



Newsletter

SPECIAL EDITION - SDG WEEK

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

GOAL



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Key takeaways from SDG Week

"Sustainability is not a distant role; it is a way of life that we must instil in every aspect of our lives and also into our educational journey."

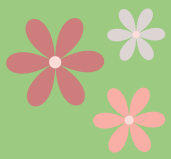


Dr. Fr. Viju P. D.
Pro-Vice Chancellor
CHRIST (Deemed to be
University)

"Just imagine Earth like your body temperature constantly being one of the half degrees up. How do you feel? So, that's the state of our planet today. So, if you can relate to that, you can relate to what is happening in terms of our ecosystem globally."



Guruprakash Sastry Head
of Climate Action Infosys
Ltd.
Keynote speaker



Key takeaways from SDG Week

ZERO EMISSION



"To achieve net zero emission target 2070 in India, we are running short of about 50 to 60 thousand professionals, which is needed in the market to take care of net zero engagements."

Nirbhay Lumde, Head, ESG,
Sustainability and CSR, CGI



"The Sustainability Week is the first in its nature in collaboration with UNAI, and it is happening simultaneously on all six campuses to give exposure to our students regarding the importance of sustainability."

Dr. Leena James,
CHRIST (Deemed to be
University)



Dr. Leena James

SDG Cell

Universities are obligated and responsible for promoting sustainable practices because they are moulding the next generation of Leaders. As sustainability issues become more challenging and deeply embedded across the world, every day, higher education institutions have a moral responsibility not just to strengthen environmentally friendly practices and economically and socially beneficial systems but also to ensure that their graduates are educated about sustainability topics and understand how they can take it forward. Here at CHRIST (Deemed to be University), the SDG cell is making a

presence and impact in the mindset of all christies. The Cell activities are a significant step in our journey towards a more sustainable future. Together, we strive to empower future generations, ignite passion for sustainability, and translate knowledge into tangible action. The SDG is a testament to our dedication to making sustainability initiatives an integrated practice within our university's ethos.



Day -1

12.02.2024

Central Campus:

The inaugural ceremony for Sustainability Week 2024 at Christ University, central campus, highlighted the critical role of higher education in promoting Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Dr. Leena James emphasized the younger generation's role in addressing environmental challenges (SDG 13), while Mr. Guruprakash Sastry stressed incorporating sustainability into systems (SDG 12). Nirbhay Lumde discussed the need for specialists to achieve net zero emissions (SDG 13). The event catalyzed sustainability efforts and emphasized collaboration for global concerns (SDG 17). Continuing efforts to integrate sustainability into education and empower youth are crucial for a sustainable future (SDG 4).

Bannerghatta (BGR) Campus:

The Sustainable Development Week's opening day at CHRIST (Deemed to be University), BGR campus, creatively raised awareness about Health and Wellness (SDG 3) and Sustainable Consumption (SDG 12). Through fitness challenges promoting personal health and the "Make the Switch" campaign for energy reduction, participants engaged in responsible practices aligning with SDGs 3 and 12. Interactive learning on device energy consumption further emphasized sustainable habits (SDG 12). The holistic approach connected well-being with environmental responsibility, fostering a culture of eco-friendly practices. The event inspired ongoing sustainable behaviours and community commitment to well-being and environmental stewardship, contributing to SDGs 3 and 12.





Day -1

12.02.2024

Delhi NCR Campus:

The events at the Delhi NCR campus encompassed various activities that creatively raised awareness about multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The theme competition on 'Climate Change: Reduction in Carbon Emissions by Corporations' directly addressed Climate Action (SDG 13) by encouraging participants to explore solutions for reducing carbon emissions. The AI-Generated Photograph Competition delved into themes related to Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11) by showcasing innovative AI techniques and sparking conversations about the role of technology in addressing societal challenges.

The movie screening on "Climate Action" (SDG 13) through the short film "Prarabdh" highlighted the importance of taking action to combat climate change. These activities promoted awareness about specific SDGs and fostered discussions on ethical considerations, corporate governance, and the intersection of art, technology, and sustainability. Students' engagement in researching, creating content, and initiating discussions reflects a proactive approach towards achieving a sustainable and equitable future.

- SDG Goals Achieved- 6





Christ University presents a week-long sustainability week along with United Nations Academic Impact

The event kicked off with a diverse range of events and activities engaging students from various disciplines across multiple deaneries

Rohith D.S.
BENGALURU

Christ (Deemed to be University) is celebrating its first Sustainability Week across all campuses from February 12 to 16. The initiative, launched in collaboration with the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), aims to equip students with the knowledge and tools to become responsible global citizens and advocates for a sustainable future.

