



Report

on

UN SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities



11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

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



Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut

(Established under U.P. Govt. Act no. 29 of 2008 and approved under section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956)

Introduction

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) aims to "**Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.**" This goal focuses on key areas such as access to safe and affordable housing, sustainable transport systems, inclusive and participatory urban planning, reducing the environmental impact of cities, and providing universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible green and public spaces.

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut, has demonstrated its commitment to the objectives of SDG 11 through various environmental and community-focused initiatives, which directly contribute to creating a more sustainable and resilient campus community and its surrounding areas.

University-wide Initiatives -

- University's 250+ acre campus is designed as an **eco-friendly and sustainable environment**, featuring extensive green cover, botanical gardens, and tree plantations.
- Implements **comprehensive waste management systems**, including waste segregation, organic composting, and recycling units.
- Operates an **on-campus Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)**, with treated water reused for irrigation and landscaping.
- Incorporates **rainwater harvesting systems** to enhance groundwater recharge and **solar power systems** for clean energy generation.
- Ensures **energy efficiency** through LED lighting, water-saving devices, and smart resource monitoring.
- All campus pathways and buildings are designed to be **inclusive and accessible**, with ramps and barrier-free facilities for persons with disabilities.
- Actively engages in **urban and rural development projects** through NSS, NCC, and faculty-led extension programs.
- Regularly conducts **awareness drives** on cleanliness, sustainability, and environmental protection in Meerut city and nearby villages.
- Participates in **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Jal Shakti Abhiyan**, and other national missions focused on sanitation, hygiene, and water conservation.
- Collaborates with local authorities to support sustainable community planning and capacity building.
- The university has a **robust emergency response system** with fire safety installations, first-aid facilities, and disaster management protocols.
- Regularly conducts **mock drills**, safety workshops, and disaster awareness programs for students and staff.
- Promotes community resilience through first-responder training and emergency response education.
- University maintains **sports complexes, auditoriums, open-air theatres**, and recreational zones promoting physical, cultural, and social well-being.
- Provides **inclusive spaces** for women, senior citizens, and differently-abled individuals, ensuring a **safe, equitable, and participatory campus community**.

Key initiatives taken by the university, aligned with SDG 11 targets:

1. Affordable and Sustainable Transport Systems (aligned with indicator 11.2)

The university promotes sustainable transport within its campus to reduce its environmental footprint:

- **Battery-Operated Vehicles:** The university uses **battery-operated rickshaws, scooters** for in-campus transportation. Students are also encouraged to build and use similar vehicles.

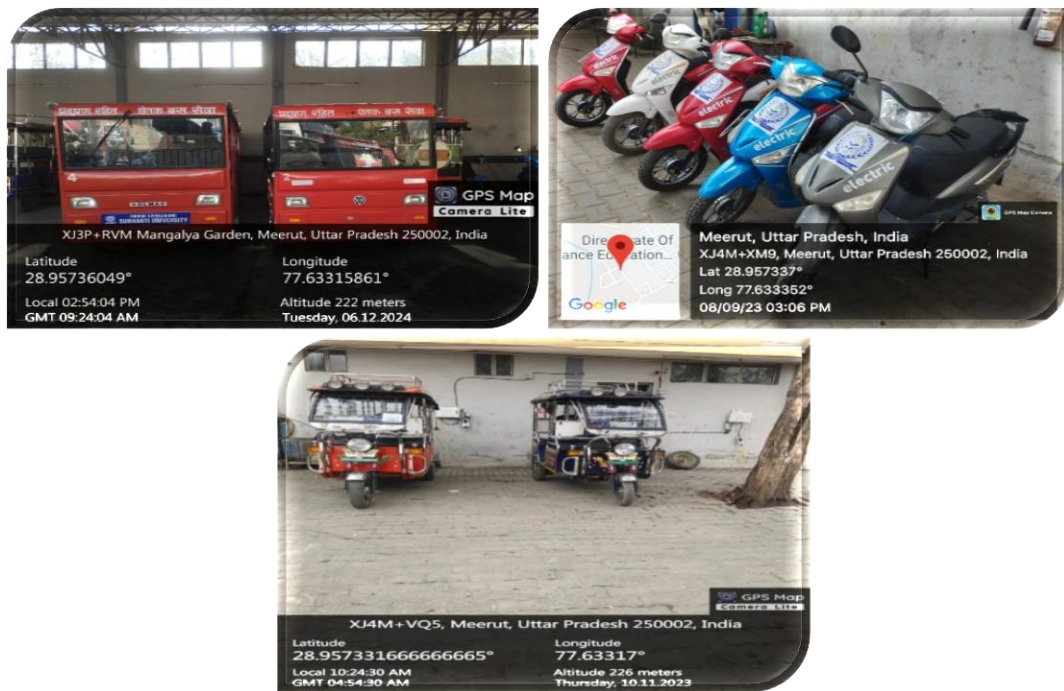


Fig. 1.0: The university has adopted battery-operated vehicles for its campus shuttle service, promoting a more sustainable environment.

