



AzerGold

**CORPORATE SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY
COMMITTEE**

A N N U A L

REPORT

Baku-2023





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RESPONSIBILITY COMMITTEE**

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INTRODUCTION

AzerGold Closed Joint-Stock Company (CJSC) was established by Decree No. 1047 of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ilham Aliyev, dated February 11, 2015, and was state registered on July 5, 2016.

AzerGold CJSC studies, surveys, explores, develops, and manages non-ferrous and ferrous metal ore deposits, implements new technologies in this field, modernizes and effectively uses the material and technical base, and performs other types of work related to the development of this sector.

Effective use of natural resources, adherence to the sustainable development concept, and social responsibility are the basic governing principles of AzerGold CJSC. The Company is aware of the possible impact of its activity on the environment, as well as the local population and communities living in the production regions and their inalienable rights, and fairly regulates this impact according to the Company's Social Impact and Responsibility Policy.

AzerGold CJSC's Social Impact and Responsibility Policy is being built and continuously improved considering the national law, best international practice in the field of mining, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

AzerGold CJSC's Social Impact and Responsibility Policy is formulated and implemented by the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee operating since October 2017. The Committee is a collegial body regularly reporting its activity.



National CSR Award-2022



Autism Friendly Diplomas



Best Partner 2023

AzerGold CJSC has several awards for the social and environmental projects implemented as part of corporate social responsibility activity in 2022 and 2023. Thus, CJSC was awarded the National CSR Award-2022 and Autism Friendly Diplomas for its effective activity in the field of the individual development of children with autism spectrum disorders in our country since 2022. Also, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources declared the Joint-Stock Company the Best Partner 2023 for its support to environmental projects in our country.



MEETINGS WITH CITIZENS

In 2023, AzerGold CJSC's CSR Committee held a total of 4 meetings with local communities in the regions. The distribution of meetings with citizens by regions is as follows:

Dashkasan region - 2 meetings

Residents of the city of Dashkasan, the region's Chovdar and Gushchu villages, the Shadakh settlement, as well as the Zaghali, Khoshbulag, Alunitdagh, and Yukhari Dashkasan villages attended the meetings.

Goygol region - 2 meetings

In 2023, 2 meetings were held with the Goygol region residents. The first meeting was held in the Goygol region, and the second one in Ganja. Residents of the Goygol region's Tulallar village attended both meetings.

At the meetings, environmental protection, education, healthcare, and other issues have been discussed, covering the Dashkasan and Goygol regions, where CJSC is actively engaged in production activity, and detailed information has been provided on numerous projects implemented in various fields, including the employment to be improved with putting new production sites into operation and contributions to the socioeconomic development of the region. Thereat, citizens' appeals have been considered, and appropriate measures taken according to the law in force. Explanatory answers were given to the issues and questions raised by citizens on various subjects, and enlightening conversations were held.



Meeting with Dashkasan Citizens



Meeting with Goygol Citizens



SOCIAL PROJECTS

Humanitarian Aid to Turkey

On February 12, 2023, AzerGold CJSC sent humanitarian aid to the brotherly country to support the victims of the earthquake that occurred in Turkey.

To meet the basic needs of the disaster victims and the rescue team, a generator, an electric heater, warm clothing for children, women, and men, bedding, and other goods and equipment were delivered to the disaster zone through the Heydar Aliyev Foundation.

‘Supporting the Development of Beekeeping in Dashkasan’ Project

AzerGold CJSC has successfully implemented the ‘Supporting the Development of Beekeeping in Dashkasan’ project with the SMBDA’s support. The key goal of the project implemented within **March 3 – June 20, 2023**, was developing the micro and small entrepreneurship ecosystem in the Dashkasan region, promoting beekeeping as a type of eco-entrepreneurship, and increasing natural honey production volume.

As part of the project, for already the second year, beekeeping farms have been monitored and farmers involved in theoretical and practical training on complex measures to raise highly productive bee colonies.

32 farmers were awarded certificates under the project. Farmers obtained 96 fully equipped bee colonies, and 5 honey extractors were provided for the general use of beekeepers. The sale of natural honey was supported.



