

VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY

SDG 11 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+





11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



**Make cities and human
settlements inclusive, safe,
resilient and sustainable**

Sustainable Cities and Communities Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities Activities Report (2024)

Sustainable Development Goal 11 focuses on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. As urbanisation accelerates globally, this goal seeks to ensure access to affordable housing, efficient public transport, sustainable planning, and green spaces while reducing environmental impact and promoting cultural heritage preservation. The objective is to build cities that foster social inclusion, environmental balance, and economic growth in harmony with nature.

Vishwakarma University actively contributes to SDG 11 through a series of initiatives promoting sustainability, heritage conservation, and urban development awareness. Activities such as the Sustainable Cities and Communities in Tourism Week, International Day for Monuments and Sites, Plantation Drive, and Swachhata Campaign 4.0 promote environmental stewardship and cultural awareness. Architecture students engage in projects such as slum housing studies and the INHAF Housing Brief, which focus on affordable and inclusive design. Efforts such as the Namami Gange Project Survey and Ancient Indian Science and Technology Lecture further strengthen the link between tradition, sustainability, and innovation. Through these actions, Vishwakarma University integrates learning with social responsibility, nurturing future leaders committed to building sustainable cities and communities.

Activity 1: Sustainable Cities and Communities in Tourism

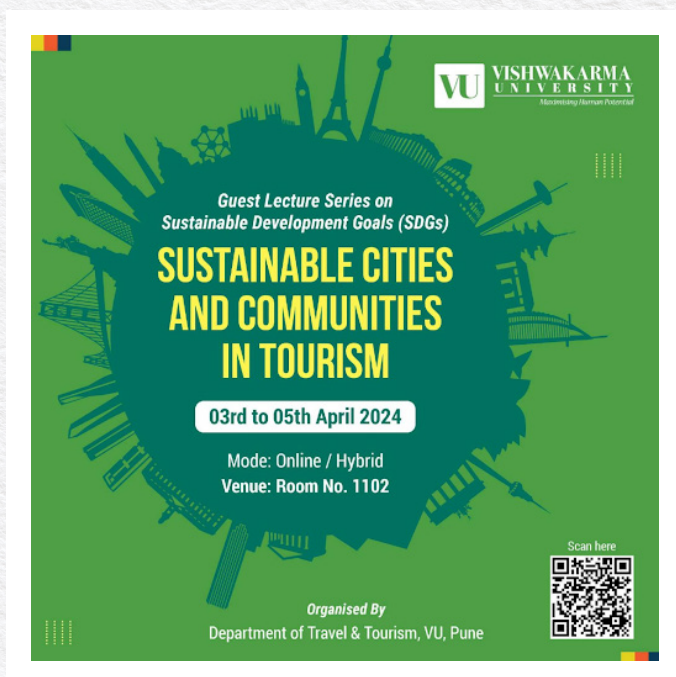
Date: 01–05 April 2024

Location: Vishwakarma University Campus

Objective: Enlighten students on the intersection of urban sustainability and tourism.

Target Audience: Students of Travel & Tourism

Flyer:



Summary:

This week-long lecture series focused on integrating sustainable principles into tourism activities to reduce environmental and cultural impacts. The discussions covered responsible travel practices, local community engagement, and methods to promote eco-friendly hospitality. Faculty experts emphasized tourism's vital role in fostering cultural preservation and sustainable economies. The sessions concluded with interactive group presentations advocating green tourism models.

Social Media Links:

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_guest-lecture-series-on-sdgs-activity-7181286880540254209-fSRQ?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 2: International Day for Monuments and Sites**Date:** 18 April 2024**Location:** Department of Design, Vishwakarma University**Objective:** Celebrate and raise awareness about heritage preservation.**Target Audience:** Design Students**Flyer:****Summary:**

The event honored the International Day for Monuments and Sites through engaging lectures and creative showcases about architectural heritage. Students reflected on India's cultural and historical legacy while learning about conservation methods for heritage sites. The chief guest, an eminent architect, shared case studies of successful restoration projects. The celebration encouraged integrating cultural sustainability within modern design education.

Photos:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u14FlaUYnbVtdU0EJqyliX5b-YG2ADN5/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PLzKw9_-w1_4RBkzIN6OuJGB0-uHe9Uo/view?usp=drive_link

Social Media Links:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10160335880106374&set=pcb.10160335880856374>

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/arun-suryawanshi-317ba017_dear-anil-javiya-your-kindness-in-accepting-activity-7188067197271867393-F7XQ?utm_source=shareutm_medium=memberdesktop

Activity 3: Online Photography Competition for World Environmental Day

Date: 6 May 2024

Location: Online (VU Centre for Sustainability Nexus)

Objective: Encourage creative solutions for land restoration and drought resilience.

Target Audience: University Community

Flyer:

No.	Sub-Themes
1.	Reviving Degraded Lands: "From Barren to Blooming"
2.	Drought-Resilient Landscapes: "Thriving Amidst Aridity"
3.	Combating Desertification: "Green Against the Sand"
4.	Water Conservation and Management: "Every Drop Counts"
5.	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration: "Nature's Comeback"
6.	Community Involvement in Land Restoration: "Hands Together for Earth"
7.	Urban Green Spaces: "Green Cities, Healthier Lives"
8.	Traditional Knowledge and Practices: "Wisdom of the Ancients"
9.	Impact of Climate Change on Land: "Changing Landscapes"
10.	Before and After Restoration: "Transformation Tales"

Summary:

In celebration of World Environment Day, this online event invited students to express ideas through essays, artwork, and digital storytelling. Entries centered on the 2024 global theme—Land Restoration and Drought Resilience—focusing on practical urban and ecological interventions. Students proposed innovation-driven strategies for reducing desertification. The competition heightened environmental sensitivity and civic participation across the student body.