- **Car-Free Days:** The university observes a "Car Free Day" every Tuesday and Wednesday to encourage the use of non-motorized transport, walking, and cycling, promoting a cleaner environment and road safety.



Fig. 1.1: The university promoting health and sustainability with Car-Free Days to reduce emissions.

- **Pedestrian Paths:** Promoting pedestrian walking paths and carpooling further supports sustainable commuting.



Fig. 1.2: The university supports a healthy and sustainable lifestyle with walking paths and carpool initiatives.

2. Building Healthy and Livable Cities for Future Generations: (aligned with indicator 11.6)

The university has implemented various measures focused on resource efficiency and waste management:

- **Renewable Energy:** A significant step is the installation of a **2 MW solar power plant** on campus, which reduces carbon dioxide emissions and saves a substantial amount of coal and prevents deforestation.

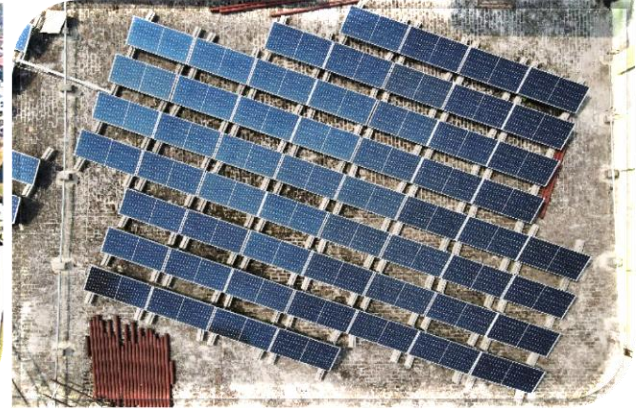


Fig. 1.3: A rooftop view of our sustainable future! The solar panels are harnessing the sun's energy.

- **Energy Efficiency:** The campus utilizes **sensor-based lights** in walkways, lobbies, and staircases to conserve electricity by only powering lights when motion is detected.



Fig. 1.4: Enhancing campus sustainability with motion-sensor pathway lighting.

- **Waste Management:** The university initiates, encourages, and ensures the **segregation of waste** and its adequate disposal. Students participate in **recycling green waste into compost** using NADEP and pit composting methods.





Fig. 1.5: The university initiates and ensures waste segregation.

- **E-waste Disposal:** The university ensures **e-waste** (non-working computers, printers, etc.) is periodically written off and disposed of to **certified vendors** as per prevailing norms.



Fig. 1.6: The university is committed to periodic and certified disposal of electronic waste.

- **Water Conservation:** Initiatives include **rainwater harvesting systems** and connecting drain pipes to **recharge pits** to conserve water. Solar water heater plants are also installed on hostel rooftops.



Fig. 1.7: Harnessing nature: saving every drop and every ray. Conserving today, securing tomorrow.

3. Provide Access to Safe and Inclusive Green and Public Spaces (aligning with 11.7)

The campus itself serves as a model for green infrastructure and public space:

- **Green Infrastructure:** The university's **eye-catching landscaping** and regular **plantation drives** help maintain a pollution-free and aesthetically pleasing environment. They actively work to **prepare a green belt** to reduce their carbon footprint.



Fig. 1.8: The university is committed to periodic and certified disposal of electronic waste.

- **Biodiversity:** The institution's environmental vision includes implementing habitat restoration projects and establishing protected areas to safeguard local flora and fauna.



4. Inclusive and Sustainable Urbanization & Education (aligned with 11.3 & 11.a)

The university's educational and social outreach programs contribute to local community resilience:

- **Community Outreach:** The university organizes various camps (*Health Checkup, Legal Aid, Educational, etc.*) and activities like *Nukkad Natak* (street plays) in **neighbouring communities** to raise awareness on health, environment, and social issues.



Fig. 1.9: The university is Fostering Community Well-being through outreach activities.

- **Adoption of Villages:** The university has **adopted five villages** under the **Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan** to provide necessary and essential services, helping communities to develop and address social ills.



