

VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY

SDG 1 REPORT 2024



**VISHWAKARMA
UNIVERSITY**
Maximising Human Potential

University Grants Commission (UGC) Approved State Private University



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Maximising Human Potential

About This Report

At Vishwakarma University (VU), our steadfast commitment to sustainable development is profoundly aligned with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These global goals delineate an aspirational vision for a sustainable future, one that VU has deeply integrated into its institutional framework and curriculum.

Our foundational principle, Unleashing Human Potential, reflects our dedication to cultivating an environment conducive to the holistic development of our students, empowering them with the resilience and confidence required to navigate contemporary challenges.

As part of our sustainability mission, VU has reimagined itself as an Eco-campus, exemplifying innovative and sustainable practices. This report details our continual efforts to minimize our carbon footprint and highlights the impactful partnerships underpinning these achievements. For instance, our Certificate Programme in Sustainability Management, developed collaboratively with Hof University of Applied Sciences, Germany, equips students with advanced competencies in business management and contemporary sustainable practices. Additionally, through a strategic partnership with the Wilo Foundation, we have established the Water Quality Centre of Excellence, aimed at advancing water treatment, purification, and public awareness of clean drinking water.

VU's commitment to sustainability extends beyond environmental stewardship. We have launched a dedicated Center for Sustainability, NEXUS, that undertakes activities aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our mission is to cultivate informed, ethical, and skilled individuals who uphold principles of equity, inclusivity, and excellence. By engaging students in practical applications of their knowledge, we bridge the divide between theoretical frameworks and real-world challenges.

Our participatory development model actively involves students and industry stakeholders, ensuring that our academic philosophy equips learners with the competencies essential for addressing the complexities of the modern business landscape. VU's extensive network, encompassing over 45 collaborations with prominent industries and educational institutions—including the Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy, Queen Mary Technical Institute, Buldhana Urban Cooperative Credit Society, and TATA Technical Limited—facilitates industry projects, live projects, internships, and placements, thus enhancing practical exposure and career prospects for our students.

Furthermore, VU is committed to fostering a well-rounded education and community engagement through initiatives such as the VU-Centre for Communication Development, the Sahyadri Communication Project, and the VU Legal Aid Clinic, all integral components of our VU-iPAR Model. This model emphasizes community involvement, and we encourage student leadership through programs such as the National Service Scheme (NSS) and the Student Council. In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, we offer NEP 2020 courses and have established the VUWCOE – VU Wellness Center of Excellence, supporting holistic development in both academic and wellness dimensions.

In summary, Vishwakarma University's commitment to sustainable development and the SDGs is firmly embedded within our institutional ethos. Through collaborative engagement with diverse stakeholders, we consistently integrate sustainability into our operations, fostering a culture of innovation, research, and learning. VU remains committed to preparing future leaders equipped to drive impactful change, contributing meaningfully to the global vision of sustainable development.

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

VU's Participation in the THE Impact Rankings 2024

Vishwakarma University (VU) also participated last year in Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2024, which looks at global universities' commitment and performance in furthering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

VU took part in the 4 SDGs listed below plus the mandatory SDG 17 and the results were as follows:

Overall Ranking 1001+





1 NO
POVERTY



**End poverty in all its forms
everywhere**

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG 1) aims to **end poverty in all its forms everywhere** by 2030. Poverty is defined as the lack of sufficient income to meet basic needs such as food, shelter, education, and healthcare. It affects individuals' overall quality of life and limits access to opportunities, increasing the risk of social exclusion. Globally, over 700 million people still live in extreme poverty, surviving on less than \$1.90 a day. SDG 1 emphasizes the importance of social protection systems, inclusive economic growth, and resilience-building for the most vulnerable.

Definition of Poverty

Poverty is not only about income but also about access to basic services such as healthcare, education, clean water, and housing. It is often multidimensional, involving several interrelated factors like poor living conditions, lack of opportunities, and social exclusion. Extreme poverty refers to people living on less than \$1.90 per day, according to the World Bank, while relative poverty is measured as households earning below a certain percentage of the median income in a given country.

Significance of SDG 1

- Eradication of poverty is fundamental to achieving sustainable development, as poverty impacts health, education, and overall quality of life.
- SDG 1 aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030, ensuring that all individuals have equal access to basic needs such as food, shelter, education, and healthcare.
- It emphasises social protection systems and policies that support vulnerable populations, including women, children, and the elderly.
- Reducing poverty contributes to economic growth, stability, and social equity, creating inclusive opportunities for all.
- Achieving SDG 1 also supports progress in other goals such as zero hunger (SDG 2), good health and well-being (SDG 3), and quality education (SDG 4).
- The goal reflects a global commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind in the journey toward sustainable and equitable development.

