

VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY

SDG 9 REPORT 2020





About This Report

The United Nations “Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” which includes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has great importance and significance to universities. The SDGs provide for a shared global vision towards sustainable development for all. Vishwakarma University (VU) firmly believes in the vital role that universities can play in the achievement of the SDGs, and has ingrained this aspect in all of its strategies and operations. As encapsulated in its motto - maximizing human potential, VU, since the year of its inception, has worked endlessly towards creating an enabling environment to ensure the wholesome development of its students - preparing them for life and livelihood.

VU has embarked on an exciting journey to transform the VU Campus to become an EcoCampus, which will be a testbed for innovative sustainability solutions for the future. The vision of the VU EcoCampus is to develop VU as “a global Sustainability thought leader, committed to contributing towards improving society, by providing an empowering partnership for the development of technology and educating the future generation”. Sustainability with an aim to reduce the carbon footprint was the key theme of the function organised to celebrate the launch of the ‘Eco Campus’.

This report showcases VU’s commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals in which VU has been actively working in partnership with diverse stakeholders. One such example is VU’s Certificate Programme in Sustainability Management in Cooperation with the Hof University of Applied Sciences Germany, a program in which students gain a deep understanding of state-of-the-art business management techniques and more importantly latest sustainable practices. Likewise, the Wilo Foundation- Vishwakarma University established through a grant from the Wilo Foundation, Germany promotes research in water treatment, purification and creates the much-needed social awareness about clean drinking water through its Water Quality Centre of Excellence.

Last year, for the first time in its history, VU published SDG reports under its Sustainability mission which outlined the key initiatives undertaken by the Institute to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2019. This report provides a summary of the range of activities undertaken at VU during 2020 to meet the SDGs through its teaching, research, outreach and public engagement, and operations. VU conducts a diverse range of activities across the Institute, and this report showcases some of the many such initiatives. In spite of being severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, VU continually strives to implement sustainability in all its core operations, including by creating a platform to showcase its efforts toward the SDGs in a comprehensive and detailed manner.

VU participated for the first time in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2021, which looks at global universities’ commitment and performance in furthering the SDGs. VU was ranked amongst the top 100-200 in the world for SDG7– Clean and Affordable Energy. The achievement is a recognition of VU’s work in providing education to students from countries where energy crises are an issue. Likewise, VU ranked top 300 in the world for SDG6 – Clean Water and Sanitation which indicates a recognition of our education and research on water issues. 1,118 universities from 94 countries participated in this ranking exercise, which also saw VU’s work recognized on several other SDG’s.

VU continually strives to contribute to the sustainable development of the nation and society at large by developing educated and productive human resources that observe and adhere to the practices of equity, inclusiveness, excellence, ethics, and professional standards.

Prof. (Dr.) Siddharth Jabade
Vice Chancellor
Vishwakarma University, Pune, India

VU's Participation in the THE Impact Rankings 2021

Vishwakarma University (VU) participated for the first time in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, which looks at global universities' commitment and performance in furthering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 1,118 universities from 94 countries participated in the ranking by submitting input during 2019, and the results were published on April 22, 2021, with VU ranked amongst top 100-200 in the world for SDG7 - Clean and Affordable Energy.



VU took part in the 4 SDGs listed below plus the mandatory SDG17, and the results were as follows:

Overall Ranking 601-800





9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**Build resilient infrastructure,
promote sustainable
industrialization and foster
innovation**

Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Vishwakarma University (VU) upholds the spirit of fostering transformational and contextual research and innovation for the greater good of society. The process of education, research, and outreach and innovation and outreach at VU follows the contours of change set by the industry and society. The objective of the engagement with industry is to provide a socially and environmentally responsible solution to the real-life problems of the industry which has a substantial impact.

The industry in the context of this region includes large enterprises, small & medium enterprises, social enterprises, start-ups, and independent professionals. The transdisciplinary centers of excellence in VU provide an enabling platform to meaningfully engage with industry to foster ideation to impact the value chain. In addition, VU inculcates all the unique features in the curriculum, teaching-learning, internships, placements, research, and innovation through various activities. The initiatives for industry connect include;

1. Industry on Campus
2. Centres of Excellence in collaboration with industries
3. Industry Collaborations for sponsored and contract research
4. MoUs with Industry
5. Memberships of Professional Bodies
6. Industry Advisory Board
7. Esteemed Recruiters
8. Events and Sponsorships
9. Representation of Industry Professionals

Industry-University Interaction (Placement and Career Progression Office)

The primary goal of the Placement and Career Progression Office is to facilitate a greater level of interaction between industry professionals and internal stakeholders like faculty and students.