Fig. 2.0: Village – Arnawali, District – Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India



Fig. 2.1: Village – Bhola, District – Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India



Fig. 2.2: Village – Afzalpur Pawti, District – Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India)



Fig. 2.3: Village – Satwai, District – Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India

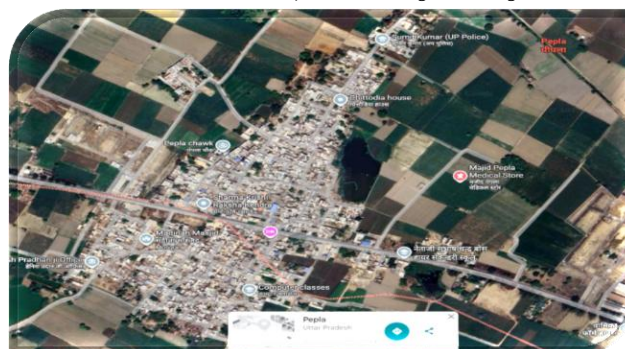


Fig. 2.4: Village – Pepla, District – Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India

- **Education and Awareness:** A subject on **Environmental Studies** is taught at the undergraduate level to instill environmental responsibility. The university also organizes workshops, seminars, and celebrates environmental days like "World Environment Day."



Fig. 2.5: The university is celebrating 'World Environment Day' on the campus.

Details of the activities (*aligned with UN SDG 11*) conducted by the Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut during the academic year 2023-2024:

Environmental Sustainability and Green Campus Initiatives

1. World Environment Day Celebrations

The World Environment Day was organized by the Environment Committee and various faculties to raise awareness on environmental protection, tree planting, pollution control, and responsible consumption. It encouraged students to adopt eco-friendly habits both on and off campus.



2. Tree Plantation Program

A large-scale plantation drive promoting green cover and carbon absorption within campus and nearby communities — a step towards combating climate change and urban pollution.



3. Plantation Drive by University Environment Committee

A campus beautification and oxygen enrichment initiative, encouraging students and faculty to take personal responsibility for green infrastructure.



4. World Ozone Day Celebration

Department of Environmental Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut in association with University Environment Committee organized an event on the occasion of World Ozone Day. In the event, poster competition, quiz competition, Skit and Lecture were organized.



5. Sustainable and Mission LiFE Program

The Faculty of Engineering & Technology, Swami Vivekananda Subharti University organized a workshop on “sustainable and mission life and also practice promoting life actions” on 23rd May 2023. The workshop on sustainable and mission life action, inspired by the vision of India and hon’ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aimed to create awareness and promote practical steps towards a sustainable and mission-oriented lifestyle. Focused on lifestyle changes for environment (LiFE) — encouraging sustainable consumption, resource efficiency, and reduction of waste to build resilient communities.



6. National Paryavaran Competition

The National Paryavaran Competition (NSPC) is an online event organized by Paryavaran Sanrakshan Gatavidhi (PSG) in collaboration with Unnat Bharat Abhiyan Subject Expert Group-Environment and Sustainable Resource Management and promoted by the University Grants Commission (UGC) with the aim of fostering environmental awareness among students. Inter-university competition spreading awareness about biodiversity conservation, climate action, and community-level environmental responsibility.



7. International Symposium on Natural Agriculture for a Sustainable World (6 Oct 2023)

The Faculty of Science, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut has promoted sustainable agricultural practices, organic farming, and reduced chemical use — crucial for urban-rural ecosystem balance by organising the one-day international symposium.



8. Green Chemistry: Myths and Reality – Sustainable Development through Science

A guest lecture on was organized by the Department of Chemistry at Keral Verma Subharti College of Science for UG and PG students. The seminar emphasizing safe chemical usage, waste reduction, and eco-friendly lab practices to minimize environmental impact.



9. Seminar on “Culture Heritage, Environment & Water Conservation”

The Faculty of AYUSH, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut has organised a guest lecture that focused on preserving natural resources and traditional knowledge related to sustainable living, emphasizing harmony between culture and ecology.



10. Awareness Program on “Save Mother Earth, Save Life”

The Faculty of AYUSH, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut has organised an outreach event promoting responsible citizenship for protecting nature, tackling pollution, and managing urban waste.



Clean, Safe, and Inclusive Communities

11. Swachata Abhiyan under ‘Swachhata Hi Sewa Abhiyan’

NSS volunteers and the students of Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Faculty of Arts and Social Science cleaned public areas around campus, inspiring community participation for sustainable urban spaces. During this, these volunteers also gave the message of clean India, healthy India to the people coming and going. The volunteers made the public aware about cleanliness and health.