Humanitarian Aid to Turkey
12.02.2023



'Supporting the Development of Beekeeping in Dashkasan' Project
03.03.2023 - 20.06.2023



SOCIAL PROJECTS

Commissioning of the Ganja Autism Center

At the initiative of the Heydar Aliyev Foundation, with the support of AzerGold CJSC, and the organization of the Together and Healthy Public Union, the regional Autism Center was put into operation in Ganja

On April 11, 2023, the official opening ceremony of the Ganja Autism Center was held as part of the Year of Heydar Aliyev. The Autism Center is engaged in the individual development of people with autism disorder in Ganja and surrounding regions, including Goygol, Dashkasan, Goranboy, Shamkir, and Tovuz, and supports their families. As part of the project, local and international specialists performed medical and psycho-pedagogical examinations of 150 families across the region. As a result, 78 children and teenagers have been identified, who fall into the risk group and need special educational support. Minors pass fully free training and rehabilitation according to their needs such as preschool education, vocational training, and acquisition of self-management and independent behavior skills.

Mobile Eye Exam Campaign Dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of Academician Zarifa Aliyeva

The first mobile eye exam campaign was jointly arranged in Dashkasan by AzerGold CJSC and the National Ophthalmology Center named after Academician Zarifa Aliyeva.

The campaign was held on **April 24-26, 2023**, as part of the 100th anniversary of outstanding scholar Zarifa Aliyeva, who made significant contributions to the development of ophthalmology in our country with her comprehensive scientific activity. On the first day of the campaign, the Patriotic War veterans and martyr family members were examined. About 300 Dashkasan residents joined the campaign.



Commissioning of the Ganja Autism Center
11.04.2023



Mobile Eye Exam Campaign Dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of Academician Zarifa Aliyeva
24.04.2023 - 26.04.2023



SOCIAL PROJECTS

Blood Donation Campaign on the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of National Leader Heydar Aliyev

AzerGold Closed Joint-Stock Company (CJSC) arranged a blood donation campaign on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of National Leader Heydar Aliyev.

Employees of the Company and its subsidiaries Dashkasan Iron Ore Limited Liability Company (LLC) and AzerBlast LLC voluntarily participated in the campaign held on **May 10, 2023**, and donated blood to support children with hereditary and acquired bleeding diseases and increase the supply of blood for them.

Book Gift Campaign for Dashkasan Children

On June 1, 2023, on the occasion of June 1 - International Child Protection Day, AzerGold CJSC held another Book Gift campaign in Dashkasan. As part of the project implemented to inculcate and develop the culture of reading in children from an early age, children from the Chovdar, Gushchu, and Bayan villages located near the Chovdar gold mine, as well as young residents of the Shadakh settlement, books in the Azerbaijani language and an elegant design were donated according to 3 age groups.

It should be noted that the Book Gift campaign, received with great interest by minors, was first arranged by AzerGold CJSC in 2020. As part of the next campaign, the author's books printed specifically for the young residents of Dashkasan were presented to several kindergartens and general education institutions operating in the region.



Blood Donation Campaign on the Occasion of the 100th Anniversary of National Leader Heydar Aliyev
10.05.2023



Book Gift Campaign for Dashkasan Children
01.06.2023



SOCIAL PROJECTS

Meeting with Residents of Dashkasan and Surrounding Villages, Working for CIRPA

On July 10, 2023, Chairman of the Board of AzerGold CJSC Zakir Ibrahimov met with residents of Dashkasan and surrounding villages, working for the Chovdar Integrated Regional Processing Area (CIRPA). The meeting held at CIRPA was aimed at discussing the working conditions of the employees and the issues of their concern, as well as identifying their social needs and exchanging ideas on the initiatives to be further implemented as part of the Company's corporate social responsibility activity.

