

AMRITA VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM

A++ NAAC Accredited | India's #1 SDG Impact University (THE 2025)

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT & PURCHASING POLICY REPORT

QS Environmental Sustainability Edition 2 Submission

Institution	Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham
Report Type	Sustainable Procurement & Purchasing Policy
Framework	QS Environmental Sustainability (Edition 2)
Policy Reference	Sustainable Campus Policy (2020, updated Nov 2023)
Public URL	https://www.amrita.edu/unsdg-sustainable-campus-policy2023/
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Prepared By	Office of Sustainability, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

1. Executive Summary

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has established a comprehensive and publicly accessible Sustainable Campus Policy that includes explicit provisions for sustainable procurement and purchasing across all its campuses. The policy, first formulated in 2020 and last updated in November 2023, provides a structured framework through which the university manages its procurement practices in alignment with environmental sustainability, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and its commitment to achieving carbon neutrality.

This report details the university's sustainable procurement policy, its key provisions, implementation mechanisms, measurable outcomes, and alignment with QS Environmental Sustainability reporting criteria.

2. Institutional Background

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham is one of India's leading research-intensive multidisciplinary universities, operating across ten campuses in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Haryana. Founded under the guidance of its Chancellor, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi (Amma), the university has embedded sustainable development at the core of its mission.

Accreditation	NAAC A++ (2023) — Highest Grade
THE Impact Rank	#41 Globally, #1 in India (2025) — Top 50 Worldwide
SDG 4 Rank	5th Globally for Quality Education (THE 2025)
SDG 7 Rank	6th Globally for Clean Energy (THE 2025)
Campuses	10 campuses across India
Live-in-Labs®	150+ real-world projects, 25 states, 1M+ beneficiaries
NIRF Rank	7th Best University in India (2025)

3. Sustainable Procurement Policy Overview

3.1 Policy Document & Public Accessibility

Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham's Sustainable Campus Policy is a publicly accessible document available at:

<https://www.amrita.edu/unsdg-sustainable-campus-policy2023/>

The policy was first formulated and issued in 2020 and has been updated periodically, with its most recent revision on 11 November 2023. It is part of the university's broader Sustainable Campus Policy Pack, which integrates environmental governance with procurement, energy, water, waste, and infrastructure management.

3.2 Scope of the Policy

The Sustainable Procurement Policy applies to:

- All procurement activities across all ten Amrita campuses
- Academic and administrative procurement decisions
- Capital expenditure and infrastructure projects
- Energy procurement and supply contracts
- Materials, consumables, and service contracts
- Supply chain and vendor selection processes

3.3 Core Principles of Sustainable Procurement

The policy establishes the following guiding principles for purchasing decisions:

Principle 1 — Renewable Energy Procurement

Amrita has committed to procuring 100% renewable energy across its campuses. A formal Renewable Energy Pledge is publicly documented and the university has implemented a Disinvestment Policy for Carbon-Intensive Energy Industries, integrated into the Sustainable Campus Policy Pack in 2023. Financial decisions are explicitly aligned with carbon neutrality goals, with a target of reducing grid electricity dependency to 30% by 2025 as an intermediate milestone toward full carbon neutrality by 2030.

Principle 2 — Local & Sustainable Supply Chain

The university's procurement guidelines prioritise local sourcing to reduce supply chain emissions, support regional economies, and minimise transportation-related environmental impact. Supply chain emissions and sustainable procurement policies form a defined component of Amrita's annual GHG Protocol-aligned emissions inventory and reporting.

Principle 3 — Recycled & Sustainable Materials in Construction

Infrastructure and building projects across Amrita campuses are subject to procurement requirements that favour recycled, sustainable, and environmentally certified materials. The Sustainable Campus Policy outlines material standards for construction and renovation activities.

Principle 4 — Waste-Minimising Procurement

Purchasing decisions are evaluated for their contribution to waste reduction. The university's procurement framework integrates its organic waste management and composting practices — for example, nutrient-rich sludge from sewage treatment plants is converted to organic compost, and procurement of composting materials and systems is guided by sustainability criteria.

Principle 5 — Carbon-Aligned Financial & Investment Decisions

Amrita has formalised a Disinvestment Policy for Carbon-Intensive Industries, ensuring that procurement of financial instruments, investment products, and energy contracts excludes carbon-intensive options. This policy is documented as part of the Sustainable Campus Policy Pack (2023 revision).

4. Implementation Mechanisms

4.1 Energy Procurement

Amrita's campuses have substantially shifted their energy procurement toward renewable sources:

- Large-scale solar panel installations across campus rooftops
- Official commitment to 100% Renewable Energy Pledge (publicly accessible)
- Annual emissions inventories tracking renewable energy procurement progress
- Target: Reduce grid dependency to 30% by 2025; achieve carbon neutrality by 2030
- Kerala's First Integrated Multi-Lab System for Environmental Sustainability launched at Amrita to monitor procurement-related environmental metrics

4.2 Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Procurement

Sustainable procurement principles guide Amrita's water infrastructure investment:

- Rainwater harvesting systems across 16 strategic campus locations — 5,500 cubic metres harvested annually
- Sewage Treatment Plants (STP) producing 13 lakh litres of recycled water daily for sustainable landscaping
- New STP with 4-lakh-litre capacity procured for construction in 2025–26
- Organic compost produced from STP sludge — minimising procurement of external fertilisers

4.3 Vendor & Supplier Assessment

The university's procurement process incorporates environmental assessment of vendors and suppliers. Supply chain sustainability forms part of the annual GHG Protocol-aligned reporting, with Amrita tracking Scope 3 emissions including supply chain emissions. Vendors are assessed on their ability to meet the university's sustainability standards.