Key thrust areas are as follows;

- To seek inputs for curriculum improvement and alignment.
- To broad base connections with industry professionals across sectors. To give a wider industry exposure to students and faculty members.
- To assist the departments is inviting industry experts and organizing events.
- To create opportunities for faculty members and students to work on industry projects.
- To identify employment, internship, and mentorship opportunities for students.
- To collaborate for innovative projects, entrepreneurship, research, and development. To forge partnerships for value-added courses and hands-on training for students.

Major initiatives for industry-university linkages are as follows;

- Industry on Campus and Centres of Excellence
- Representation of industry professionals on various committees
- Industry Visits, Live Projects, Freelancing, and Shadowing
- Campus Recruitment Programme and Industry Internships
- Workshops, Talks, Expert Interactions, and Jury
- Memberships of Professional Bodies
- Events and Sponsorships
- Industry Advisory Boards
- Incubation Facilities

Industry Interaction Activities

- One Week Employability Enhancement Programme for the final year students

- Career Orientation Sessions for the First Year Students
- Summer Internship Briefing for the pre-final year students
- Industry on Campus activities for students
- Activities by the Centres of Excellences for students and faculty
- Recruitment drives for the summer internship and semester-long internships
- Live Projects opportunities for the students round the year
- Industry Visits, Hands-on Training, and Workshops by practitioners
- Recruitment drives for placement and jobs
- Industry connect and industry outreach work
- Meetings of the Industry Advisory Boards
- Participation of Industry Professionals in Board of Studies meetings
- Training to students on soft skills and technical skills by industry experts
- Participation in several industry events by faculty and students

<https://www.vupune.ac.in/live-projects/institution-industry-interaction-cell>

MoUs with Industry

The MoUs with industries enables the strengthening of industry-academia engagement. The agreements are signed with reputed organizations comprising large enterprises, MSMEs, Professional Bodies, startups, and Social Organizations operating at regional, national, and international levels. Each of these partnerships has a well-defined scope, objectives, and engagement, team members.

The scope of work is mutually decided and consists of aspects like follows;

- Researching emerging issues in the industry
- Providing training to students, teachers, and industry professionals
- Facilitating projects and internships by students in the industry
- Supporting innovations, new projects, and entrepreneurship
- Promoting projects for product development or process developments
- Strengthening efforts to enhance employability of students

MoUs with industry, government or any other organizations

The MoUs are signed with and active engagement is currently ongoing with the following organizations.

ORGANIZATION	NATURE OF LINKAGE/ COLLABORATION	BRIEF ABOUT ORGANIZATION
Philips Healthcare	MoU - Collaborative Research in Healthcare	Philips is a diversified technology company, focused on improving people's lives through meaningful innovation. Students and faculties at VU are engaged in research projects under VU-Philips Collaboration
Seiler Garepa Pvt. Ltd.	MoU - Industry Exposure to Students	Seiler Garepa India Pvt. Ltd. is established with the mission of promoting Make in India. It's a joint venture between Garepa Engineers and M/s Seiler Vakuumtechnik GMBH.
Auto Cluster Development & Research Institute	MoU - Industry Exposure to Students	The Auto Cluster Development and Research Institute is a facility for providing support to Small & Medium Enterprises by providing an area of common facility, validation, training, seminar, workshop and market promotional activities especially for the automotive and engineering sector.