Mobile Medical Exam Campaign in Dashkesan

The regular Mobile Medical Exam Campaign was held in Dashkesan, arranged by AzerGold CJSC with the support of Baku Health Center. For 3 days, **July 20 to 22, 2023**, the residents of the Chowdar, Gushchu, Chaykend, and Bayan villages, the Shadakh settlement, and other villages and towns located near the Chovdar gold mine, benefited from free medical services under the campaign with the motto 'First Health!' on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the National Leader of the Azerbaijani people Heydar Aliyev. As part of the campaign, 340 residents were involved in USM, ECHO, ECG, general blood and urine, and glucose screening tests, and ambulatory blood pressure monitoring by a general surgeon, ENT physician, therapist, endocrinologist, cardiologist, neuropathologist, and pediatrician. A total of 1,436 healthcare services were provided to the residents.



Meeting with Residents of Dashkasan and Surrounding Villages, Working for CIRPA
10.07.2023



Mobile Medical Exam Campaign in Dashkasan
20.07.2023 - 22.07.2023



SOCIAL PROJECTS

‘Supporting Agricultural Development in the Dashkasan and Goygol Regions’ Project

On the initiative of AzerGold CJSC, with the support of the Agrarian Services Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, ‘Supporting Agricultural Development in the Dashkasan and Goygol Regions’ project was launched.

As part of the Project, **on July 24-27, 2023**, experts from the Agrarian Services Agency jointly with the AzerGold CJSC’s employees visited the Dashkasan region’s Chovdar, Chaykend, Guschu, and Bayan villages, the Shadakh settlement, as well as the Goygol region’s Tulallar village to perform the farm monitoring.

Results of laboratory analyzes performed based on animal, plant, soil, and water samples taken to check the current situation in the agriculture in the aforementioned regions and assess the impact of the Company’s active mining and production activities in the surrounding areas, showed the lack of factors negatively affecting agricultural productivity and health. Also, during the survey among farmers, their material and technical needs, as well as the key problems they face in their farming activity, have been analyzed and summarized. In the next stage, it is planned to prepare an action plan covering appropriate further farm development areas and thus take practical steps and implement the required support measures considering the possible impact of global anthropogenic factors on agricultural productivity.



‘Supporting Agricultural Development in the Dashkasan and Goygol Regions’ Project
24.07.2023 - 27.07.2023



SOCIAL PROJECTS

‘Expanding Employment of Women in Dashkasan’ Project

AzerGold CJSC and the State Employment Agency under the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Population implemented the ‘Expanding Employment of Women in Dashkasan’ project.

The project launched **on August 2, 2023**, is aimed at increasing the competitiveness of women residents of the Chovdar and Guschu villages and the Shadakh settlement located near the CJSC’s Chovdar gold mine, mastering new professions by them, solving employment issues of low-income housewives, and developing micro and small entrepreneurship among women. To do this, in the training performed by experts from AzerGold CJSC and the State Employment Agency, women were provided with detailed information on the current labor market needs, the procedure for registering at employment centers, available vacancies, the rules for admission to vocational training institutions, and the self-employment program. The participants also passed training in career planning, discovering potential, studying market opportunities, setting goals, and building action plans, as well as the State Employment Agency’s Hello Career support service, job search tools, and preparation for interviewing. In the next project stage, the required steps were taken to involve women residents of the Dashkasan region in professional activity and self-employment programs.

Supporting Children with Hereditary and Acquired Bleeding Disorders

On September 8, 2023, AzerGold CJSC arranged the regular blood donation campaign to support children with hereditary and acquired bleeding diseases and increase the supply of blood for them.

Employees of the CJSC and its subsidiaries - Dashkasan Iron Ore LLC and AzerBlast LLC voluntarily participated in the campaign.



'Expanding Employment of Women in Dashkasan' Project
02.08.2023



Supporting Children with Hereditary and Acquired Bleeding Disorders
08.09.2023



SOCIAL PROJECTS

‘Miner of the Future’ Project

On September 25, 2023, the implementation of the ‘Miner of the Future’ project was started in Dashkasan, where AzerGold CJSC performs mining and production activities.