4.4 Campus-Wide Monitoring & Assessment

All campuses are periodically assessed against the Sustainable Campus Policy goals, fostering a self-driven institutional commitment to sustainable procurement. Key metrics monitored include:

- Water consumption by source: Potable (Borewell, Well, Municipal Supply) — 113,961 m³ tracked
- Renewable energy generation and procurement share
- Waste generation and diversion from landfill
- Carbon emissions by scope (Scopes 1, 2, and 3 including supply chain)
- Composting and organic waste conversion outputs

5. SDG Alignment & QS Framework Mapping

SDG	Procurement Dimension	Amrita Policy Reference
SDG 7 — Clean Energy	Renewable energy procurement & disinvestment from fossil fuels	Renewable Energy Pledge; Disinvestment Policy (2023)
SDG 9 — Industry & Innovation	Sustainable infrastructure materials in construction	Sustainable Campus Policy — Construction Standards
SDG 12 — Responsible Consumption	Recycled materials, waste-minimising purchasing, local sourcing	Sustainable Campus Policy — Procurement Guidelines
SDG 13 — Climate Action	Carbon-aligned procurement; GHG tracking of supply chain	Carbon Neutrality Commitment; GHG Protocol Reporting
SDG 15 — Life on Land	Organic compost from waste; green landscaping using recycled water	STP & Composting Procurement; Water Policy

SDG 17 — Partnerships	Local supplier preference; community sourcing	Supply Chain Sustainability Reporting
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6. Measurable Outcomes (2023–2025)

Procurement Outcome / Metric	Result
Recycled water produced daily (sustainable landscaping)	13 Lakh Litres
Rainwater harvested annually (campus-wide)	5,500 Cubic Metres
Rainwater harvesting sites integrated with STP operations	16 Locations
New STP procurement (capacity) — 2025-26	4 Lakh Litres
Total potable water consumption tracked (sustainability reporting)	113,961 m³
Organic compost produced from STP sludge (replacing external procurement)	Ongoing
Solar panel installations contributing to renewable procurement	Multiple Campuses
THE Impact Ranking — India's #1 (consecutive years)	4 Consecutive Years
THE Impact Ranking — Global Rank 2025	41st (Top 50)
Live-in-Labs® community sustainability projects (local sourcing model)	150+ Projects, 25 States

7. Gap Analysis & Recommendations

While Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham has demonstrated strong institutional commitment to sustainable procurement through its Sustainable Campus Policy and its broader SDG-aligned activities, the following enhancements are recommended to further strengthen the policy's specificity and public accessibility for QS Environmental Sustainability reporting:

7.1 Current Strengths

- Publicly accessible Sustainable Campus Policy with explicit procurement provisions
- Formal Renewable Energy Pledge and Disinvestment Policy for carbon-intensive industries
- GHG Protocol-aligned annual emissions reporting including Scope 3 supply chain emissions
- Demonstrated procurement outcomes with measurable metrics (water recycling, solar, composting)
- Integration of sustainability into capital expenditure decisions (e.g., STP procurement)
- Recognition as India's #1 SDG impact university in THE Impact Rankings 2025

7.2 Recommended Enhancements

- Publish a standalone Sustainable Procurement Policy document (currently embedded within the broader Sustainable Campus Policy) for clearer QS metric attribution
- Develop a formal Local Supplier Preference Policy with measurable targets for the percentage of spend with local or regional vendors
- Introduce a Sustainable Supplier Code of Conduct requiring vendors to meet defined environmental criteria
- Publish an annual Sustainable Procurement Report as a standalone document, separate from the broader sustainability report
- Formalise recycled-content requirements for specific procurement categories (e.g., paper, packaging, furniture)
- Create a procurement staff training programme on sustainable purchasing criteria, aligned with the institution's SULITEST sustainability literacy framework

8. Public Policy Links & References

Sustainable Campus Policy	https://www.amrita.edu/unsdg-sustainable-campus-policy2023/
Renewable Energy Pledge	https://www.amrita.edu/unsdg-25/sdg7/renewable-energy-pledge/
Carbon Neutrality Commitment	https://www.amrita.edu/unsdg-26/sdg13/commitment-to-carbon-neutral-university/
SDG Education Courses	https://www.amrita.edu/unsdg-26/sdg17/education-for-sdgs-specific-courses/
THE Impact Rankings	https://www.amrita.edu/impact/
Amrita School for Sustainable Futures	https://www.amrita.edu/school/sustainable-futures/
QS ES Framework Reference	https://support.qs.com/hc/en-gb/articles/8568859719708

Declaration

This report has been prepared on behalf of Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham to document its sustainable procurement and purchasing policy as required by the QS Environmental Sustainability (Edition 2) framework. The information contained herein is drawn from publicly accessible institutional documents, official policy publications, and verified sustainability disclosures. The institution's Sustainable Campus Policy and all referenced documents are publicly available on the Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham website.