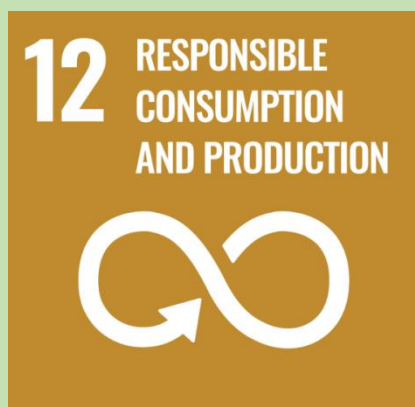




TERMEZ STATE UNIVERSITY

POLICY ON ETHICAL SOURCING OF FOOD AND SUPPLIES



1. PURPOSE AND COMMITMENT

This policy defines the TerSU's commitment to the ethical sourcing of all food and supplies used within its operations. As a leading institution of higher learning, the university acknowledges its influence on local, national, and global communities through the choices it makes in procurement and consumption. Ethical sourcing represents a core aspect of the university's dedication to social responsibility, environmental protection, and sustainable development.

TerSU is committed to ensuring that its purchasing practices reflect values of integrity, respect for human dignity, and environmental stewardship. This commitment extends beyond simple compliance with legal standards; it encompasses the active promotion of fairness, transparency, and accountability throughout all stages of the supply chain. Through this policy, the university seeks to demonstrate leadership in sustainability and ethical governance, setting an example for students, staff, and society at large.

2. SCOPE AND APPLICATION

This policy applies to all members of TerSU community who are involved in the procurement or management of food, beverages, and general supplies. It includes all university-operated dining facilities, catering services, research centers, academic departments, administrative units, and student organizations.

External contractors, service providers, and vendors engaged by the university are also expected to comply with this policy. Procurement teams must ensure that tendering processes, contracts, and purchasing decisions align with the principles of ethical sourcing. Collaborative programs, research partnerships, and events hosted by the university should likewise respect and uphold these ethical standards.

3. ETHICAL SOURCING PRINCIPLES

Ethical sourcing is grounded in the recognition that every purchasing decision carries social, economic, and environmental consequences. TerSU therefore commits to evaluating suppliers and products not only on price and quality, but also on the conditions of production, labor rights, and environmental practices.

Suppliers are required to adhere to all applicable labor, safety, and environmental regulations. TerSU expects all vendors to prohibit the use of forced labor, child labor, discrimination, or any form of exploitation. Workers involved in the production and distribution of food and supplies should receive fair wages, safe working conditions, and the right to freedom of association.

TerSU will favor suppliers who can demonstrate their commitment to these principles through certifications, independent audits, or transparent reporting mechanisms. Preference will also be given to suppliers engaged in fair trade, organic production, or other recognized sustainability standards.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental responsibility is a fundamental pillar of this policy. TerSU recognizes that food production and supply chains contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, resource depletion, and pollution. Therefore, TerSU aims to minimize the environmental impact of its purchasing activities through thoughtful selection and management of products and suppliers.

Whenever possible, TerSU will source goods from local or regional producers to reduce transportation-related emissions and to strengthen local economies. Products should come from sustainable agriculture, fisheries, and forestry practices that prioritize biodiversity, soil health, and water conservation. TerSU encourages the use of seasonal and plant-based foods, as well as the reduction of single-use plastics and non-recyclable packaging.

Suppliers are expected to adopt eco-friendly practices, such as efficient energy use, waste reduction, and the use of renewable resources. The university's dining services will actively work to reduce food waste through improved menu planning, portion control, and partnerships with community organizations that redistribute surplus food to those in need.

5. TRANSPARENCY AND SUPPLY CHAIN ACCOUNTABILITY

Transparency and accountability are essential for maintaining ethical standards. TerSU requires that all suppliers provide clear information about their sourcing processes, production locations, and labor conditions. Documentation and verification of compliance may be requested as part of vendor evaluation and contract renewal procedures.

TerSU reserves the right to conduct audits, request corrective actions, or terminate agreements with suppliers found to be in violation of ethical or environmental standards. Suppliers are encouraged to maintain open communication with the university and to report any challenges they face in meeting these expectations. By fostering transparency, the university aims to build trust, encourage continuous improvement, and promote mutual accountability.

6. EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As an institution dedicated to knowledge and leadership, TerSU recognizes the importance of education in promoting ethical sourcing. It will therefore integrate awareness and training initiatives into relevant academic and operational programs. Faculty, staff, and students involved in procurement and dining services will receive guidance on responsible purchasing practices and sustainable supply management.

TerSU will also engage the broader campus community through workshops, campaigns, and student-led initiatives that highlight the social and environmental impact of consumption. By encouraging dialogue and participation, the university seeks to cultivate a culture of responsibility and awareness that extends beyond the institution itself.

7. MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

To ensure the effectiveness of this policy, TerSU will implement regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Supplier performance will be reviewed periodically, with attention to compliance, innovation, and long-term sustainability. Feedback from stakeholders—including students, faculty, suppliers, and community partners—will be incorporated into policy reviews and action plans.

TerSU acknowledges that ethical sourcing is an evolving process influenced by changes in global standards, technologies, and social expectations. Therefore, this policy will be reviewed every three years, or as needed, to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. The institution remains committed to ongoing improvement and to sharing best practices with peer universities and partner organizations.

8. CONCLUSION

Through the implementation of this policy, TerSU affirms its role as a responsible and forward-thinking institution. Ethical sourcing of food and supplies is not merely an operational goal—it is an expression of the uTerSU's core values: respect, sustainability, equity, and integrity. By embedding these principles into daily practices, the university contributes to a fairer global economy, a healthier planet, and a more conscientious generation of future leaders.

This policy serves as both a commitment and a call to action, ensuring that every purchase made by TerSU reflects not only financial responsibility but also moral and environmental awareness. In doing so, TerSU strengthens its reputation as a community dedicated to ethical excellence and social good.

9. ENTRY INTO FORCE AND REVIEW

The policy is effective from 1 January 2025.

It shall be reviewed every three years, or within six months following any relevant legislative change.

10. RESPONSIBLE UNIT AND CONTACT

Vice-Rector for Finance and Economic Affairs.

Address: 43 Barkamol Avlod Street, Termez 190111, Uzbekistan.

Phone: +998 76 221 7455 | Email: info@tersu.uz

Signed by the Rector:

Prof. Abdukodir Toshkulov



Agreed by:

Obidjon Shofiev
Vice-Rector for Spiritual Education
and Youth Affairs



Gafur Togaev
Vice-Rector for International Relations



Nurillo Khursandov
Vice-Rector for Finance and Economic Affairs