12. Visit to Sewage Treatment Plant and Waste Management Site

The students of the Faculty of Law, Sardar Patel Subharti Institute of Law, participated in environmental visits within the campus. The visit was scheduled to the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), followed by a visit to the Solid and Biomedical Waste Management Plant by the all batches of BALLB and LL.M. Students learned about scientific waste disposal and water recycling — practical exposure to sustainable infrastructure and environmental engineering.



13. Training Program for Underprivileged Women

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University is deeply committed to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular focus on Goal No. 3, which emphasizes “Good Health and Well-being.” In line with this commitment, the Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Department of Home Science has taken an important initiative to raise awareness among underprivileged females, including non-teaching staff and wage laborers of Subharti University, regarding menstrual health, hygiene, the significance of using sanitary napkins and enhancing employability. The activity is focused on vocational skill-building and self-reliance, contributing to social and economic inclusion within local communities.



14. Community Sensitization and Training Programs

Faculty of Law led awareness sessions on civic rights, safety, and cleanliness, strengthening the link between education and community well-being.



15. Extension Activity on Community Engagement and Social Responsibility

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University's Keral Varma Subharti College of Science organized an outreach activity on community engagement and social responsibility under the 'Unnat Bharat Abhiyan' of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. Students participated in activities improving local sanitation and hygiene infrastructure — promoting partnership between university and society.



16. “Amrit Kalash Yatra” under “Meri Maati Mera Desh”

Under the Meri Maati Mera Desh' (MMMD) campaign “Amrit Kalash Yatra” was organized by National Service Scheme (NSS) of Swami Vivekanand Subharti University under which all volunteers of the four unites and other college students became a part of this prestigious Kalash Yatra. This event was organised to celebrate civic unity and respect for the environment, collecting soil from villages to promote collective responsibility for the nation's sustainability.



Sustainable Mobility & Public Health Awareness

17. Cycle Rally on Bicycle Day

A cycle rally was organized by the Faculty of Education on the occasion of Bicycle Day 2024 at Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut. All the Dean's, HOD's, faculty members, non-teaching members, students and NCC cadets of various colleges of the university participated in this rally. The objective of the rally was to spread awareness about environmental protection and health. The event promoted cycling as a sustainable, zero-emission mode of transport, supporting both public health and reduced urban congestion.



18. Fit India Run Awareness Program

“Fit India Run Awareness” program was organized on the second day under the National Sports Day Fit India Mission running under the joint aegis of the Department of Physical Education and University Sports Committee in Swami Vivekanand Subharti University. Encouraged active living and reduced vehicular pollution through fitness-based mobility initiatives.



19. Fit India Cleanliness Freedom Run 4.0

Fit India Sanitation Freedom Run 4.0” was organized by the NSS & Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut on Saturday 7th October with the theme “Swachha Bharat, Swastha Bharat” under the direction of National Service Scheme Regional Directorate, Government of India. Combined health awareness with cleanliness campaigns, advocating for pollution-free and active communities.



20. Road Safety Awareness Program

An awareness talk on Road Safety and Traffic Rules was held at Subharti Medical College by the Community Medicine Department. Dr. Bhawana Pant (HOD) felicitated Mr. Sunil Kumar Sharma (Secretary Mishika Society) who gave a rousing speech, connected very well with the students, educated about various documents required to drive a vehicle, Road Signs and their meaning, motivated everyone to assist road traffic accident victims by mentioning incentives available for such a service. Raised awareness about responsible driving and pedestrian safety, crucial for safer urban environments.



Cultural Heritage, Inclusivity & Sustainable Tourism

21. Khadi Mahotsav and Khadi Exhibition

The Khadi Mahotsav organized under the joint aegis of National Service Scheme of Swami Vivekanand Subharti University (NSS) and Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Subharti Journalism and Mass Communication Department was formally concluded. Promoted handloom products and sustainable rural industries, supporting local artisans and reducing the carbon footprint of fast fashion.



22. Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan

The Swami Vivekanand Research Chair at Swami Vivekanand Subharti University celebrated the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan 2024 with great enthusiasm and a deep sense of patriotism. The event, aimed at promoting the teachings of Swami Vivekanand ji on patriotism, saw active participation from students, faculty, and volunteers. Strengthened civic pride and unity, encouraging participation in a nationwide community event fostering social inclusivity.



23. World Tourism Day

Bhikaji Cama Subharti College of Hotel Management (BCSCHM) celebrated World Tourism Day with great enthusiasm and commitment to the global cause. The event, hosted at the Studio Kitchen, served as a platform to reflect on the significance of tourism in our world, especially in the context of sustainable practices and green investments. College of Hotel Management emphasized sustainable tourism, heritage preservation, and eco-conscious travel practices.