The event kicked off with a diverse range of events and activities engaging students from various disciplines. Leading figures from various fields shared their insights and inspired students to become changemakers.

"Sustainability is not a distant role; it is a way of life that we must instil in every aspect of our lives and also into our educational journey. It is our responsibility to nurture young minds that can seamlessly blend the rhythm of the past with innovative solutions for



Panel discussion on "Revolutionising Higher Education for Global Sustainability" at Christ University.



the challenges of our future," said Dr. Fr. Viju P.D., Pro-Vice Chancellor of Christ, during the inaugural session of the event.

Climate change
Guruprakash Sastry, Head - Climate Action Infosys Ltd, explained that humanity is responsible for this alarming rate at which environmental degradation is happening, "Just imagine Earth like your body temperature constantly being one of the half degrees up. How do you feel? So, that's the state of our planet today.

So, if you can relate to that, you can relate to what is happening in terms of our ecosystem globally."

"We have seen the cyclones, floods, droughts, and even excessive rainfall in some of the locations where these were not commonly placed earlier. Increasing population and globalization brought significant change in our lifestyles and also in the environment," he further added. He spoke about water pollution and how only 11 per cent of the wastewater from Industries and residences

actually gets recycled. The rest 89 percent ends up in our water bodies such as lakes, rivers and oceans.

Net zero emission
At a panel discussion on 'Revolutionising Higher Education for Global Sustainability,' Nirbhay Lumde, Head ESG, Sustainability and CSR, CGI, said, "To achieve net zero emission target 2070 in India, we are running short of about 50 to 60 thousand professionals, which is needed in the market to take care of net zero engagements. We need to have as many

people to be in the forefront to build as many engagements and start-ups. There are plenty of opportunities, in terms of creating start-up companies that really feed the sustainable development goals."

Dr. Leena James, Head-SDG Cell Christ, said, "The Sustainability Week is the first in its nature in collaboration with UNAI, and it is happening simultaneously on all six campuses to give exposure to our students regarding the importance of sustainability and to

enhance its adoption into their daily lives."

Varsha Madhusudan, a participant in the sustainability programme, said, "We think sustainability is an essential part of life. As we come from the psychology department, we know how people are getting affected psychologically due to unsustainable lifestyles. So, I feel like sustainability is very important, and it's not just followed in departments or in colleges. It should be followed everywhere then only we can hope to achieve sustainability."



13.02.2024



Central Campus

1. DigiArt and Video-making Competition: The event focused on nurturing global well-being and a sustainable environment through digital art and video-making competitions. This encouraged creativity and artistic expression while aligning with sustainability goals.

2. Engagement with Sustainable Themes: Various activities and games were organized, all linked to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Participants engaged in discussions and activities related to SDG Goal 3 (Good Health and Hygiene) and Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation).

3. Recycled Material Usage: An origami tutorial stall utilized recycled newspapers for sustainable crafting, promoting the idea of reusing materials to reduce waste and environmental impact.

4. Suggestion Tree: Participants were encouraged to discuss and propose solutions to SDG goals 3 and 6 issues. This facilitated meaningful conversations and provided a platform for brainstorming actionable solutions.



13.02.2024



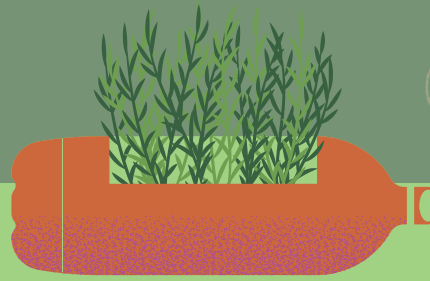
5. Interactive Experience: The event included VR headset experiences, which provided an immersive virtual reality encounter, likely engagingly raising awareness about environmental issues.

6. Community Participation: Faculty members from various departments, including Computer Science, actively participated in the event, fostering community and collaboration towards sustainability goals.

7. Future Planning: A follow-up plan was outlined to analyze suggestions gathered from the suggestion tree, identify critical issues, brainstorm actionable solutions, execute proposed solutions, and monitor progress. This demonstrates a commitment to long-term sustainability efforts beyond the event itself.

Overall, the Sustainability Week Celebration on Day 2 demonstrated a holistic approach to sustainability, incorporating creative expression, community engagement, and future planning for continued action towards achieving SDG objectives.





