

# SDG 11

## 11.1 Research on SDG 11:Sustainable cities and communities

Parameter	Data
Scholarly Output	311
Field-Weighted Citation Impact	2.43
Citation Count	2,341



Between 2022 and 2024, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham made transformative contributions toward achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11 — Sustainable Cities and Communities, through pioneering research that integrates technology, urban innovation, and environmental responsibility. With 311 scholarly outputs and a Field-Weighted Citation Impact of 2.43, Amrita's research performance significantly exceeds global benchmarks, underscoring its leadership in advancing sustainable urban systems. The university's research spans critical domains such as Smart Cities, Waste Management, Traffic Management Systems, and Disaster Prevention, emphasizing technology-driven solutions for safer, cleaner, and more resilient urban environments. Through the integration of Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), and Deep Learning models such as YOLO and Convolutional Neural Networks, Amrita is driving innovation in vehicle detection, emergency response, and advanced urban mobility systems. Supported by 65 international collaborations, 12,293 views, and 2,341 citations, Amrita's SDG 11 research reflects its global impact and enduring commitment to building

sustainable, intelligent, and inclusive communities.

## 11.2 Promoting Inclusive Knowledge Access: Amrita's Library Services for the Public

Recognizing that equitable access to information is fundamental to sustainable urban and rural development, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has opened its library facilities to local residents, students, educators, and community institutions without charging any enrollment or membership fees. This initiative bridges the gap between academia and society, allowing citizens from surrounding communities to freely access books, research materials, digital databases, and learning spaces.

The program has particularly benefited students from local schools and marginalized groups who lack access to advanced educational resources. By enabling free use of information infrastructure, the university creates an inclusive learning ecosystem that extends beyond campus boundaries — a cornerstone of SDG Target 11.4,

which emphasizes strengthening social and cultural participation in sustainable communities.

## **1. Accessibility and Integration into Community Development**

All individuals wishing to utilize the library complete a simple registration process through a prescribed form, recommended by the respective institutional heads and approved by the Dean of Engineering. This open, structured approach ensures that the facility serves as a shared civic space for education, collaboration, and community learning.

Admission is governed by a transparent set of library rules and user responsibilities, publicly displayed on notice boards to promote accountability and mutual respect among users. These measures ensure that the space remains accessible, orderly, and beneficial for both the university and the local community.

By providing such shared access, Amrita's library acts as a community hub for knowledge exchange, supporting urban and peri-urban residents in developing literacy, digital fluency, and intellectual curiosity — qualities essential for sustainable and resilient societies.



## **2. Amrita's Vision of Sustainable Urban Learning Spaces**

This initiative reflects Amrita's broader sustainability vision — to integrate education, community service, and infrastructure in ways that promote social inclusion and urban well-being. Libraries are not merely repositories of information but are vital components of sustainable cities, offering equitable opportunities for all citizens to engage in continuous learning and dialogue.

Through free and open access, Amrita contributes to:

- Reducing educational inequality within urban and semi-urban populations;
- Enhancing community resilience through access to credible knowledge;
- Encouraging civic participation and informed citizenship;
- Preserving and sharing cultural and academic resources within the local context.

By transforming its libraries into inclusive, sustainable spaces for knowledge and collaboration, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham advances the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, demonstrating how higher education institutions can catalyze social cohesion, inclusivity, and informed community development in alignment with SDG 11.

### **11.3 Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham Achieves Prestigious IGBC Platinum Certification: A Benchmark for Sustainable Campus Development in India**

In a landmark achievement that underscores its deep commitment

to sustainability and environmental stewardship, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has been awarded the “Platinum” Certification under the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) Green Campus Rating System. This prestigious recognition—the highest level of certification conferred by IGBC—highlights the university’s transformative approach to sustainable campus planning, green infrastructure, and eco-conscious operations across its institutions.