The project involves 10th grade students, registered in this region, in a preparatory course for higher education institutions in the field of mining, including metallurgy, mining engineering, and geology, supporting their admission to bachelor’s degree program, meeting the company’s need for qualified staff at the expense of mining area residents, thereby improving employment in the region and contributing to the development of youth as educated specialists.

To do this, a meeting was held with schoolchildren studying at secondary schools Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 of the Dashkasan region, as well as the Gushchu and Bayan village schools, and their parents. Schoolchildren were provided with detailed information on the project and the conditions that would be created for talented and initiative students to help them prepare for higher education institutions and further grow as qualified experts in the field of mining. Later, the students intended to participate in the project have passed the test exam and essay writing competition for the required specialties.

10 students who succeeded in the exam and essay writing were enrolled in preparatory courses for higher schools, and 20-month preparatory fees were paid to each of them.

‘Creative Media – Baku’ Project

The ‘Creative Media – Baku’ contest was held, jointly arranged by AzerGold CJSC and the Media Development Agency.

The contest was performed **on November 05-18, 2023**, as part of the Media Development Agency’s MEDIAlab project, arranged for youth studying and interested in journalism and communication.

On November 29, 2023, the winner awarding ceremony was held.

A total of 18 students were awarded.



'Miner of the Future' Project
25.09.2023



'Creative Media – Baku' Project
29.11.2023



ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Tree Planting Campaign Near the Aghyokhush-1 Gold Deposit

On March 31, 2023, AzerGold CJSC with the support of Shamkir Regional Forestry Center arranged the next tree planting campaign on the forest fund lands of the Dashkasan region, near the Aghyokhush-1 gold deposit.

About 60 representatives of AzerGold CJSC and Shamkir Regional Forestry Center joined the campaign arranged near the mine, the exploitation of which was completed, to contribute to the expansion of green areas in connection with the spring season and preserve ecological balance. As part of the campaign, 1200 tree seedlings, including mulberry, hazelnut, and ash-tree, were planted on a 1 ha area according to local conditions, and agrotechnical treatment was ensured.

Goshgarchay Bank Cleaning Campaign

On June 5, 2023, on the occasion of World Environment Day, AzerGold CJSC and Regional Development Public Union (RDPU) jointly held environmental campaign and training under the motto 'Save the Nature, Say No to Plastic Waste!'

As part of the campaign, the Joint-Stock Company staff members, together with the RDPU volunteers, Performed cleaning in the part of Goshgarchay, which is one of the largest water basins of the Ganja-Dashkasan economic region, running through the Dashkasan region's Gushchu village. The campaign participants cleaned approximately 2 ha of forest area along the river banks from plastic, polyethylene, metal, glass, paper, cardboard, and other waste. Collected waste was sorted and sent to recycling.



Tree Planting Campaign Near the Aghyokhush-1 Gold Deposit
31.03.2023



Goshgarchay Bank Cleaning Campaign
05.06.2023



ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

Reproduction and Reintroduction of Red-Listed Rare Plant Species

On October 20, 2023, AzerGold CJSC held another environmental campaign under the project of reproduction of red-listed rare and endangered plant species growing in the Dashkasan region and their reintroduction to the areas where they historically grew. During the campaign arranged in the territory of the Chovdar gold mine, mass planting of rare plant species such as *Rosa Zangezura* Jarosch. (Zangazur Rosehip), *Rosa Nisami* Sosn. (Nizami Rosehip), *Rosa Pulverulenta* M. Bieb (Bull Rosehip), *Malus Orientalis* Mill. (Oriental Apple), *Fagus Orientalis* L. (Oriental Beech), *Carpinus betulus* L. (Common Hornbeam), *Acer Trautvetteri* L. (Trautvetter Birch), *Fraxinus Excelsior* L. (Common Blueberry), *Pyrus Caucasica* L. (Caucasian Pear), *Pyrus Salicifolia* Pall. (Willow-leafed Pear), *Euonymus Grandiflorus* Wall. (Large-flowered Spindle Tree), *Frangula Grandiflora* A. Pool. (Large-flowered Frangula), *Jasminum Fruticans* L. (Wild Jasmine), *Inula Grandiflora* (Large-flowered Inula), *Centaurea Pseudocabiosa* Boiss. (False Umbelliferous Cornflower) has been performed. Information on rare plant protection measures was included in the new - 3rd edition of the Red Book of the Republic of Azerbaijan, published in 2023.



