

VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY

SDG 12 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+





12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



**Ensure sustainable consumption
and production patterns**

Responsible Consumption and Production

One of the greatest global challenges is integrating environmental sustainability with economic growth by decoupling environmental degradation from economic progress and doing more with fewer resources. This requires resource and impact decoupling to promote sustainable consumption and production, aligning with the planet's biophysical boundaries and reducing current consumption rates to maintain ecosystem services. UNEA 4 (Resolution 1) highlights the circular economy as a sustainable model where products and materials are designed for reuse, remanufacturing, recycling, and recovery, minimizing waste and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. UNEP's Global Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals (GO for SDGs) project strengthens countries' capacity to achieve SDG 12, with initiatives such as the OnePlanet Initiative and tools like the SCP Hotspots Analysis Tool (SCP-HAT) supporting the transition to sustainable consumption and production. The SDG 12 Hub, launched in 2021, provides a platform for transparent access to national progress on SDG 12, helping stakeholders collaborate and share solutions for sustainable development.

SDG 12 aims to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, which are essential for minimizing the negative environmental impacts caused by human activities. This goal encourages the efficient use of natural resources, the reduction of waste through recycling and responsible disposal, and the adoption of sustainable business practices. It also focuses on reducing food waste, promoting sustainable supply chains, and ensuring that both individuals and industries make environmentally conscious decisions. Achieving SDG 12 is critical for addressing global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

12.2.1 Ethical sourcing policy

Have a policy on ethical sourcing of food and supplies

12.2.3 Policy waste disposal - hazardous materials

12.2.3.1 Physical and Environmental Security Policy

Drive

Link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/14_xZTQ2BaP38LvJAIChsefB17dxAcAcy/view?usp=sharing

12.2.3.2 Paryavarna Niti Policy

Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZopHwAJtEtuCLkbmjzttSQ1oRaf6Owba/view?usp=sharing>

12.2.3 Policy waste disposal - landfill policy

12.2.3.1 Paryavarna Niti Policy

Link: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZopHwAJtEtuCLkbmjzttSQ1oRaf6Owba/view?usp=sharing>

12.2.6 Policy for minimisation of disposable items

12.2.6.1 Divestment Policy

Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13C4LyonBUuWSDgSMd2D3FNP4maxIfjot/view?usp=sharing>

1) Tree plantation activity

A Tree Plantation Drive

On 31st August 2024, the Nature and Environment Wing of Vishwakarma University - VU organized a tree plantation drive at Tava village, Panshet and Lord's Ranch, Taluka Mulshi, District Pune. A group of 25 volunteers from the Student Council, accompanied by 2 faculty coordinators, traveled to these areas with the goal of increasing the local green cover and promoting environmental Conservation.



The volunteers planted tree saplings across various locations, starting with the Tava Gram Panchayat and later moving to the hills of Lord's Ranch. They were trained on proper planting techniques to ensure the trees' healthy growth. The activity included discussions about the ecological benefits of trees, such as their role in soil conservation and biodiversity preservation.

The event was a success, with enthusiastic participation and strong dedication to reforestation and sustainability, leaving a positive environmental impact on the local community.

Link:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/student-council-vu-4b2a62320_green-campus-environmentalconservation-sustainability-activity-7272830096162410496-X_3m?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAAh9JkBJzBNd4gD3VB9sR-IQ593dPx-xrQ

Drive link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19dFTihGsEVamKmQEp8c8GjhZGMMEHTxd?usp=sharing>

2) Vrukshabandhan Festival

Celebrating Bonds with Nature at the Vrukshabandhan Festival!



On 19th August 2024, the Nature and Environment Wing of the Student Council at Vishwakarma University - VU hosted the Vrukshabandhan Festival as part of the Rakshabandhan celebrations. Held across the university campus, the event saw 46 students and faculty members coming together to foster a deeper connection with nature.

Participants actively engaged in tying rakhis to trees, a symbolic act of commitment to protect and nurture the environment. As students moved across the campus, carefully selecting trees and adorning them with rakhis, the festival became a beautiful representation of the bond between humans and nature.

This initiative highlighted the importance of green spaces in urban environments and encouraged participants to reflect on their role in preserving them. The festival seamlessly blended cultural traditions with the university's dedication to sustainability and conservation, showcasing Vishwakarma University's commitment to leading impactful environmental initiatives.

