

VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY

SDG 11 REPORT 2023



**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 2023

Vishwakarma University (VU) also participated last year in Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings 2023, 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 focuses on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. With more than half of the world's population living in urban areas and the figure projected to increase, the challenges of rapid urbanization, such as housing shortages, poor infrastructure, pollution, and social inequalities, are becoming more pressing. SDG 11 aims to address these issues by promoting sustainable urban development. The goal encourages investments in affordable housing, upgrading slum conditions, improving access to public transport, and creating green public spaces. It also advocates for reducing the environmental impact of cities, including improving air quality and waste management. Resilience to disasters is another key focus, with the objective of safeguarding urban populations from environmental risks. SDG 11 ties into various other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as cities are hubs for innovation, culture, and economic growth, but they can also concentrate poverty, pollution, and environmental degradation if not managed sustainably. By promoting smarter urban planning and sustainable practices, SDG 11 envisions cities that provide opportunities for all, foster a better quality of life, and ensure sustainability for future generations.

Event: Extension Activity at Singhgad Fort

Date: 31st March 2023

Venue: Singhgad Fort, Pune

Objectives:

- To promote the conservation of cultural heritage by engaging students in preservation activities.
- To raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding historic monuments and sites, aligning with SDG target 11.4.
- To foster community involvement in maintaining the historical and cultural significance of urban landmarks.

Summary:

This event was organized to involve students and the local community in the preservation of Singhgad Fort, a historic monument. Activities included cleaning the surroundings, raising awareness about the importance of cultural heritage, and ensuring that historic sites are preserved for future generations. This aligns with SDG target 11.4, which emphasizes the protection of cultural and natural heritage. By engaging with a culturally significant site, the event contributed to the overall goal of creating more sustainable and inclusive cities through the preservation of heritage.

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Event: Fire Safety Workshop**Date:** 26th May 2023**Venue:** Near VU4 & VU5 Vishwakarma University Campus**Objectives:**

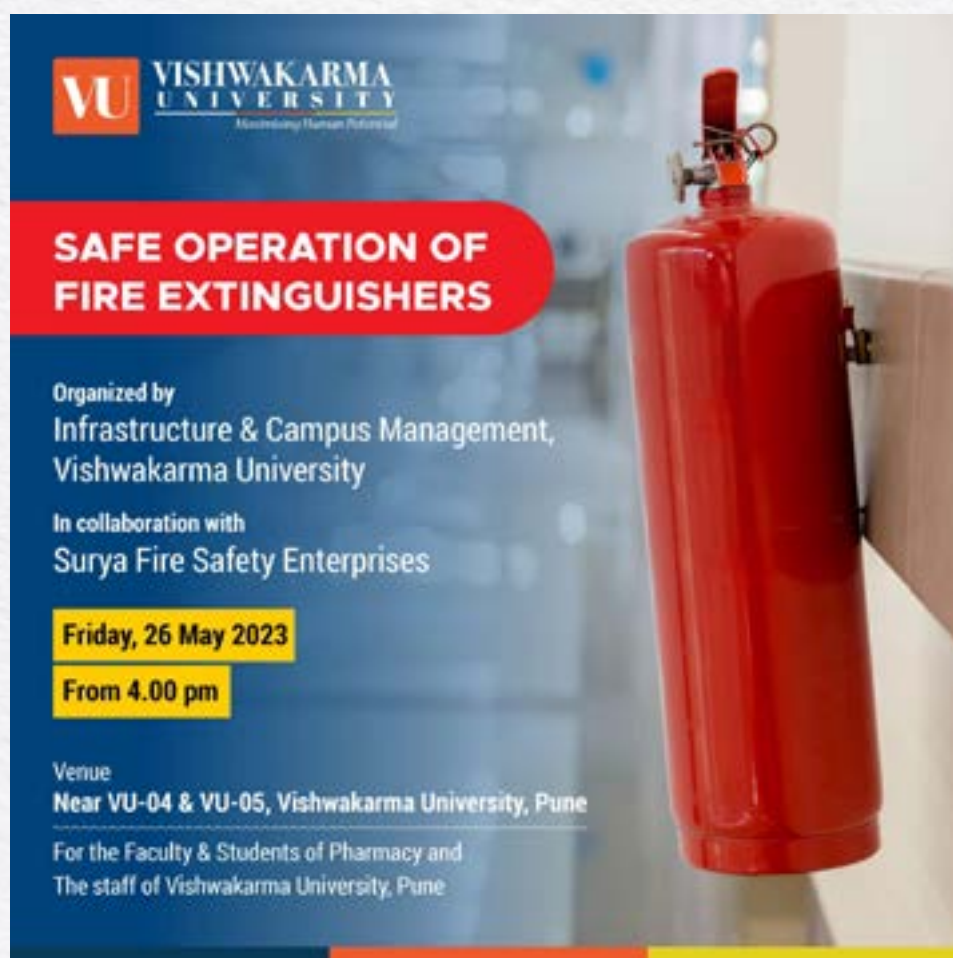
- To educate participants on the importance of fire prevention and preparedness in urban environments.
- To demonstrate effective fire safety measures and emergency response techniques.
- To raise awareness about integrating fire safety in urban planning and infrastructure to reduce risks, aligned with SDG 11's goal of making cities safer and more resilient.