ORGANIZATION	NATURE OF LINKAGE/ COLLABORATION	BRIEF ABOUT ORGANIZATION
Friends Union for Energizing Lives (FUEL)	MoU - Employability Enhancement of Students	Friends Union for Energizing Lives (FUEL) is a credible non-profit organization which provides Career Guidance and Skilling to the students throughout India to bridge the divide that exists between industry and academia.
Mahesh Industries Group (MIG)	MoU - Interface with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	It is not for profit organisation, committed to promote and encourage new age entrepreneurs and be a networking platform for fellow Maheshwari Industrialist. Our Collaboration provides students an interface with Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
Ogee Studio Pvt. Ltd.	MoU - User Experience and User Interface Design	Ogee Studio specializes in the design and development of compelling, modern, rich user experiences (UX & UI) and interactive visualizations for complex information systems in the B2B space.
Quick Heal Technologies	MoU - Cyber Security Training and Awareness	Quick Heal Technologies Ltd. is one of the leading IT security solutions companies. The collaboration with VU will enable engagement of students and faculties in cyber security awareness initiatives and trainings.
Center for Police Research (CPR)	MoU - Joint Research on Social Issues	The Centre for Police Research plans, promotes and provides education / training in leadership, security, policy, and management areas. The mutual collaboration, given each other's strength in research and facilities thereof, will mutually benefit the students and facilities of CPR & the VU.
TGC Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	MoU - Capacity Building and Projects in Gamification	VU and TGC decided to work together with a vision of Conducting research on emerging issues in the industry related to Gamification and allied disciplines, by engaging a cross-functional specialized group of teachers and students on the Gamification projects.
Kesari MICE	MoU - Industry Participation in Curriculum Design and Delivery – Travel & Tourism	Kesari MICE is a division of Kesari Tours Pvt. Ltd. which established its unique identity in the Indian tourism industry through innovative ideas and excellent services. Under VU - Kesari Mice Collaboration we enable industry participation in curriculum design & delivery.
Hodek Vibration Technologies Pvt. Ltd	MoU - Collaborative Research and Joint Projects	Hodek Vibration Technologies Pvt. Ltd. is Asia's leading manufacture of Torsional Vibration Damper for engines. VU Have collaborated with Hodek to nurture innovation & develop joint research projects
Buldana Urban Cooperative Credit Society	MoU - Industry Participation in Curriculum Design and Delivery – Micro-Finance	Buldana Urban was established in 1986, with 456 branches in 4 states of India as of today. With an aim to bring industrial perspective in our curriculum and to enable industry participation in curriculum design VU collaborate with Buldana Urban.

ORGANIZATION	NATURE OF LINKAGE/ COLLABORATION	BRIEF ABOUT ORGANIZATION
HCL Technologies	MoU - Software Training and Skill Development of Students	HCL Technologies is a next-generation global technology company that helps enterprises reimagine their businesses for the digital age. Under the VU HCL Collaboration, we are trying to provide software training and skill development inputs to student to build sustainable education ecosystem
Jnana Prabodhini's Institute of Psychology (JPIP)	MoU - Psychometric Assessment and Counselling	Jnana Prabodhini's Institute of Psychology (JPIP) is an offspring of Jnana Prabodhini - the mother Institute and a psychology wing of Jnana Prabodhini Sanshodhan Sanstha (JPSS) and it is affiliated to the University of Pune as a research centre.
Quick Heal Foundation	MoU - Cy-Fi Arts Festival	Quick Heal Foundation, conducts competitive festival of Short Films aimed at creating a vibrant platform that portrays the impact of digital revolution on human life by name Cy-Fi Arts Festival, organized by VU
Ethnus	Finishing School Training	Ethnus offers industry-recognised certification programs in emerging technologies. We prepare learners for the future of work, training people in skills companies need.

Institutional Memberships

ASSOCHAM	Membership	The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group based in New Delhi, India. The organisation represents the interests of trade and commerce in India, and acts as an interface between issues and initiatives.
ADI	Membership	ADIs vision is to be a world class network representing professional interests of Indian Design community, creating a meaningful interface between design professionals, people as users, the industry, education institutions and the policy makers.
NIPM	Membership	National Institute of Personnel Management (NIPM), is the only all India body of professional managers engaged in the profession of Human Resource Management, Industrial Relations, Labour Welfare, and Training & Development in the country.
ISTD	Membership	ISTD Organizes Training Programs, all over the country both at Chapter and National Levels. The Programs cover selected areas of HRD with special emphasis on Training of Trainers, Training Goals & Objectives and Training Tools & Technologies.
WF-NEN	Membership	Wadhvani Foundation is a not-for-profit with the primary mission of accelerating economic development in emerging economies by driving large-scale job creation through entrepreneurship, innovation and skills development.
MCCIA	Membership	MCCIA continuously strives to promote Pune as a premier investment destination as well as a major global source of quality products and services. MCCIA has been instrumental in setting up and bringing to Pune several institutions important for business.

CII-Yi	Student Chapter	Young Indians engage students in various initiatives that the students conceptualize, and execute. In tune with the Yuva vision to influence inspire and motivate millions of students across the country, Yi is working with VU by forming a Yi Yuva chapter at VU
TSSC	Membership	An industry led apex body set up by the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) to ensure adequate availability of skilled manpower to boost growth & productivity in the Telecom sector.
NIQR	Student Chapter	National Institution for Quality and reliability is administered by a National Executive Council. Industrialists, Top Level officers Managers, Professionals are the Members of the Executive Council and Branch Executive Committees.
NHRDN	Membership	Established over 30 years ago, NHRDN is an autonomous, not-for-profit professionally managed organization, playing a catalyst role in grooming leaders for tomorrow.