Link:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/student-council-vu-4b2a62320_vrukshabandhan2024-natureconservation-studentcouncil-activity-7271138963728302080-J-OR?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAAh9JkBJzBNd4gD3VB9sR-IQ593dPx-xrQ

Drive link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19dFTihGsEVamKmQE8c8GjhZGMMEHTxd?usp=sharing>

3) Rakhi Making Workshop

Celebrating Nature with Creativity at the Rakhi Making Workshop for Vrukshabandhan!



On 14th August 2024, Abhivyakti, the Design and Decoration Wing of the Student Council at Vishwakarma University - VU, organized the Rakhi Making Workshop for Trees as part of the annual Vrukshabandhan celebration. This workshop brought together 36 students to combine creativity with sustainability. Participants learned to create eco-friendly rakhis using sustainable materials, underlining the importance of environmental responsibility. The workshop included sessions on sustainable materials and techniques, providing students with valuable knowledge about environmentally conscious artistry. The rakhis crafted during the event were later tied to trees, symbolizing the commitment to protect and nurture nature. This unique initiative successfully blended artistic expression with a message of environmental stewardship, reinforcing the university's dedication to a greener future.

Link:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/student-council-vu-4b2a62320_vrukshabandhan2024-ecofriendlyrakhis-abhivyakti-activity-7271093588417994752-HvyX?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAAh9JkBJzBNd4gD3VB9sR-

Drive link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19dFTihGsEVamKmQEp8c8GjhZGMMEHTxd?usp=sharing>

4) The E-Waste Donation Drive

On 28th August 2024, Genesis, the Technology Wing of the Student Council at Vishwakarma University - VU, organized a successful E-Waste Donation Drive combined with a Volunteer Registration Drive, highlighting the university's commitment to sustainability and community engagement.



The E-Waste Donation Drive aimed to raise awareness about the environmental impact of electronic waste and encourage responsible disposal practices. Over 72 students and faculty actively participated, contributing a range of electronic items such as old phones, batteries, and computer parts.

The donated items were carefully sorted and categorized for efficient processing. Pune Greens E-Waste Recycler Pvt. Ltd., a local recycling plant, was responsible for processing the collected e-waste. Mr. Shamsher from Pune Greens shared valuable insights into e-waste management and presented the university with a certificate of recognition for its commitment to sustainability.

The event was also attended by Prof. Avdhoot Atre, Prof. Amol Randive, Prof. Vaibhav Thakare, and Prof. Jupinder Singh, along with the student council members, who joined in acknowledging the efforts of the volunteers.

Following the E-Waste Drive, Genesis conducted a Volunteer Registration Drive, offering new volunteers an orientation to the wing and its planned activities for the semester. Fun team-building games allowed the volunteers to connect with one another, fostering a sense of unity and collaboration. The new volunteers expressed their excitement about participating in future events and contributing to the success of Genesis initiatives.

This combined initiative not only contributed to a cleaner, greener campus but also created a vibrant community of volunteers ready to support sustainable technology and innovation at Vishwakarma University.

Link:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/student-council-vu-4b2a62320_ewastedrive-volunteerregistration-sustainability-activity-7272543157140021251-6jze?utm_source=social_share_send&utm_medium=member_desktop_web&rcm=ACoAAAh9JkBJzBNd4gD3VB9sR-IQ593dPx-xrQ

Drive link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/19dFTihGsEVamKmQE8c8GjhZGMMETxd?usp=sharing>

Conclusion:

The SDG 12 initiatives at Vishwakarma University demonstrate the institution's strong commitment to promoting sustainable consumption and production through both policy and practice. With initiatives such as the Divestment Policy and the Physical & Environmental Security Policy, the University has integrated sustainability into its governance and operations. Additionally, student-led activities including the Tree Plantation Drive, Vrukshabandhan Festival, Rakhi Making Workshop, and E-Waste Donation Drive fostered environmental awareness, responsible behaviour, and community engagement. Together, these efforts highlight a holistic approach that combines institutional responsibility with active student participation, reinforcing Vishwakarma University's dedication to achieving SDG 12 and shaping environmentally conscious citizens for a sustainable future.



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