This milestone reflects Amrita’s alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) – Sustainable Cities and Communities, which calls for making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Through this achievement, the university reaffirms its vision of creating educational ecosystems that balance technological advancement with environmental harmony.



The certification process involved a rigorous evaluation of multiple sustainability dimensions including energy efficiency, water conservation and reuse, waste minimization, green building design, and enhanced biodiversity. Amrita’s campuses have integrated renewable energy systems, eco-friendly mobility solutions, and state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plants, while maintaining extensive green spaces that enhance air quality and ecological resilience.

Over the years, Amrita has consistently demonstrated excellence in sustainable campus management, earning national recognition for its leadership in cleanliness and green innovation. The institution has previously been ranked Number One among Technical Institutions in the Swachhta Rankings (2017 and 2018) by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, and was named the ‘One District One Green Champion’ (2020–2021) by the Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education (MGNCRE) under the Ministry of Education. These accolades complement the Platinum recognition, collectively showcasing Amrita’s holistic sustainability strategy that integrates people, planet, and progress.

The IGBC Platinum Certification reinforces Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham’s pioneering role in India’s journey toward sustainable higher education infrastructure. Each campus operates as a living laboratory for sustainable innovation—where students, faculty, and staff collaborate to implement and refine eco-conscious practices that can be replicated beyond campus boundaries.

By embedding sustainability into its physical, academic, and community engagement frameworks, Amrita exemplifies how universities can serve as catalysts for achieving SDG 11. The institution’s efforts not only reduce its environmental footprint but also inspire a new generation of environmentally responsible citizens and professionals who will carry forward the vision of resilient and sustainable communities.

#### **11.4 Promoting Cultural Sustainability and Heritage Preservation through University Initiatives**

Aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 — “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable” — Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham continues to champion cultural sustainability through vibrant engagement in arts, heritage preservation, and community participation. The university’s initiatives demonstrate a holistic approach to sustaining cultural identity and fostering inclusive spaces that nurture creativity and social cohesion.

### **1. Advancing Cultural Expression and Community Engagement**

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham organizes a wide range of cultural festivals and artistic events across its campuses each year, providing platforms for students and the public to engage with traditional and contemporary forms of creative expression. Events such as Amritotsavam, Sargamritam, and other arts festivals feature performances in theatre, music, dance, fine arts, and literary activities that are open to the wider community. These large-scale events attract thousands of participants, promoting intergenerational learning, social inclusion, and the preservation of regional art forms.



Such initiatives extend beyond entertainment—they serve as cultural bridges between academia and local communities. By offering open-access

performances and public participation opportunities, the university fosters a culture of inclusivity and collective celebration, thereby strengthening social and cultural resilience within and beyond campus boundaries.

### **2. Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage**

Complementing its cultural outreach, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has implemented policies and projects aimed at preserving and documenting intangible cultural heritage, including traditional crafts, folklore, and performing arts. These efforts focus on digitization, intergenerational transmission of artisanal knowledge, and sustainable practice integration. The university’s documentation and conservation efforts help safeguard cultural heritage at local, regional, and national levels while ensuring that indigenous knowledge systems remain accessible to future generations.



Sustainability principles such as upcycling, circular economy approaches, and eco-friendly materials are embedded within these initiatives, linking heritage preservation to environmental responsibility. Through academic research, digital archives, and community collaborations, Amrita promotes awareness of traditional art forms and supports the livelihoods of

local artisans and cultural practitioners.

### **3. Integrating Culture into Sustainable Development**

Amrita's commitment to the arts and heritage preservation reinforces the understanding that sustainable development extends beyond environmental and economic dimensions to include cultural continuity and community well-being. By nurturing spaces for cultural expression and preserving traditional

knowledge systems, the university contributes directly to SDG Target 11.4 — "Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage."

Through its continued focus on integrating education, innovation, and culture, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham remains dedicated to building sustainable and inclusive communities where creativity and heritage are valued as essential components of progress.