Kengeri Campus

1. Promotion of Sustainable Alternatives: The emphasis on coconut leaf straws as a sustainable alternative to plastic straws promotes the use of environmentally friendly products. This encourages individuals and businesses to make conscious choices that reduce plastic pollution and its detrimental environmental impact.

2. Community Empowerment and Inclusivity: The initiative's focus on creating employment opportunities for women and local communities demonstrates a commitment to social sustainability. The initiative fosters economic empowerment, skill development, and poverty alleviation by involving community members in the production process, contributing to inclusive growth.

3. Holistic Approach to Sustainability: The seminar emphasized the interconnectedness of sustainability's environmental, social, and economic aspects. This holistic approach encourages comprehensive solutions that address the root causes of sustainability challenges rather than treating them in isolation.

4. Collaboration and Partnership: The event facilitated collaboration between academia, industry, and local communities. This collaborative approach is essential for driving impactful sustainability initiatives, leveraging diverse expertise and resources to maximize positive outcomes.

5. Innovation and Creativity: Dr. Saji's presentation highlighted the importance of innovation and creativity in addressing sustainability challenges. By showcasing inspiring examples of innovative solutions worldwide, the event encouraged participants to think outside the box and explore unconventional approaches to sustainability.

Overall, the event served as a platform for promoting sustainability, fostering collaboration, and inspiring action towards building a more sustainable future. It demonstrated that sustainability is not just an environmental issue but a multifaceted concept that requires collective effort and commitment across various sectors of society.



Delhi NCR Campus



The School of Commerce, Finance & Accountancy, in collaboration with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Cell, hosted a Sustainable Startup Ideathon. Here are the sustainability measures undertaken on this day:

1. Platform for Sustainable Business Ideas: The Ideathon provided a platform for entrepreneurial and visionary students to pitch their sustainable business ideas and models. This initiative encouraged students to think innovatively and develop solutions aligned with sustainability goals.

2. Focus on SDG 9- Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure: The event aligned explicitly with Sustainable Development Goal 9, which focuses on building resilient infrastructure, promoting sustainable industrialisation, and fostering innovation. The university aimed to promote sustainable practices within business and industry by emphasising this goal.

3. Collaboration with External Judges: The event featured external judges from relevant fields, including CA Aditya Mishra and Vishal Kumar, who provided expertise and feedback on the presented ideas. This collaboration ensured a diverse perspective and enriched the evaluation process.

4. Interdisciplinary Participation: The Ideathon attracted participation from students across various disciplines and schools within the university. This interdisciplinary approach encouraged collaboration and brought diverse insights, fostering a holistic understanding of sustainability issues.





5. Promotion of Sustainable Business Models: The Ideathon showcased innovative and sustainable business models, such as clean transportation powered by hydrogen and solar energy, as well as a rental business model for clothes aimed at reducing consumption and waste.

6. Commitment to Action: The event didn't just end with presentations but also committed to supporting the winning ideas through the Christ Innovation and Incubation Centre (CIIC). This commitment ensured that promising sustainable business ideas received further assistance and support for implementation.

Overall, the Sustainable Startup Ideathon on the second day of Sustainability Week at CHRIST (Deemed to be University) exemplified the institution's commitment to promoting sustainability through innovation, collaboration, and actionable initiatives.

• **SDG Goals Achieved: 4**

14.02.2024



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Central Campus

An innovative challenge took place on February 14, 2024, at the MCA Classroom in the Central Campus of CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore. The event aimed to unleash creativity and innovation among participants. Selected students, based on their submitted ideas, participated in the challenge. They presented their groundbreaking ideas as posters and then displayed them in a stall. The competition provided a platform for budding innovators to showcase their creative solutions and receive feedback from industry experts, aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals) The "Startup Connects" event featured a compelling keynote by Mr. Balasubramanian Jayam, Founder and CEO of The Half Brick. His "Paint Your Startup Canvas" address delved into integrating sustainable practices within the startup ecosystem. He emphasized the pivotal role of technology in addressing global challenges. The event provided essential skills and knowledge for launching and growing ventures and inspired the younger generation through raw, authentic stories. Attendees focused on enhancing their abilities and capacities, aligning with the spirit of innovation and social entrepreneurship. Dr. Vidya delivered an insightful session covering a range of crucial topics. First, she dispelled myths surrounding mental illness and menstrual health, emphasizing the importance of awareness. Next, she addressed various aspects of health—physical, emotional, social, cognitive, and spiritual—underscoring their interconnectedness. Additionally, she stressed the need to exclude harmful addictions, such as excessive social media use and drugs. Lastly, she encouraged students to acquire essential life skills and integrate them into their daily lives. (SDG) 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure.



