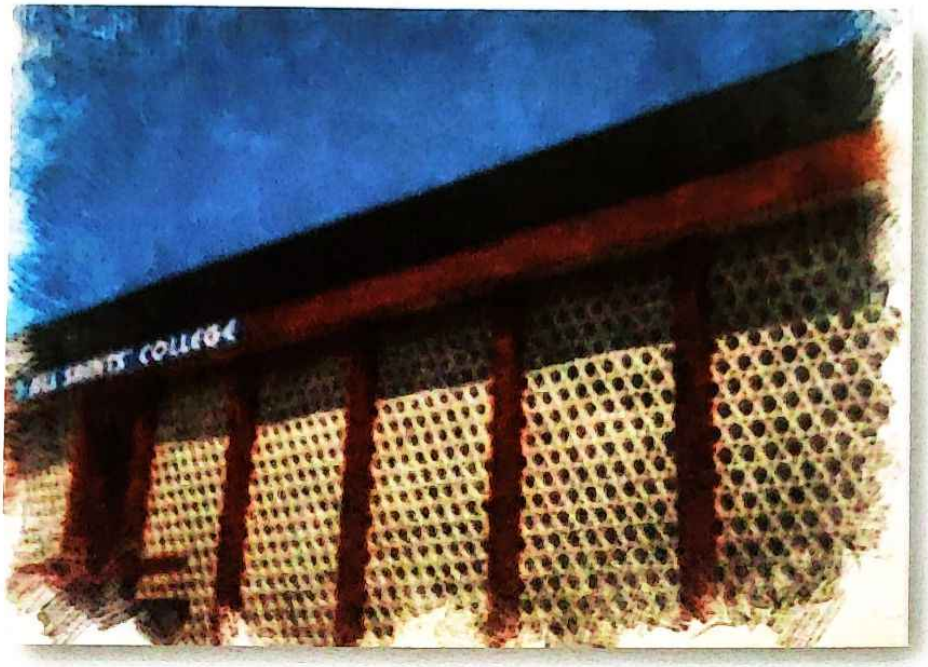
POLICY DOCUMENT



ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695007

Re-accredited with 'A+' Grade by NAAC

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POLICY NAME	GREEN CAMPUS				
APPLIES TO					
MANAGEMENT	✓	FACULTY	✓	NON-TEACHING STAFF	✓
STUDENTS	✓	PARENT/GUARDIAN	✓	STAKEHOLDERS	✓

Updated on 05.09.2023

PRINCIPAL
All Saints College
Thiruvananthapuram

ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE
TRIVANDRUM-7, S.INDIA

MANAGER
ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE, TVPM-7

The management, teachers, non-teaching staff and students of All Saints' College are hereby binding to engage our resources in responding to the challenges of balancing between the human quest for economic, scientific and technological development with environmental preservation. The College, as one of the leading centres for higher education in the State for young women, has a great role to play as a contributor for society to achieve sustainability. The Green Policy of the College addresses the issue of institutional level environmental sustenance, under infrastructural, managerial and operational considerations including infrastructural adaptations, energy efficiency and conservation, waste management, water usage, transportation and environmental education. By way of adoption of this Green Policy, the College envisages to uphold the principles of the UN SDGs and by delivering a systematic, institution-wide integration of sustainability principles into all aspects of the institutional function, to establish a green, resource efficient and low-carbon campus.

The impetus for a successful Green Campus must begin at the top and emanate throughout the rest of the campus. While no two campuses are alike, and approaches to launching and maintaining a Green Campus will differ from place to place, there are some basic strategies that will help ensure the development of this model. The approaches that can be adopted and the planning that can be made are enlisted below.

1. CAMPUS PLANNING, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

Preparation of an updated CMP (Campus Master Plan) spatially detailing the existing and intended **green developmental initiatives** in the campus in addition to the building structures are to be made. Green belts in the campus to be shown depicting data on the possible **Temporal growth in the percentage green cover** (over the last five years) which can be assessed through Remote Sensing techniques, if needed. Spatial distribution of buildings, conservatories, parking areas, trees etc should be properly planned and established with proper foresight.

2. CAMPUS GREEN BUILDING TECHNIQUES

The campus can incorporate **passive building design features** such as

- Using shaded windows and pergolas as shading devices. The design of the windows and doors with grills can be done in a way to facilitate natural ventilation.
- Efforts like implementation of gray water systems, solar panels and faculty-led initiatives to cut down on water or electricity usage can be initiated.
- **Green roofs** - Living, vegetative roofing alternatives; a solution to the heat island effect associated with buildings.
- **Compact fluorescent bulbs** - Uses less energy and give off less heat; will save energy used to cool the building.
- Buying and using local materials - Local materials have lower transportation costs because of the lower amount of energy needed to move materials.
- **Low flow plumbing fixtures** - Uses less water per flush.

3. ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable energy which makes use of energy sources that are not expected to be depleted in a time frame relevant to the anthropogenic use as well as the well-being of other species and environment.