Photos:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UiQNOyjkGEpLjwA3GgDD95IkPP_BYIrV/view?usp=drive_link

Activity 4: Open House Event for Vishwakarma University BA Architecture**Date:** 14 June 2024**Location:** Department of Architecture**Objective:** Bridge the gap between academia and industry for architecture students.**Target Audience:** BA Architecture Students and Faculty**Flyer:****Summary:**

The event created a platform for students to display their academic design projects to industry professionals and the community. Participants showcased sustainable architecture models emphasizing resource efficiency and urban renewal. Guest architects and alumni provided real-world feedback, enriching students' experiential learning. This initiative strengthened academic-industry linkages and promoted design thinking aligned with SDG 11.

Social Media Links:**Instagram:**

https://www.instagram.com/p/C8tQC9evWUI/?utm_source=igwebcopylink

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=840280598154869&set=pcb.840280711488191>

LinkedIn:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_meta-arch-activity-7211960665446518785-Hh_K?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 5: Plantation Drive**Date:** 23–24 June 2024**Location:** Vishwakarma University Campus**Objective:** Promote environmental stewardship and community engagement.**Target Audience:** Students and Staff**Flyer:****Summary:**

In collaboration with Forengers Organisation, the campus hosted a successful tree plantation drive to enrich the local ecosystem. Over 200 saplings of native species were planted strategically around campus zones. The event underscored the value of collective environmental responsibility, with volunteers pledging to nurture planted trees. Such micro-level green efforts align strongly with India's broader sustainability goals.

Social Media Links:**Instagram:**

https://www.instagram.com/p/C9KSkXBUfo/?utm_source=igwebcopylinkigshMzRIODBiNWFIZA

LinkedIn:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_plantation-drive-activity-7216040798193127425-GQHc/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 6: Ancient Indian Science and Technology**Date:** 22 July 2024**Location:** Center for Indian Knowledge System**Objective:** Highlight the contributions of ancient India to sustainable practices.**Target Audience:** Students of Science and Technology**Flyer:****Summary:**

The guest lecture explored technological innovations from ancient India and their relevance in contemporary sustainability. Through examples such as water management systems, construction techniques, and astronomy, participants learned how traditional wisdom informs modern green engineering. The dialogue bridged cultural heritage with sustainability education, fostering curiosity and continuity in indigenous knowledge systems.

Social Media Links:**LinkedIn:**

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_guestlecture-ancientscience-scienceandtechnology-activity-7220469921565016065-zc8p/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 7: Architecture Students Visited Slums to Study livability and housing typology**Date:** 1 September 2024**Location:** Department of Architecture**Objective:** Study livability and housing typology in slums as part of national contest.**Target Audience:** 4th-year Architecture Students

Summary: Final-year students conducted field analyses of urban informal settlements, identifying key issues in overcrowding, sanitation, and access to services. Students developed concept designs aiming at sustainable, inclusive, affordable housing, advocating for community-centered urban policies. The engagement demonstrated architecture's role in urban social equity.

Social Media Links:**LinkedIn:**

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_dept-of-architecture-activity-7232340769385181184-8t6i/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 8: Special Campaign 4.0 for Swachhata and Minimising Pendency**Date:** 16 September – 31 October 2024**Location:** Vishwakarma University Campus**Objective:** Promote campus cleanliness, recycling, and sustainability.**Target Audience:** University Community**Flyer:****Summary:**

An extended campaign featuring waste segregation, plastic reduction drives, and community awareness events. Students and staff organized clean-up activities aligning with the national Swachh Bharat mission. Educational workshops enhanced behavioral change regarding waste minimization, reinforcing the importance of campus cleanliness in community health and sustainability.

Social Media Links:

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_swachhatacampaign-swachhbharat-cleanindiagreenindia-activity-7257264196181000192-0PJ2/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 9: INHAF Housing Brief**Date:** 1 October 2024**Location:** School of Architecture Planning**Objective:** Present mentoring session for 4th-year students in housing design contest.**Target Audience:** Architecture Students**Flyer:****Summary:**

Ar. Rahul Malwadkar and Ar. Bharat provided expert mentoring to architecture students preparing for a live urban housing competition. The session outlined sustainable housing solutions, methods for enhancing affordability, and community engagement in design. The mentorship deepened design thinking on inclusive and resilient urban homes.

Photos:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1t1qLzY0y1mdPoa_OAbIWZ83uJU0UuVeRY/view?usp=drive_link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hTA_b0Sqw0ZwaWyBjM8KvaAMXICyGXme/view?usp=drive_link

Social Media Links:**LinkedIn:**

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_mentoring-session-activity-7250049563321851904-OuBJ/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

Activity 10: Survey on the Namami Gange Project**Date:** 1 November 2024**Location:** Vishwakarma University, Ganga Activity Centre**Objective:** Gather awareness for river conservation and urban water management.**Target Audience:** VU Community**Flyer:****Summary:**

The survey promoted the Namami Gange mission aiming to restore river ecology through pollution control. Participants engaged in field studies assessing urban water usage, waste discharge, and citizen awareness. The activity reinforced connections between healthy waterways and sustainable urban development.

Social Media Links:**LinkedIn:**

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_namamigange-saveganga-greenindia-activity-7261667729412083712-2GM7/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop



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