Reproduction and Reintroduction of Red-Listed Rare Plant Species
20.10.2023



DONATIONS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The Project of Re-editing and E-compilation of Musical Pieces as Part of the 100th Anniversary of the Genius Composer Fikret Amirov

As part of the 100th anniversary of the genius composer of Azerbaijan Fikret Amirov, the project of re-editing and e-compilation of his symphonic mughams Shur, Kurdi-Ovshar, and Gulustan Bayati-Shiraz, as well as Azerbaijan Capriccio, Azerbaijan Suite, and In Memory of Nizami musical pieces, songs, and romances, was implemented, arranged by the Ministry of Culture with the support of AzerGold CJSC.

Donation to the YASHAT Foundation

In connection with the protection of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the payment of donations to the Foundation supporting the injured and martyr families (YASHAT Foundation) has been continued.

Donation to the Nargis Foundation

The YayLand Fest charity fair was supported, arranged by the Nargis Foundation on the Fountain Square on May 1 - June 15, 2023. The funds were directed to the treatment of 9 children suffering from various diseases.

Donation to Regional Development Public Union

The Debate Forum of the students of the capital as part of the awareness campaign dedicated to 20 November - World Children's Day, jointly arranged **on November 20, 2023**, by Regional Development Public Union, Ministry of Science and Education, State Committee for Family, Women, and Children Affairs, AzerGold CJSC, and Nar was supported.



Debate Forum of the Baku Students
20.11.2023



DONATIONS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Financial Support to Citizens

During the year, the CSR Committee received 274 requests for financial support from people belonging to various socially vulnerable groups. Upon appropriate verification, 11.7% of these requests were evaluated positively, and 32 applicants received one-time financial support, considering the average monthly salary for the country.

Holiday Gifts to Martyr Families on the Occasion of Gurban Bayram

On June 28-29, 2023, on the occasion of Gurban Bayram, AzerGold CJSC visited martyr families registered in the Dashkasan region. The purpose of the visit arranged as part of the priorities of the CJSC's CSR Committee in the field of work with the local population and communities is to continuously support the family members of our martyrs who died during the military actions for the territorial integrity of our independent state, and make an additional contribution to the state policy aimed at improving their well-being. During the visit arranged on the eve of Gurban Bayram, holiday gifts composed of various food products were presented to martyr families, and our martyrs were commemorated with deep respect and reverence.

Visiting Martyr Families on Memorial Day

On September 26-27, 2023, on the occasion of September 27 - Memorial Day, AzerGold CJSC visited martyr families registered in the Dashkasan region. The purpose of the visit arranged as part of the priorities of the CJSC's CSR Committee in the field of work with the local population and communities is to continuously support the family members of our martyrs who died during the military actions for the territorial integrity of our independent state, and make an additional contribution to the state policy aimed at improving their well-being. During the visit arranged on the eve of the Memorial Day, packages containing various food products were presented to martyr families, and our martyrs were commemorated with deep respect and reverence.



Holiday Gifts to Martyr Families on the Occasion of Gurban Bayram
28.06.2023



Visiting Martyr Families on the Occasion of September 27 - Memorial Day



DONATIONS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Holiday Gifts to Low-income Families on the Occasion of the New Year Holiday

On December 20, 2023, AzerGold CJSC held the next social aid campaign in the Dashkasan region on the occasion of December 31 - World Day of Solidarity of Azerbaijanis and the New Year holiday.

As part of the campaign, low-income families from the Chowdar village, the Gushchu village and the cognominal settlement, as well as the Shadakh settlement, were visited. Holiday greetings were delivered, and gifts of various food products were presented to the citizens on behalf of the Joint-Stock Company.



Holiday Gifts to Low-income Families on the Occasion of the New Year Holiday
20.12.2023



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