Bannerghatta (BGR) Campus

Round Table Conference on Sustainable Business Strategies held on February 14, 2024: The conference commenced with an address by the moderator, Lavanya Jena, who reiterated the conference's structure. Each participant then delivered a 3-minute introductory speech, sharing their viewpoints on the agenda. During these speeches, participants discussed sustainable goods and services and existing businesses. The conference revolved around three key questions, with participants providing valuable insights: 1) Environment and Economic Impact, 2) Launching Business Strategies, and 3) Community Engagement. The conference featured seven participants in total. After the discussions, each member offered a concluding statement, closing the event. The SDG Goals targeted were Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being; SDG Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.

- SDG Goals Achieved: 6



15.02.2024



Central Campus

• SDG stall and the exhibition of 'The Lantana Elephants'

A Stall organised by the Department of Media Studies surrounded Sustainability Development Goals- SDG 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 - Climate Action and SDG 16 - Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.

• Activity Stall

The Department of Western Music organised music and games around SDG 3: Good Health Well-being, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities, SDG 13: Climate Action and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

• Talk on "Shared Marginalised Lands"

The talk conducted by Iravatee Majgaonkar on "Shared Marginalised Lands" addresses the challenges faced by pastoralists living in marginalised communities across Maharashtra and Northern Karnataka. It focused on SDG 15: Life on Land.

• Stall by English Department

The stall set up by the English Department incorporated SDG 10: Reducing Inequalities, SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 4: Quality Education organised by 4TEP, SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through games and activities such as Jar of Joy, Equality canvas and Harmony Tree.

• Talk on "Sustainable Menstrual Practices"

The talk on this topic was conducted by Dr. Meenakshi and Dr. S.V. Murthy and a Student subject matter expert named Ms. Benita Thomas, and it focused on the goals- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being and SDG 13: Climate Action.



Bengaluru, KA, India



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BGR Campus

- **Best out of Waste Competition**

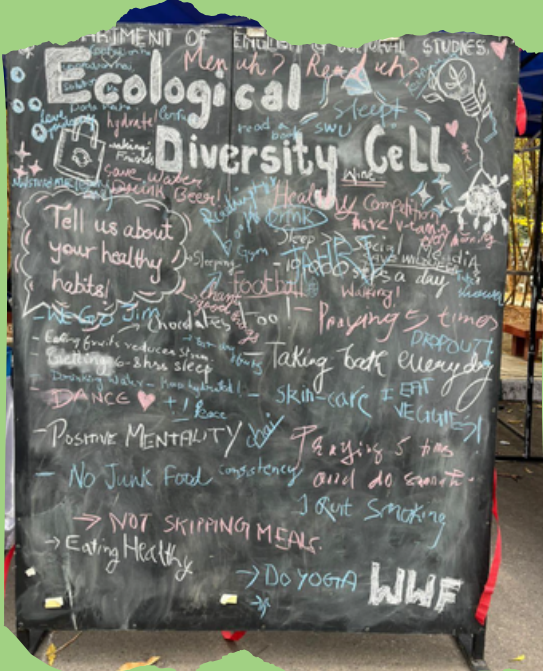
The competition was carried out by the Department of Arts and Humanities, focusing on SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13: Climate and SDG 15: Life on Land.

Kengeri Campus

- **Lecture on Gender Equality**

We had an esteemed guest lecturer, Mrs. Ravitha Prabhakaran, give an inspiring speech on gender equality organised by the Department of Mechanical & Automobile Engineering and the Department of Psychology.

- **SDG Goals Achieved: 8**



Yeshwanthpur

Campus

15.02.2024

The media studies department organized a guest talk by Abhinav Madhavanunni for the SDG week on the role of government in shaping sustainable cities. He is a senior associate at the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS). He talked about the importance of cities in decision-making about our environment and future. The talk mentioned the state and government and how India follows a federal government system due to the large population. The session also involved discussions about India after attaining independence, the missing imagination required for urbanization, and Jawaharlal Nehru's modern vision of India. Urbanization soon took over the country. Secondly, the speaker even mentioned the co-existence of urbanization and sustainability. Students were engaged by the insights they gained about the fundamental flaws that come with urban spaces. He emphasized the point that even though cities often contribute to



violence and poverty are also a hub of development and economic progress. Mr. Abinav explained that the challenge posed by sustainability could be tackled by more power distribution to local bodies. The speaker linked growing urbanization with the phenomenon of environmentalism, citing Rachel Carlson's 'Silent Spring' as an example. He went on to discuss the evolution of sustainability. The United Nations in 1987 redefined sustainability, which led to the SDG goals that we have today. Further, in the year 2000, the United Nations came up with the MDG or Millennium Development Goals, which set the precedent for accountability in the future.

