UZBEKISTAN STATE WORLD LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY

Working with Local Communities to Protect Shared Freshwater Ecosystems

SDG 14 Shared aquatic ecosystems | Reporting year 2025

In 2025, Uzbekistan State World Languages University (UzSWLU) strengthened its cooperation with local communities and environmental organizations to help protect and maintain the freshwater ecosystems around Tashkent. The University recognizes that sustainable development requires close engagement with the communities that depend on rivers, canals and reservoirs.

This work was carried out in partnership with the Ministry of Ecology, local mahalla committees, the Youth Affairs Agency and the Institute of Water Problems. Together, these organizations worked to keep shared water bodies clean, encourage responsible use of resources and raise public awareness of environmental issues.

"Clean Rivers – Clean Future" campaign on the Bozsu Canal

One of the major joint activities in 2025 was the "Clean Rivers – Clean Future" campaign along the Bozsu Canal. More than 500 people took part, including students, teachers, local residents and community volunteers. Participants collected waste from the canal banks, identified areas needing improvement and helped install information boards promoting responsible water use. The campaign continues as an annual initiative supported by neighborhood councils along the canal.

Cooperation with fish-farming communities

UzSWLU also cooperated with fish-farming communities in Chirchiq district. During field visits, University staff and students met with small and medium-sized aquaculture producers to discuss how daily practices such as overfeeding, water drainage and waste disposal affect shared water systems. Several farms expressed interest in adopting the University's recommendations, which combine environmental protection with cost-saving measures.

Eco Club monitoring of the Chirchiq River and Bozsu Canal

The University's Eco Club organized regular monitoring walks along the Chirchiq River and the Bozsu Canal. Volunteers recorded litter, damaged vegetation and signs of water pollution, and shared their observations with local mahalla committees to help plan joint clean-up and awareness activities.

Community lectures and outreach

UzSWLU hosted open lectures and community sessions on water conservation, aquatic biodiversity and the economic value of clean water systems. These events brought together residents, schoolteachers and local youth groups and helped build a shared understanding of why protecting ecosystems matters for both the environment and the well-being of the community.

Key results in 2025

Activity	Outcome	Partners and participants
"Clean Rivers – Clean Future" campaign, Bozsu Canal	More than 500 residents and students took part in clean-up and awareness activities	Ministry of Ecology, mahalla committees
Cooperation with fish farms in Chirchiq district	Practical recommendations on responsible water use shared with producers	Local aquaculture producers
Eco Club monitoring walks along the Chirchiq River and Bozsu Canal	Regular observations supported the planning of clean-up activities	UzSWLU Eco Club, Youth Affairs Agency
Community lectures and outreach	Awareness of water conservation and aquatic biodiversity promoted	Local residents, schoolteachers and students

Through clean-up activities, field cooperation, awareness events and regular monitoring, the University works with public institutions and local communities to maintain cleaner and healthier shared water bodies in the Tashkent region.