

VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY

SDG 14 REPORT 2024



**VISHWAKARMA
UNIVERSITY**
Maximising Human Potential

University Grants Commission (UGC) Approved State Private University



Prof. Sweety Thakkar



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+





14 LIFE
BELOW WATER



**Conserve and sustainably use
the oceans, seas and marine
resources for sustainable
development**

Life Below Water – World Water Day Event Report

Oceans cover more than seventy percent of the Earth's surface and are essential for maintaining ecological balance, regulating global climate, and sustaining the livelihoods of billions of people. However, these marine ecosystems are increasingly threatened by human activities such as plastic pollution, oil spills, overfishing, and the adverse effects of climate change. These practices lead to the degradation of marine habitats and ocean acidification, directly impacting life below water. In alignment with the objectives of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water, Vishwakarma University organized a day-long celebration on World Water Day, 21st March 2025, to sensitize students, faculty, and the community about the importance of water conservation and sustainable aquatic ecosystems.



VU VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY | **wilo**

WORLD WATER DAY

Organised by Water Quality Centre of Excellence and Department of Engineering Science in collaboration with WILQ

Theme:
"Harboring Hope, Conserving Water: Smart Peace Initiatives"

Chief Guest:
Mr. Ravi Ulangwar
(Head - Water Management, Wilo)

22nd March 2024
09:00 AM to 05:00 PM
 Vishwakarma University, Building No. 2

Events

- Ideathon
- Water Themed Refreshments Without Fuel
- Animated Video | • Partum i Orbis

Entry fee
 Rs. 100/- per participant

Prizes
 E-certificates for participants, medals for winners

Domains
 Students of all domains can participate

Register Here

Faculty Coordinators:
 Prof. Jupinder Kaur (80544 47035)
 Prof. Yogita D. Patil (98604 43455)

Student Coordinators:
 Jujhaar Singh (9503906627)
 Mrunmayee Datar (8080143493)

Shreta Das (9832764453)
Abhijit Karji (7387697736)

The event, held under the theme "Conservation of Water for Sustainability," was organized by the Department of Engineering Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, in collaboration with Wilo Group, the Water Quality Centre of Excellence, and the Ganga Activity Centre established under the Namami Gange initiative. The celebration took place on the fourth floor of the VU2 building and drew the participation of over 500 students. The program followed an inclusive, interdisciplinary approach and involved a wide range of activities including a project exhibition, panel discussion, energy literacy training, and the Aqua Logic competition, all designed to connect engineering education with real-world sustainability issues.



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The event was inaugurated with great enthusiasm in the presence of distinguished guests from industry and academia. The Chief Guest, Dr. Ravindra Utgikar (Vice President, Project Sales, Wilo Group), delivered an inspiring address emphasizing the significance of water as the foundation of all life. He highlighted the global theme of World Water Day 2025 – glacier preservation – and reminded the audience of the message “Jal hain to Jahan hain,” reinforcing the idea that water is central to existence. The Guest of Honour, Mr. Ravindra Ulangwar (National Head, Water Management Business, Wilo), elaborated on the alarming statistics concerning water availability and the urgent need for sustainable solutions to ensure its efficient use. Other dignitaries present included Mr. Shrikant Gabale (Managing Director, Graphias Solutions Pvt. Ltd.), Prof. Wasudeo Gade (Vice President, Vishwakarma University), and Dr. Nitin Satpute (Director, Water Quality Centre of Excellence). The inaugural session was followed by the felicitation of guests and a vote of thanks by Ms. Madhvi Dachawar, Deputy Director of the Ganga Activity Centre.

The first major highlight of the celebration was the Project Exhibition by first-year B.Tech students. Under the guidance of their faculty, students presented projects developed through their coursework in Introduction to Microcontroller Programming, each designed to promote the sustainable use and management of water. The exhibition included innovative models for water conservation, smart irrigation systems, and leak detection mechanisms. Industry guests and faculty members appreciated the creativity, technical skill, and environmental awareness demonstrated by students. Several guests also expressed interest in supporting the further development of selected ideas into full-fledged products or community-based solutions. This collaboration between academia and industry showcased the university's focus on innovation-driven environmental responsibility.



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Another key attraction was the Panel Discussion on Community Involvement in Water Conservation, moderated by Prof. Mrunmai Ranade. The discussion brought together experts from academia and industry, including Mr. Ravindra Ulangwar, Mr. Shrikant Gabale, and Prof. Umesh Patwardhan, who explored the intersection of technology, education, and community engagement in sustainable water management. Dr. Gabale shared insights into how digital technologies are being integrated into governmental and non-governmental water conservation projects, while Prof. Patwardhan spoke about new opportunities and research prospects in water resource management. The discussion created an engaging and intellectually rich atmosphere, encouraging students to link their field of study to broader societal and environmental challenges.

The event also featured Energy Literacy Training for second-year B.Tech students in collaboration with the Energy Swaraj Foundation. This session emphasized the relationship between energy efficiency and water sustainability, helping students understand how reducing energy consumption contributes to water conservation and environmental protection. Simultaneously, an Aqua Logic competition was organized for first-year students under the coordination of Dr. Jagdish Tawade and Dr. Sandhya Tapadia. This engaging and thought-provoking competition tested students' analytical reasoning and environmental awareness through problem-solving activities related to water conservation and sustainability. Both activities reflected the university's commitment to integrating experiential learning with sustainability education.

The concluding valedictory session recognized the outstanding efforts of participants, winners, and volunteers. All winners were felicitated, and the prizes were generously sponsored by Wilo Group, whose continuous support has strengthened the university's engagement in sustainability initiatives. The event successfully combined academic learning with social awareness, highlighting the value of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing water-related challenges. Students were not only sensitized to the pressing global need for water conservation but also motivated to innovate within their fields of study to support sustainable development.

Feedback from students, faculty, and guests indicated that the event was highly impactful and educational. The active participation of students from various departments, the involvement of industry partners, and the intellectual engagement during discussions and exhibitions collectively contributed to a comprehensive learning experience. The event also drew attention to related Sustainable Development Goals – particularly SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) – establishing interconnections between water, energy, and sustainability.



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In conclusion, the World Water Day Celebration 2025 at Vishwakarma University exemplified the institution's holistic approach to sustainability education. It demonstrated how academic programs, industry collaboration, and student innovation can work together to advance environmental consciousness and real-world problem-solving. Moving forward, it is recommended that the university establish a structured follow-up mechanism for student projects, document quantitative outcomes such as prototypes and partnerships, and develop measurable performance indicators for sustainability events. By continuing such initiatives, Vishwakarma University reaffirms its commitment to creating a culture of responsible innovation and environmental stewardship aligned with the global vision of SDG 14: Life Below Water.

Linkedin Post Link:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/vishwakarmauniversity_vishwakarmauniversity-worldwaterday-celebration-activity-7175720519336378368-6Nku?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_android&cm=ACoAAAPLyIIB4Wljbx8ExXnE2e-hth7ti16u4xl



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