Collaborations for capacity building

The external collaborations with local enterprises, global firms, professional bodies, and foreign universities have helped to promote art and design, and the joint work includes collaboration with Mahesh Industries Group (MIG) for entrepreneur training; with State University of New York Binghamton for Centre of Excellence in Design Thinking; and collaboration with NTU Singapore for faculty capacity building and student exchange.

VU IQube (The Idea, Innovation and Impact Center)

As beautifully encapsulated in its motto - maximizing human potential, VU, since its inception, has worked endlessly towards creating an enabling environment to ensure the wholesome development of its students. Employing innovative learning methodologies has created an effective amalgamation of didactic and practical learning. This coupled with a responsive and active student community has made the VU campus a productive ground for the germination of new ideas and intellectual activity. Now VU has taken the next natural step in its journey of academic excellence by launching VU-IQube, on the 1st of October, 2020, to unleash the creative potential of its students.

Focusing on Idea, Innovation, IPR, and Entrepreneurship in a synergetic and integrated way VU-IQube seeks to facilitate the culture of innovation in VU and to build an Eco-system that enables self-empowerment.

Initiatives

1. The Impactful Innovation Project: Under this Initiative VU-IQube has established an SOP for the submission, screening, selection, and processing of the ideas, inventions, and innovations of the Students. Students are invited to submit their Ideas, Innovations, and Inventions. These go through the process of screening by the expert committee constituted for the same. Selected Proposals are taken up for nurturing which includes, inter alia incubation, IPR facilitation, and entrepreneurship support required to bring the respective projects to fruition.

2. Faculty IPR Facilitation Programme: Under this initiative, the Faculty are provided with drafting, filing, and financial support for IPR registration and processing for their eligible projects.

3. Faculty Capacity Building Programme: The Faculty are provided exposure to training and workshops that build their capacities in the areas of IPR, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship.

4. Student Capacity Building Programme: Under this, through sessions, workshops, Elective Courses, etc., the capacity of students to better understand and manoeuvre within the landscape of IPR, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship is inculcated.

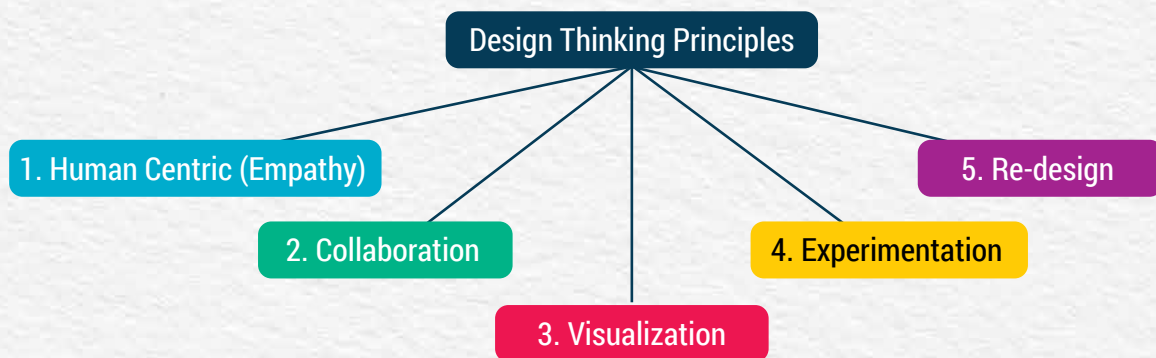
<https://www.vupune.ac.in/centres-of-excellence/vu-iqube>

