



SWARNIM
UNIVERSITY

SWARNIM STARTUP & INNOVATION UNIVERSITY

POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPEMENT

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23/09/2020

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POLICY ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPEMENT

I. Preamble

India's National Environment Policy (NEP) reflects commitment to a clean environment as mandated in Articles 48A and 51A (g) of the Indian Constitution. While recognizing the conservation of environmental resources as necessary to secure the livelihood and well-being of one and all, the NEP strives to ensure that people dependent on particular resources obtain better livelihood from their conservation, rather than degradation. The NEP reiterates that only such development is sustainable, which respects ecological constraints, and the imperatives of social justice.

In accordance with the India's National Environment Policy, the SWARRNIM University expresses its commitment to be a positive and creative catalyst in the protection and enhancement of the local and global environment and sustainable development through teaching, research, public service, administrative and support operations. The university is committed to foster a culture of environmental responsibility, both with in and outside the university.

II. Purpose

The policy statement outlines how the University shall pursue best practices in the realm of environment and encourage the sustainable use of community resources. It sets out the principles, priority areas and procedures for implementation, management and evaluation of the environment plan for the University. The enactment and implementation of this visionary policy will serve an exemplary model of how universities could assume the stewardship in the advancement of environment and sustainable development within the campus and in larger community.

III. Principles

In pursuing its environment policy, SWARRNIM shall:

- Ensure that the environment will not suffer as a result of various activities undertaken by the university. The entails minimization of negative impacts on the environment, conservation and judicious use of natural resources, respect for biodiversity and rehabilitation of degraded environmental components.
- Provide safe and healthy environment for staff and students
- Promote environmental awareness and sensitivity among the University community by sensitizing how their actions can affect the environment
- Ensure compliance with all applicable environmental regulations

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- Ensure and encourage greater commitment to multidisciplinary researches in environmental issues at local, national and global level
- Participate and contribute to the environmental decision making process

IV. Priority Areas

Energy

The University shall conserve energy by minimizing its usage to significantly reduce the University's CO2 footprints by pursuing a low carbon regime pathway. The University shall strive to maximize energy efficiency in existing building, renovations and new constructions. It will periodically review its energy sources, energy forms and energy efficiency with a view to cause least environmental impact.

Water

The University shall conserve water and minimize its use through efficient management practices. It shall endeavour to use the minimum quantities of water possible in accordance with its activities and shall ensure that the water it uses is both supplied and disposed of, in the purest condition possible, meeting the statutory compliances. The University shall promote efficient water use techniques in its agricultural farm and gardening practices. It shall support practice of rainwater harvesting, artificial recharge and revival of traditional methods for enhancing underground water recharge.

Waste Management

The waste management policy of University must aim to reduce the generation of wastes in all ways possible. This will be done by reducing the acquisition of new materials, and by re-using and recycling the existing materials. The University shall also minimise the use of hazardous chemicals and toxic sanitary substances. The University commits to a comprehensive recycling programme as the final step in solid waste reduction and as a means to transform waste into resource. It shall segregate, recycle and reuse its solid wastes and shall develop a waste food composting and bio-mass resource recovery programme.

Transport

The University shall mitigate the harmful effects of its traffic on the environment. When travelling to and from the University and between its campuses and outside on University business, all staff and students must be encouraged to use bicycles, public transport and must be discouraged from using single occupancy of private

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vehicles. University controlled vehicles will be operated in such a way to minimise their impact on the environment.

Plastic Free Campus

Management believes in promoting plastic free campus. The usage of plastic is minimalistic. We have dustbins within 50 meters throughout the campus. Everyday twice the garbage is collected and disposed of by the trained staff who acquaints the knowledge to dispose the garbage in sustainable ways.

Sustainable Resource Acquisition

The University recognizes that one of the primary methods of exercising its commitment to environmental responsibility its through its resource acquisition choice. The University shall strive to obtain maximum value of its expenditure and shall work towards obtaining the best value by balancing short and long term cost in purchasing goods and services. Sustainable purchasing is all about taking environmental and social factors into account in making purchase decisions. It would also emphasize a careful exploration of the ingredients and components of the products, where they come from and who has made them. Therefore, through its purchasing policies, the University shall seek goods and services which do least harm to the environment in their production, delivery, package, use, re-use, recycle and disposal. It shall seek to purchase from local or regional suppliers which will make University's input to the local community.

V. Environment Education, Training & Awareness

The University shall promote the awareness of environment and sustainable development issues amongst its staff and students. For this, the University shall provide staff with training in environment and sustainable development matters, encourage the inclusion of environment and sustainable development content within academic curriculum and sponsor campaigns to raise the awareness of environmental issues among staff and students. The University shall also promote environment sensitization in the communities at local and regional level and assist, network and jointly sponsor environment initiatives.

VI. Publication and Dissemination

The University shall build partnerships with the local community and National organizations to promote its environmental objectives and communicate and disseminate its environmental performance and activities with the outside community through publications and media. The University shall publish and review the policy



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periodically and the University's environmental management procedures continuously.

VII. Implementation of the Policy

To implement this policy on environment and sustainable development:

- (a) The University shall establish an Environmental Affairs Committee for a period of Three years consisting of the academic and administrative staff by rotation. Committee will be constituted as follows:

Position	Level
Environment Affairs Officer	Professor/Associate Professor
Member	Assistant Professor (Agriculture)
Member	Assistant Professor (Civil)
Member	Assistant Professor (Biotechnology/Chemistry)
Member	Horticulture Officer of the SWARNIM University
Member	Civil/ Electrical Maintenance Manager
Student Members	Two students Members from any branch

- (b) The role of Environmental Affairs Committee shall to be:

- Develop and recommend programs to meet the objectives set for each of the priority areas listed above
- Oversee implementation and periodical review of the policy in the University
- Monitor best practices and formulate and publicise environmental Do's and Don'ts for the residents time to time

- (c) The University shall designate an Environment Affairs Officer who shall act as Secretary of the Environment Affairs Committee

- (d) The Environment Affairs Officer shall receive complaints, suggestions from campus regarding environment violations and shall take necessary remedial actions

- (e) The Environment policy will be updated timely in accordance to the laws of the Government.

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