He concluded by stating that urban transformation is indeed possible. A more interdisciplinary approach should be taken to the problem of sustainability. The speaker also mentioned the role of media in this context, as it serves as a bridge between the public and the people in power. The key lies with the local government, which is aware of the landscape and ready to serve the people's best interests.



Pune Lavasa

15.2.2024



On February 15th, 2024, minds ignited, and ideas clashed at the "Quiz for Sustainable Futures," an electrifying event hosted by the SDG cell to pursue the UN's inspiring Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This wasn't just a test of knowledge but a vibrant platform for dialogue, collaboration, and a collective vision for a better tomorrow. The report provides a revisit to the captivating questions, insightful discussions, and the unwavering commitment to action from this impactful engagement.

The "Quiz for Sustainable Futures" hosted by SDG Cell went beyond competition, fostering synergy through collective learning and collaborative action. Six teams initially battled through preliminary rounds, showcasing their grasp of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The top contenders then engaged in a captivating final round, but the true victory lay in the insightful discussions and shared knowledge, sparking a collective commitment to action. This electrifying event served as a potent testament to the power of engagement in shaping a sustainable future, where diverse minds unite to find innovative solutions for the greater good.

The "Quiz for Sustainable Futures" resonated deeply as a competition and a vibrant platform for collaborative learning and action. Six teams initially battled through preliminary rounds, demonstrating their understanding of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While the final round showcased intellectual prowess, the true triumph lay in the insightful discussions and shared knowledge that ignited a collective commitment to action. This engaging event served as a testament to the power of collaboration in shaping a sustainable future, where diverse perspectives unite to find innovative solutions for the greater good. Building upon this success, future events will continue to foster dialogue, engagement, and action towards achieving the SDGs for a more just and equitable world.



16.02.2024

Central Campus:

The activities at CHRIST (Deemed to be University)'s Sustainability Week, central campus, creatively raised awareness about multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The stall showcasing sustainable guest rooms highlighted SDGs 2 (Zero Hunger), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 14 (Life Below Water), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) through sustainable practices and discussions on food sustainability. The guest lecturer, Dr. Ramya Devi, emphasized SDGs related to sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), health and wellness (SDG 3), and sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) through her experience in organic farming and sustainable living.

The art and craft workshop promoted collaboration and creativity, reflecting the importance of Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). Additionally, the photography competition on sustainability themes engaged students from various departments, raising awareness about SDGs related to Climate Action (SDG 13), Life Below Water (SDG 14), and Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12). These activities collectively highlighted the interconnectedness of SDGs and the importance of collective action for a sustainable future.



Bannerghatta (BGR) Campus:

The Mini Sports Event during Sustainability Week at CHRIST (Deemed to be University), BGR campus, focused on promoting health and well-being while fostering community engagement. Participants enjoyed various games in the Sports Arena and were encouraged to track their step counts for a competition, aligning with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to Health and Well-being (SDG 3) and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11). By incorporating physical activity and friendly competition, the event creatively raised awareness about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and sustainable urban environments, contributing to the overall theme of sustainability during the week.



- SDG Goals Achieved: 4



17.02.2024



The SDG Valedictory Ceremony, held on February 17, 2024, celebrated a week of events dedicated to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with insightful discussions, presentations, and activities on environmental sustainability. Dr. Neesha highlighted India's achievements and challenges in SDGs, setting the stage for the overarching theme. Ethical environmental practices were emphasized by the Dean, highlighting SDGs like Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12) and Climate Action (SDG 13). Dr. Leena James stressed the next generation's role in sustainability, focusing on Education (SDG 4) and Advocacy (SDG 17). A rain-themed dance performance added creativity, while Ritika Valecha discussed the environmental impact of lifestyle choices, raising awareness about Sustainable Consumption (SDG 12) and Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure (SDG 9). The event concluded with recognition of competition winners and a call to action for a collective journey towards a sustainable future, echoing multiple SDGs, including Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) and Quality Education (SDG 4).

- SDG Goals Achieved: 5
- Total SDG Goals Achieved In The Entire Week: 17

MEET THE TEAM



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SDG CELL



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