Design Thinking and Innovation

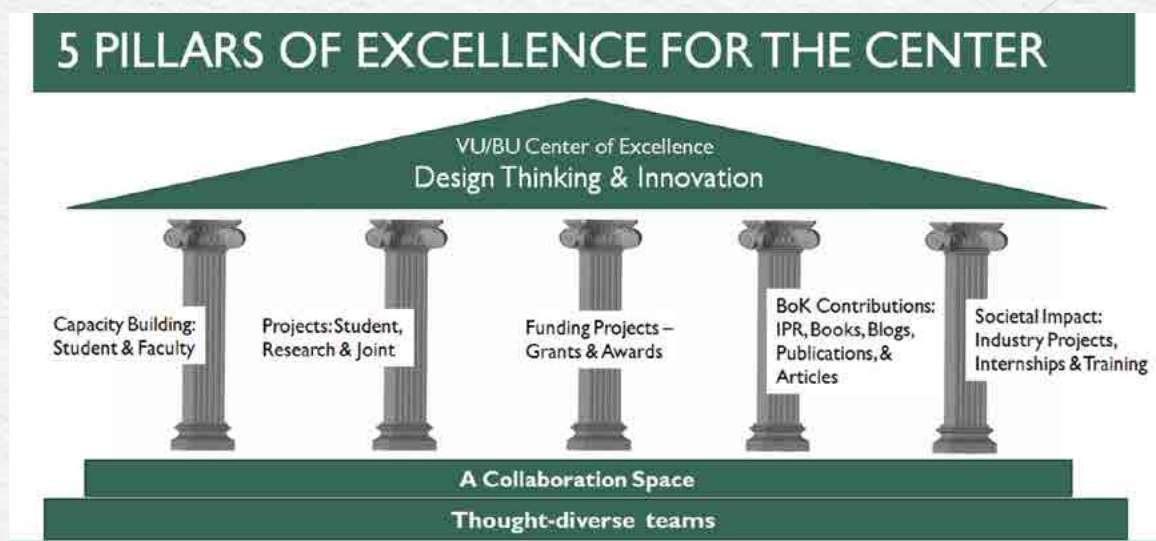
The aim is to collaboratively develop an eco-system for seeding and nurturing a spirit of curiosity, logical thinking, ideation, design thinking, creativity, innovation, collaboration and social awareness to facilitate the transformation of ideas of students and faculty to techno-commercially viable and relevant projects useful for society that enable the betterment of humankind

Principles for Design Thinking

The VU/BU Design Thinking Principles - There are five core principles.



Mission for Design Thinking and Innovation - We transform ideas into innovations using our VU/BU Design Thinking & Innovation process in order to make the world a better place. Goals: Build our brand and contribute to the betterment of society by applying and expanding the Design Thinking & Innovation body of knowledge.



<https://www.vupune.ac.in/centres-of-excellence/centre-of-excellence-for-design-thinking-and-innovation>

Innovation in Arts

VU facilitates the promotion of arts and the appropriate use of design principles, technology capabilities, commercial essentials, social factors, and ethical practices in the field of art are at the core of the University's efforts.

To nurture natural curiosities, passions and penchant towards arts and culture, VU has started an interactive forum to engage artisans and craftsman with students. The artisans with rich experiences are invited to the campus for interactions, to showcase their art, and introduce students with techniques of traditional artwork.

The students also get an opportunity to work on live projects with industry partners under the "Industry on Campus" initiative. The students and faculty work closely on the not-for-profit social initiatives like educational paintings and drawings on a kindergarten school building walls in association with ProCluster Business Association – a techno-social NGO. The goal is to develop learning interest among children from deprived communities.

Students work on national and international projects for the public good and benefit from entrepreneurial opportunities. VU promotes the use of sustainable materials through the Eco-Campus initiative and collaborations with local artisans. The material used and promoted so far in the artefacts and designs includes Bamboo, Cloth, Wood, etc. with the emphasis to upcycle the use of materials available locally. The Department of Art works closely with the Department of Design, School of Technology, and other schools within VU like the Commerce and Management, Humanities and Social Sciences; Journalism and Mass Communication, etc. The artisans with rich experience come to the campus for interactions, to showcase their art, and introduce students to techniques of traditional artwork. VU organizes annual events to showcase and commercialize the handmade work of the students and they also get to work on live projects with industry partners under the "Industry on Campus" initiative. The external collaborations with local enterprises, global firms, professional bodies, and foreign universities have helped to promote art.

<https://www.vupune.ac.in/academics/departments>

Research Support

VU is committed to fostering the research culture by inculcating research aptitude among all the stakeholders including but not limited to faculty members, researchers, students, other employees of VU. To achieve this goal VU is committed in providing support in the form of various initiatives including but not limited to: the VU Vision of Maximizing Human Potential to achieve this, the University is laying the foundation for high quality research. VU has taken the initiative to financially assist and support faculty members, researchers, students, and other employees in undertaking research projects (in-house) or submitting research proposals to Government and Non-Government organizations. To encourage young faculty, staff and other employees to undertake the research VU provides support in the form of a Research Grant.



Vishwakarma University, Pune
Survey No. 2, 3, 4 Laxmi Nagar,
Kondhwa (Bk.) Pune - 411048. Maharashtra, India

Contact Us : +91 90670 022 23 / 24 / 25 / 26

www.vupune.ac.in

Email : admissions@vupune.ac.in | connect@vupune.ac.in