Swarrnim Startup & Innovation University

Green Audit Policy

CONTEXTS

PREAMABLE:

The Green Audit analyzes environmental practices within and outside university campuses to promote an eco-friendly atmosphere. It systematically identifies, quantifies, records, reports, and analyzes environmental components to inspect institutional efforts that may harm inhabitants' health and the environment. The audit helps identify implementation gaps, corrective actions, and opportunities for energy and water conservation, waste reduction, and cost savings, ultimately promoting environmental awareness, values, and ethics among staff and students.

INTRODUCTION:

Swarrnim Startup and Innovation University boasts a lush green campus, providing a serene and nurturing environment for students to thrive. We offer well-designed honors and professional courses, fostering confident, skilled, and self-reliant graduates. Our faculty members and students have achieved numerous accolades, contributing significantly to academia. We prioritize women's empowerment, particularly in rural Gujarat. Our campus is a safe, ragging-free, and smoke-free zone, with measures in place for student safety, including police pickets and self-defense training. We commit to academic excellence, humanism, and holistic development. Our university promotes self-governance, participation, and social solidarity, empowering students for a brighter future.

NEED OF POLICY:

As environmental sustainability becomes increasingly important, higher educational institutions must adopt Green Campus practices for sustainable development. Green auditing identifies and evaluates eco-friendly practices, promoting efficient resource utilization and reducing carbon

footprint. It increases environmental consciousness among institutional stakeholders, ensuring a sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

OBJECTIVES OF POLICY:

1. **Examine Current Practices**: Evaluate current practices affecting the environment, such as resource utilization and waste management.
2. **Identify Environmental Issues**: Identify and analyze significant environmental issues.
3. **Set Green Goals**: Establish goals, vision, and mission for green practices on campus.
4. **Implement Environment Management**: Set up and implement environment management systems in various departments.
5. **Continuous Improvement**: Continuously assess and improve performance in green practices.
6. Assess current sustainability practices (water, energy, waste, transportation, procurement).
7. Establish a baseline of existing environmental conditions.
8. Raise awareness among students and staff on environmental issues and sustainability.
9. Create a report documenting baseline data, good practices, and strategies for future environmental improvement.
10. Evaluate environmental performance.
11. Identify areas for improvement.
12. Recognize organizational initiatives.
13. Protect human health and environment.
14. Ensure sustainable development and compliance.

GOALS OF POLICY:

1. **Document Green Practices**: Identify and document existing green practices.
2. **Strengths and Weaknesses**: Analyze strengths and weaknesses in green practices.
3. **Problem Solution**: Suggest solutions for identified problems.

4. **Waste Management**: Assess facilities for different types of waste management.

5. **Environmental Awareness**: Increase environmental awareness throughout the campus.

6. **Environmental Risk Assessment**: Identify and assess environmental risks.

7. **Resource Optimization**: Motivate staff to optimize sustainable use of available resources.

8. **Baseline Data Collection**: Collect baseline data on environmental parameters to resolve issues before they become problems.

BENEFITS OF POLICY TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

1. Protects the environment around the campus.

2. Identifies cost-saving methods through waste minimization and energy conservation.

3. Enhances environmental performance.

4. Projects a positive image through a clean and green campus.

5. Prepares institutions for NAAC visits through green initiatives.

SUMMARY OF POLICY:

Swarrnim Startup and Innovation University located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, aims to achieve academic excellence with a focus on girl's education. The university's motto emphasizes knowledge, modesty, and sense of duty.

The university is committed to:

> Sustainable development goals (SDGs)

> Environmental conservation

> High environmental standards in teaching, research, and community involvement

> Reconciling institutional activities with environmental conservation for a safe and secure future.

The Swarrnim Startup and Innovation University, Environmental and Energy Policy outlines its vision to minimize environmental impact and promote sustainable resource management. The policy aims to reduce energy and raw materials consumption, inspire sustainable practices and create a better environment for future generations. The University integrates efficiency environmental consciousness into daily activities, promoting sustainability through curricular and extracurricular initiatives. With a dedicated Department of Environmental Sciences a

various committees, the University fosters awareness about climate change and implements sustainable practices, engaging stakeholders and serving as a model for other institutions.

Swarrnim Startup and Innovation University Objectives:

- Establish sustainable practices on campus and among stakeholders.
- Train personnel on environmental issues and effects.
- Promote education on sustainable development through curriculum.
- Monitor and report on sustainability projects and initiatives.
- Comply with environmental legislation to reduce environmental impact.
- Train staff and students on energy conservation.
- Collaborate with local groups on environmental initiatives.
- Promote environmental assessment initiatives.
- Implement resource-friendly initiatives and reduce consumption.
- Achieve financial savings through sustainable practices.
- Review and update environmental policy annually.
- Instill environmental ethic and value system in young people.
- Encourage faculty to become Certified Energy Auditors and Managers.
- Teach sustainable development across disciplines.
- Support local sustainability efforts and green campuses.
- Establish an environment/green committee for eco-friendly projects.
- Introduce innovative technologies for energy efficiency.
- Implement Reduce, Reuse, recycle practices and conduct internal energy audits.

Green audit/environmental audit -questionnaire considered during the audit trail and focussed on the areas of ecosystem approaches/environmental feasibility for green auditing to be followed/practiced by participating institutions as below:

1) Waste minimization and recycling
2) Biodiversity and greening the campus
3) Energy use & its conservation

4) Water use & its conservation

5) Carbon footprint

6) Clean air (campus desirable ambient air)

7) Environmental legislation

8) Social welfare & community outreach.

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