Summary:

The Fire Safety Workshop focused on enhancing the awareness of fire hazards, prevention strategies, and emergency response among participants, especially in urban contexts. It emphasized the need for better preparedness in densely populated urban settings, where fire outbreaks can be particularly devastating. The workshop included a mix of theoretical lessons and practical demonstrations, offering insights into how individuals and organizations can effectively manage fire risks. By promoting fire safety education, the event contributed to SDG 11's emphasis on building resilient cities and reducing the human and material losses caused by urban disasters. Participants left with actionable knowledge to implement in their homes, workplaces, and communities, helping ensure a safer urban environment.

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Event: World Tourism Day**Date:** 27th September 2023**Venue:** Vishwakarma University Campus**Objectives:**

- To highlight the significance of sustainable tourism in enhancing urban development and promoting cultural exchange.
- To discuss the role of tourism in preserving local heritage while fostering economic growth and environmental sustainability in cities.
- To encourage responsible travel practices that contribute to making cities more inclusive and environmentally friendly, supporting SDG 11.

Summary:

World Tourism Day was marked with a focus on the transformative role of tourism in sustainable urban development. The event brought together experts, students, and tourism industry professionals to discuss how tourism can be leveraged to support inclusive growth, preserve cultural heritage, and contribute to environmental sustainability. By drawing attention to the challenges posed by mass tourism—such as environmental degradation and cultural erosion—the event highlighted the importance of adopting sustainable practices. Case studies of cities that have successfully integrated sustainable tourism were shared, showcasing how such initiatives can lead to revitalized urban spaces and improved quality of life for residents. Attendees were encouraged to advocate for tourism policies that balance economic benefits with social and environmental responsibility, reinforcing SDG 11's goals of sustainable, inclusive cities.

Social Media Links:

[Instagram Post](#)



Event: Guest Lecture on Diversity and Inclusion**Date:** 26th October 2023**Venue:** Vishwakarma University Campus**Objectives:**

- To promote understanding and implementation of diversity and inclusion practices in urban and corporate environments.
- To highlight the social and economic benefits of diverse and inclusive communities, in line with SDG 11's goal of making cities inclusive and sustainable.
- To encourage organizations to adopt policies that embrace diversity, fostering more equitable and thriving urban spaces.

Summary:

The guest lecture on Diversity and Inclusion was an insightful discussion centered around the role of diversity in creating more inclusive and sustainable communities, particularly within urban settings and corporate environments. The speaker addressed the challenges that cities and organizations face in achieving true inclusivity and highlighted successful examples of diverse teams and communities that have thrived through inclusive practices. The lecture explored how diversity in thought, background, and experience can lead to better decision-making and innovation, contributing to the resilience and adaptability of both cities and businesses. The session emphasized the need for leadership that prioritizes diversity and inclusion, thereby creating spaces where all individuals feel valued and supported. By connecting these themes to SDG 11, the event underscored the importance of inclusiveness in achieving sustainable urban growth and development.

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Event: World Water Day**Date:** 21th April 2023**Venue:** Vishwakarma University Campus**Objectives:**

- To educate the public on water conservation and its impact on creating sustainable urban environments, supporting SDG 11.2.
- To encourage the use of sustainable water management practices in cities.
- To promote water accessibility and quality in urban settings, aiming for resilient urban water systems in line with SDG 11.

Summary:

World Water Day focused on the critical role of water conservation in sustainable urban development. The event included talks and demonstrations on effective water management strategies, stressing the need for inclusive access to clean and safe water in cities. Discussions explored how water scarcity could affect urban resilience and the health of city dwellers, aligning with SDG 11.2, which focuses on providing access to safe, affordable, and sustainable transport and basic services. Through community engagement, this event encouraged active participation in water conservation efforts.

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VISHWAKARMA UNIVERSITY
Maximizing Human Potential

wilo
Water Quality Centre of Excellence and Department of Engineering Science of Vishwakarma University in collaboration with WILO celebrating

WORLD WATER DAY
a National level event on Thursday April 13, 2023

On the theme of
"Accelerating the change to solve the Water & Sanitation Crisis"

FORBIS
(In search of Water Conservation)

QUIZ/MCQs
for FY only (Individual Activity)

Games
SY onwards (2 Members)

Photography
(The day for BOND of Water)

Hold the water molecules
Competition only for FY B.Tech of VU

Scan QR Code to Register

Scan QR code for info of competitions

Contact

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Event: Maharashtra Day**Date:** 1st May 2023**Venue:** Vishwakarma University Campus**Objectives:**

- To celebrate the state's rich cultural heritage, aligning with SDG target 11.4, focused on cultural preservation.
- To encourage sustainable urban planning that reflects the local culture and history.
- To foster community pride and a sense of responsibility towards maintaining sustainable, culturally rich cities.

Summary:

Maharashtra Day celebrated the state's formation while also reflecting on its rich cultural heritage and history. The event included traditional performances and discussions on how to incorporate cultural preservation in urban planning. It aligned with SDG target 11.4, emphasizing the protection of cultural heritage. By promoting awareness of the state's history, the event fostered a sense of community pride and responsibility for ensuring the sustainability of both physical and cultural urban landmarks. The celebration reinforced the importance of integrating cultural heritage into sustainable urban development.

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