him. The memory day was held the second time at the initiate of the UNAI Hub KazNU on sustainability. May Allah bless him, and bless his fellows to live in safe to study for the social, economic and political development of their country. As a hosting university, al-farabi KazNU is now educating more than 45 Afghani students, Master’s and PhD’s postgraduates.





## **MDP GLOBAL CLASSROOM LECTURE AND PRACTICAL STUDIES**

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable development hosted a round-table discussion for MDP Global Classroom on “SDGs for people and planet: principles for environmental protection” where the global class rose up remarking issues in case of Kazakhstan and around the globe. In particular, participants covered the SDGs implementation through global approaches upon regional causes and effects. Moreover, participants raised climate management principles for water and irrigation to achieve stable mechanism for smart farming and agriculture in the region.



\*MDP Global Class hosts the UN Representative of Global Communications Department in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

## UNITED NATIONS MODEL – NEW SILK WAY

Al-Farabi Kazakh National University jointly with Ban Ki-Moon Institute for Sustainable Development organized the International Model United Nations – New Silk Way Mini Conference in Almaty on 31 October 2019. This event took place within the context of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) initiative. The conference was opened with welcome speeches by Vlastimil Samek, the United Nations Department of Global Communications in the Republic of Kazakhstan and prof. M. Burkitbayev, First vice-rector of al-Farabi KazNU. More than sixty students/delegates from different universities in Almaty took an active part in two parallel sessions discussing the most pressing global and regional issues on consequences of the the Aral Sea desiccation (SDG 13) as well as themes related to Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (SDG 5). In sum, resolutions were made on above discussed topics and determined speakers were chosen for the upcoming Model United Nations - New Silk Way International Conference – 2020.



## **KAZAKHSTAN UNIVERSITIES AND MEDIA SUPPORT GENDER-SENSITIVE APPROACH IN JOURNALISM**

### **Project: Strengthening the curriculum on Gender Journalism in Kazakhstan**

The project considered the priority area of the IPDC on gender equality through the media and enhancing the competence of teachers of the specialty journalism in this field. UNESCO Department of Communications KazNU. Al-Farabi demonstrated the possibilities of the Gender and Media curriculum, which includes the main aspects of strategic gender analysis in journalistic production and education. Immediate objective: to ensure familiarity with gender issues not only in society, but also in the content of news and other materials provided by the media based on the UNESCO Model Curriculum in Journalism (2017), by conducting a two-day training seminar among teachers from 15 universities in Kazakhstan in the library of al-Farabi in Almaty. The selection of candidates for participation was carried out directly by the participating universities, taking into account the need for equal representation of men and women. The representation of the participants of the training included heads of the departments of journalism, coordinators of educational programs, managers of the educational process, who may have a greater impact on the introduction of gender equality in the curricula in journalism in the country.

At the training seminars “Media and Sustainable Development Goals” in November 2019 the team worked to overcome the stereotyping of men and women in the media, journalists presented images that construct public opinion and support the media, explaining what qualities are really transparent in the conditions Kazakhstan, and which are perceived by society so far away. The topics of presentations, interactive, games and workshops were based on materials from UNESCO and UN Women, expanding gender literacy among media workers.



November 5, 2019

## **PRESENTATION OF THE DRAFT ON MDP GLOBAL CLASSROOM FALL-2019 PROJECT**

MDP Global Classroom is presenting a draft of the project “Sustainable ecosystem development: towards soil and planting synergies in Kazakhstan” discussing basic issues on the regional basis. The class has been conducting researches about the global changes in the domestic soil strength and root growth focusing on hormonal effects of sand and nutritional implications. This investigation is initiated in the framework of the SDGs 13 - the UN Agenda 2030. The young scientists of the MDP program have carried out a questionnaire to work out a model of development mechanism on soil and planting strategies, which refers to further enhancing of the fresh air and again air pollution. Besides, the class has also taken into consideration that there is a huge fact that the soil erosion is a great trouble causing global warming and global climate change, in which Kazakhstan also play a part. A people-oriented approach studied by the MDP young scholars will definitely provide a positive result in the sustainable ecosystem transformation of our country, then the whole world. This project is due to be presented on December 13, 2019.



## FIRST REGIONAL SDG SUMMIT IN KAZAKHSTAN MOBILISING FINANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The global agenda places the SDGs as a determining tool for monitoring and evaluating the progress of countries in levelling negative anthropogenic impacts on the environment and general well-being. The idea of the SDGs, which appeared at the end of the 20th century as the “Millennium Development Goals”, revealed itself as a unified approach in 2015. At the UN Summit on the adoption of Development Agenda for the period after 2015, the heads of states agreed with seventeen areas on which it is planned to build work in support of the general line – to reduce the imbalances in development strategies on the fight against inequality and climate change.



## **MINI MODEL UN INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CONFERENCE**

The International Model United Nations – New Silk Way (MUN NSW) organized a thematic conference in the framework of the SDGs implementation on the UN Agenda by 2030.