Policies and Initiatives Supporting SDG 1

1. Social Protection Systems

- Social protection systems, including social safety nets, pensions, healthcare, and unemployment insurance, are critical in reducing poverty. Countries need to invest in comprehensive systems to support the poor, the unemployed, and vulnerable groups.
- Example: Many countries, such as Brazil's Bolsa Família, have successfully implemented cash transfer programs targeting poor families to improve education, health, and food security.

2. Inclusive Economic Growth

- Economic policies should focus on generating inclusive growth, which means growth that benefits all segments of society, particularly the marginalized. Investments in job creation, especially for youth and women, can help reduce poverty and inequality.
- Example: Microfinance programs, such as those pioneered by the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, provide small loans to the poor, enabling them to start businesses and improve their livelihoods.

3. Universal Access to Education and Healthcare

- Ensuring access to quality education and healthcare for all, especially the poorest, empowers individuals to break out of the poverty cycle. Health interventions, such as maternal care, immunizations, and combating malnutrition, contribute to poverty reduction.
- Example: UNICEF's work in promoting education and healthcare for children in the poorest communities directly contributes to SDG 1.

4. Environmental and Disaster Resilience

- Natural disasters and climate change disproportionately affect the poor, making developing policies that increase resilience essential. Sustainable farming, flood management, and access to clean energy can help protect livelihoods.
- Example: The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which focuses on building resilience and reducing the risk of disasters, aligns with efforts to reduce poverty by minimizing the damage caused by natural hazards.

5. Fiscal Policies and Redistribution

- Governments can use taxation and public spending to reduce poverty by redistributing wealth. Progressive taxation systems, where the wealthy pay a larger share, along with increased public spending on social services, can help reduce inequality.
- Example: Universal basic income (UBI) schemes, like those tested in countries such as Finland, provide all citizens with a guaranteed income, ensuring a basic standard of living.

Global Efforts and Challenges

Despite significant progress, many challenges remain in achieving SDG 1. These include ongoing economic inequalities, conflicts, and climate change impacts. The COVID-19 pandemic has also reversed some gains in poverty reduction, pushing millions back into poverty.

International organisations, governments, and NGOs continue to work on global poverty eradication programs. Initiatives such as the **World Bank's Poverty and Equity Program** and the **UN Development Program (UNDP)** focus on poverty measurement, social protection, and economic empowerment.

Activity

Awareness Program of Vishwakarma Scheme

Venue: Village Bahuli, Taluka Haveli

Date: 20th October 2024



They held talks on financial support schemes like Vishwakarma Scheme, educating and building trust with the community



An awareness program on the Vishwakarma Scheme offered by the Government of India was organised in Village Bahuli, Taluka Haveli, on 20th October 2024.

The main objective of the session was to educate the local community about various financial support schemes available under the Vishwakarma initiative. The resource persons explained the benefits, eligibility criteria, and application process of the scheme, emphasizing how it aims to empower traditional artisans, craftsmen, and skilled workers by providing financial assistance, training, and access to modern tools.

The program also focused on building trust and encouraging community participation, ensuring that beneficiaries understand and utilise the scheme effectively. The attendees actively interacted with the speakers, clearing their doubts and showing enthusiasm toward availing the benefits of the government initiative.

Overall, the session proved to be informative and impactful, spreading awareness among the residents about government efforts to uplift the traditional skill-based sector and promote self-reliance.

Conclusion

SDG 1—No Poverty—remains a critical goal for achieving overall sustainable development. Policies promoting social protection, inclusive economic growth, and resilience to environmental and economic shocks are essential in eradicating poverty by 2030. Global cooperation and sustained investment in vulnerable populations are necessary to ensure that no one is left behind in the fight against poverty.

Photo Link

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rn0cYC_OpnkiShu-gbBkzDB59CQ-Kyz1?usp=drive_link

Social media Link

https://www.instagram.com/p/DCBUnimxzPe/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

<https://www.facebook.com/vishwakarmauniversitypune/posts/pfbid02CvD5b4ma91xKJrzJ2U5rij5qRVVbFBUJ9fDXgNurjDgKU9W3ihV2zgsRyddrEJBWI>

https://x.com/VU_Connect/status/1854051980601340089

<https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7259817866223337472>



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