Outcome

Swami Vivekanand Subharti University demonstrates a strong commitment to environmental and social sustainability, which directly addresses the core themes of UN SDG 11. Its efforts—particularly in renewable energy adoption, sustainable campus transport, efficient waste and water management, and extensive community outreach—position it as an active contributor to making Meerut and its surrounding communities more **inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable**.

The objectives of Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), along with the University's contributions towards achieving these objectives, are outlined below:

UNSDGs and University's Objective	University's Contribution Towards Achieving its Objectives
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities University Objective: To develop the campus as a model for a sustainable and eco-	Faculty of Medical Sciences - - Conducts community health and wellness programs in nearby urban and rural regions. - Operates mobile health units and organizes health awareness camps addressing urban health challenges. Faculty of Dental Sciences - - Provides free dental check-ups and awareness sessions in schools, and underserved urban localities.

friendly urban space ('Subhartipuram'), promoting pedestrian-friendly pathways, battery-operated vehicles, and responsible resource management.

Faculty of Nursing -

- Trains students in community healthcare, first aid, and emergency preparedness.
- Provides nursing and medical support to underprivileged neighbourhoods and rural and urban areas.

Faculty of Allied Health Science -

- Conducts community physiotherapy and wellness camps in urban centres.

Faculty of AYUSH -

- Promotes yoga and holistic health programs to improve mental and physical well-being among city residents.

Faculty of Engineering & Technology -

- Undertakes research in smart city technologies, renewable energy, and sustainable building materials.
- Collaborates with urban planners and industries for sustainable infrastructure and community development projects.

Faculty of Pharmacy -

- Promotes safe pharmaceutical disposal practices and community awareness regarding medicine usage.
- Regularly conducts public workshops on affordable healthcare and sustainable pharmacy management.

Faculty of Law -

- Operates legal literacy and civic awareness camps on municipal governance, housing rights, and environmental justice.

Faculty of Education -

- Integrates environmental education and civic responsibility into teacher training programs.
- Organizes school outreach initiatives to build sustainability awareness among young learners.

Faculty of Fine Arts -

- Engages in public art, murals, and environmental installations to promote sustainability awareness.
- Encourages students to use art as a medium for social and ecological advocacy.

Faculty of Management and Commerce -

- Conducts livelihood programs supporting sustainable community economies.
- Organizes training workshops on green business practices and urban micro-enterprise development.

College of Hotel Management -

- Implements eco-friendly hospitality operations, focusing on energy conservation and waste reduction.
- Promotes sustainable urban tourism through research and awareness initiatives.

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences -

- Produces documentaries, awareness campaigns, and media projects on sustainability and community engagement.

- Uses digital storytelling to promote clean and resilient urban living practices.
- Conducts research and policy workshops on urban planning, sustainable living, and social cohesion.
- Focuses on inclusive urban growth, women's participation, and social resilience in city development.
- Curates and disseminates knowledge resources on sustainable cities, climate resilience, and urban governance.
- Promotes mindfulness, compassion, and ethical living as foundations for harmonious and resilient communities.

University-wide Initiatives -

- University's 250+ acre campus is designed as an eco-friendly and sustainable environment, featuring extensive green cover, botanical gardens, and tree plantations.
- Implements comprehensive waste management systems, including waste segregation, organic composting, and recycling units.
- Operates an on-campus Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), with treated water reused for irrigation and landscaping.
- Incorporates rainwater harvesting systems to enhance groundwater recharge and solar power systems for clean energy generation.
- Ensures energy efficiency through LED lighting, water-saving devices, and smart resource monitoring.
- All campus pathways and buildings are designed to be inclusive and accessible, with ramps and barrier-free facilities for persons with disabilities.
- Actively engages in urban and rural development projects through NSS, NCC, and faculty-led extension programs.
- Regularly conducts awareness drives on cleanliness, sustainability, and environmental protection in Meerut city and nearby villages.
- Participates in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Jal Shakti Abhiyan, and other national missions focused on sanitation, hygiene, and water conservation.
- Collaborates with local authorities to support sustainable community planning and capacity building.
- The university has a robust emergency response system with fire safety installations, first-aid facilities, and disaster management protocols.
- Regularly conducts mock drills, safety workshops, and disaster awareness programs for students and staff.
- Promotes community resilience through first-responder training and emergency response education.
- University maintains sports complexes, auditoriums, open-air theatres, and recreational zones promoting physical, cultural, and social well-being.
- Provides inclusive spaces for women, senior citizens, and differently-abled individuals, ensuring a safe, equitable, and participatory campus community.