- Implementing **Roof-top Solar panels** to tap the excellent availability of solar energy in the campus, thereby aiding cost cutting on electricity bills.
- **Promoting sustainable and renewable energy** alternatives. Government subsidies are also available for installing the same.
- **Passive building designs for sustainable energy usage** by harnessing the natural sources of light, breeze and rain – assuring that the electrical fixtures used are of low consumption and high energy efficiency.
- **Digital library / e-learning centre** - Reduce the number of hard copies to lessen the use of paper. Adopt e-mails for official communication and encourage online texts and resources.

4. WATER SUSTAINABILITY

Water sustainability in the campus means developing a system that will be self-sufficient, ensuring enough supply of water to meet multiple needs. It aims not only for the current supply of water but also adopts conservative measures for future use. In order to achieve water sustainability various methods may be adopted.

- Create a **Constructed wetland** inside the campus for the treatment of in-house waste water/research purposes/for providing a natural habitat for indigenous floral and faunal species, which have additional benefits such as improved ground water recharge, water quality etc.
- **Rain water harvesting** structures to be erected in all buildings and its quantification to be done.
- Developing **Centralized irrigation monitoring system** which will prevent unnecessary wastage of water. Water necessity can be determined by collecting weather and climate data.

5. TRANSPORTATION

Transportation system of educational institutions should consider the conservation of fuel and energy as well as reduce pollution load.

- **Alternative transportation** – Campus can utilize bike transportation, rapid bus transit, and safe pedestrian walkways.
- **Reducing carbon footprints by enabling low emission technologies** in the institution owned vehicles.
- **Natural tree-shaded and pervious walkways** can be specially constructed for the use of students.
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6. LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY

An institution possessing ample representation of the indigenous plant species serves as an invaluable educational tool through which all students can learn and appreciate the diversity of plants in their neighborhood and the relationship between plants and other organisms found in natural habitats. It is difficult for pupils to care about nature if they don't have any positive nature experience. Therefore, enriching the

biodiversity of the campus helps to develop the students experience by providing activities that involve conservation of nature, environmental awareness and bio-aesthetics. For launching any policies and programmes on conservation and sustainable utilization of resources it is necessary that proper assessment is made on floristic diversity prevailing in the area. The following practices can be done in campus to assess the biodiversity, ecofriendly approaches and sustainable development.

- **Biodiversity assessment of the floral and faunal components of the campus and maintaining a register** for the same. Compilation of books such as 'Medicinal plants of the campus', 'Tree diversity of the campus' 'Ornamental plants of the campus' etc will help to increase the awareness about the plant wealth of the campus. Such books are not just good reference points but can also give an idea about improving the diversity by introducing new species into the campus.
- Development of Field Gene Bank (FGB) of Rare, Endangered and Threatened Species and endemic species of plants. This approach will help in conserving the genetic diversity of the species and also prevent genetic erosion of the species.
- **Eco-friendly landscaping practices** that support the growth of native plant species and supporting wildlife, including rain gardens, butterfly gardens, organic vegetable gardens, botanical gardens, medicinal plant gardens etc. After the establishment of the new landscape practices, documentation of the bird diversity, insect diversity, butterfly diversity and so on can be done with the active participation of the students.
- **Green Audit** should be conducted to analyze environmental practices within the campus, which will have an impact on the eco-friendly ambience. Green audit will provide the information on the betterment practices to be adopted in the campus for biological enrichment, Carbon sequestration, energy conservation, recycling-reuse practices and sustainable development.
- **Gardens and Conservatories** – Development of gardens such as **Ornamental garden, Medicinal garden, Fruit garden, Herbal garden** and its maintenance and also the construction of Conservatories for RET plants should be done to preserve the biodiversity of the campus.

7. RESOURCE OPTIMIZATION

Intelligent management of resources in the form of knowledge and intellectual inputs are to be optimized to channel the ideas and implementation of green campus activities. Best practices and incubation of skills and expertise can be done in various ways for resource optimization.

- **Incubating ideas for a greener tomorrow** for generating a strong sense of action oriented environmental awareness among students, wherein the students will be given opportunity to come up with green ideas which shall be implemented into actions and products, the end results of which are to be marketed/ distributed among users, for successfully attaining its objective.

- The concept of resource optimization need not be confined to material resources, but can be applied to knowledge, skills and abilities as well, and hence **more**

inter disciplinary/departmental fraternal activities should be formulated and implemented for utilizing this available soft potential.

8. ORGANIC FARM FOR FOOD IN CAMPUS

As part of sustainable development campuses should encourage the development of vegetables, fruits and dairy products in the campus. The college can turn much of its green space into large gardens or farmland, and can encourage organic gardening.

- Organic Vegetable garden, Organic fruit garden can be developed so that the products may be used in the campus canteen.
- Animal husbandry units can be developed in the campus which can provide milk and milk products as well as manure for the gardens and farm land.
- Fish farms can be developed which can provide the fish for the canteen as well as water for vegetable gardening.
- Poultry farms can also be initiated in the campus.

9. EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

- **Curriculum designing** - The college can design and offer individual courses or Elective Courses on Sustainable development, Sustainable domestic water use, Water management, Climate Change, Environmental Impact Assessment, Plant Wealth, Medicinal Plants, Environmental humanities, Sustainable agriculture and Conservation of Natural Resources that focus on a sustainable future, inspiring action and practicing influencing skills at the social and personal levels. It is imperative not only to learn and understand environmental concepts but also to change one's own behavior and actions.
- **A green committee** can be organized with interested students and staff. The committee can regularly host campaigns and workshops with a vision to generate environmental sensitivity in not only the students and staff but also their families.
- **Green Student Groups** - Students play an integral part in the Green Campus Initiatives. Their input, participation, and enthusiasm can play a vital role in greening the campus. Specific initiatives can be designed for students to participate in the promotion of ecofriendly and sustainable campus.
- The College can organize **Plantation Drives** in which saplings can be distributed to the students and special groups of plants like medicinal plants, forest trees and RET plants can be planted in the campus on special occasions.
- The **Daily display of local plants** with their vernacular name, binomial, family and uses can be done by the active participation of students which will enhance their awareness about the plant wealth of the campus.
- **Sacred Garden** can be set up in the College, where trees of Rare, Endangered and Threatened (RET) plant species can be managed.
- Institute can make all the necessary efforts to involve the students, faculty and staff in "Green Campus Initiatives' by designating the volunteers, printing T-shirts/ Caps with green campus initiative slogans, specially designed for the purpose.

10. PROCUREMENT

Best practices that make use of used books and similar materials can be practised in the campus which can reduce the accumulation of waste as well as effectively lessen energy consumption.

- **Students' Book bank,** where each student can donate at least one book while leaving the institution, which can be kept as a resource for the future batches for reference and issuance. This can be well managed on a departmental basis.
- Adopting an energy efficient **appliance purchasing policy** and to **buy high energy efficiency star rated products** wherever applicable.
- Recycle and reuse resources so that it will reduce the overload to the environment.

11. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Each and every campus should work towards practicing sustainable goals which will enhance the campus as well as the whole environment. The following practices can be adopted with the participation of the students.

- Strategize to attain the **Zero Waste Campus** objective in a specific time frame, by including methods for waste reduction at source, efficacious segregation and collection and ensuring timely and scientific disposal of wastes.
- To become a **zero-waste campus**, initiatives like banning the use of plastic bags, straws and caps inside the campus can be formulated. Campaigns such as 'Bring Your Own Mug' sensitize students and teachers to reduce the use of plastic as much as possible.
- Estimating the **Carbon Sequestration Potential of the trees** inside the campus and thus quantifying how much the campus aids in **reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions** and thereby playing its role in combating global climate change.
- Methods should be adopted to minimize waste at source, properly segregate and implement various treatment methods for different kinds of wastes.
- **Hosting Sustainability Fairs** every year on the fourth Wednesday of October, wherein the students shall be encouraged to organize swap shops and also host cultural events to spread awareness, reduce consumption, reuse items, save money and build community.
- Installing and maintaining **Vermicomposting unit, Biogas plants and Paper reutilization plants** in the campus.

12. GREEN CATERING

The canteen and hostel of the campus can also contribute to green campus initiatives and offer spaces where students can participate in creating their own healthy meals.

- An **eco-friendly in-house catering unit**, run by the college canteen providing healthy and tasty, locally produced seasonal food at economic rates.
- **Community kitchens run by the students**, following green protocols, for their residential activities and programmes.

- Using **organically grown vegetables and fruits** for cooking which will improve the health and immunity of the students.

13. EVENT ORGANIZATION

Strict adherence to green protocols while organizing events and programmes inside the campus.

- Minimize the use of disposable items and/or using reusable alternatives like glass/steel/porcelain cutleries.
- Instead of flex banners, opt for cloth/paper or digital displays for programmes organized in college.

POLICY COMMUNICATION AND REVIEW

This policy shall be communicated to the administrators, students, teaching and non-teaching staff of All Saints'College, through the internal mailing system. It will be made available to the public through the college website as well. Display boards depicting the significance of environmental conservation and sustainability shall be erected at key-points in the campus for awareness of all involved. Further, the progress and review of the policy shall be carried out periodically by the CLMC (College Level Monitoring Committee).

CONCLUSION

Greening initiatives are challenging and require determination and a long-term commitment on the part of the entire campus community. At the same time, it is a golden opportunity to develop an exciting new curriculum that encourages students to take the lead in creating positive change and will help them to gain invaluable, marketable skills. We, the entire team at All Saints', are committed to environmental sustainability, accountability and stewardship, thereby recognizing the need and opportunities to develop such a culture, to believe in it, practice it, and promote it in our daily lives, to make enduring contributions to the institution and to the society at large

ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE TRIVANDRUM-1, S.INDIA

OFFICE OF THE MANAGER ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE S.INDIA