This event took place within the context of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) Initiative and under the coordination and support of the al-Farabi KazNU (dated November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019). In three parallel sessions students/delegates discussed globally crucial issues, in particular, SDG 17: the role of youth in the SDGs implementation, SDG 4: the issue of development of higher education in Eurasia, SDG 12 and SDG 13: the plastic use concerns in global ecosystem.

This conference covered over 80 dedicated participants who shared their impressive reflections, new ideas, and various opinions by suggesting key solutions.



## **THE PRESENTATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC PROJECT “SMART CITY ON THE SILK ROAD”**

The presentation of the project of Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development on the topic «Smart cities Along the Silk Road»: International experience in sustainable urban development» was held at al-Farabi KazNU. The project has been realized jointly with the UNESCO Development for Sustainable Development, the UN Academic Impact Global Hub on Sustainability and the MDP/Global Classroom Program (a joint program with the Earth Institute of Columbia University (USA) and al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

After a year of extensive research on sustainable cities, the project has been successfully completed. This unique work includes the work of domestic and foreign researchers. The academic group carried out statistical studies and research analysis, during which the best recommendations for future sustainable cities have been developed. The first volume of project results was published in two languages: Russian and English.

This project focuses on the implementation of SDG 4: Education, SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements, SDG 16: Peace and Effective Institutions, and SDG 17: Partnership for Sustainable Development addressing the formation of sustainable cities and towns, the activities of effective institutions and partnerships for sustainable development.

In particular, the first section discusses global trends and trends in urbanization and the development of intelligent and sustainable cities. The second section assesses the best international experience in the development of smart and sustainable cities using smart cities and University campuses as examples. The third section assesses experience in developing smart and sustainable cities and campuses in the Republic of Kazakhstan and Central Asia.





December 10-12, 2019

## VOLUNTEER FORUM

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU co-hosted the Republican Volunteer Forum held in Nur-Sultan dedicated to the Year of Volunteer 2020 as well as to the International Volunteer Day.

As the year 2020 is appointed the year of Volunteers in Kazakhstan, the young are striving to become more involved and take actions in the regional and global development processes through social projects becoming a volunteer. This forum included for 1500 people on the most important topics for the volunteer environment. Participants got involved in sessions, workshops, master classes, trainings, co-working, unique practices, and exchange of experience. The representatives of organizations such as the Development Fund for Social Projects, “Samruk-Kazyna Trust”, “Beeline Kazakhstan”, the UN Volunteer Program, UN Women’s Structure, UN Development Program, UNICEF and more.



December 13, 2019

### **GLOBAL MDP PROGRAM FALL SEMESTER GRADUATION**

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at al-Farabi KazNU hosted a graduation ceremony for the Global Master's in Development Practice Program Fall-2019 jointly with United Nations Academic Impact Hub on sustainability at al-Farabi KazNU.

MDP Class attended all comprehensive online-lectures run by outstanding world lecturers between the period of September and December this year. The program developed jointly with MDP Secretariat at Columbia University would certainly provide graduate-level students with the skills and knowledge required to better identify and address the global challenges of sustainable development such as population, health, conservation, climate change, poverty, and human rights.

Indeed, MDP Global Classroom Fall-2019 at al-Farabi Kazakh National University has covered 12 weeks of online lectures and seminars, 4 round table discussions in the framework of 4 main research areas such as “Economic well-being”, “Environmental protection”, “Social inclusion” and “Governance for Sustainable Development”. As a result of investigations and studies carried out the Global Class have successfully accomplished an MDP research project on “Regional ecosystems development: the domestic experience of the soil environment and plant growth in biochemical ways”.



December 18, 2019

## GLOBAL MIGRATION FILM FESTIVAL AT KAZNU

Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development in the framework of the UNAI Initiative jointly with the UN Global Communications Department and the UN Migration hosted the Global Migration Film Festival, which was held from November 28<sup>th</sup> till December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

The Global Migration Film Festival (GMFF) features films and documentaries that capture the promise and challenges of migration, and the unique contributions that migrants make to their new communities. The goal of the festival is to pave the way for greater discussion around one of the greatest phenomenon of our time. Furthermore, the Festival is an innovative creative avenue for normalizing discussions of migration through storytelling, and it is an advocacy tool that can also draw attention to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), thus helping all nations as they work to meet them. As an academic Institution al-Farabi KazNU had a great pleasure to host the summative event.



# Global Migration Film Festival

A feast of international movies on the topic of migration

Save the date and come join us on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2019!



**13/12 - 16:00**  
United Nations Building, 2nd Floor  
303 Baizakov Street, Almaty 050040,  
KAZAKHSTAN

**18/12 - 10:00**  
Al-Farabi Kazakh National University  
71 Al-Farabi Avenue, Almaty 050040,  
KAZAKHSTAN

For inquiries: + 7 705 802 27 78

