

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

2026 Edition

Policy No. : EOMS 21001: 2018/Pol/SE/2025-2026/01



**Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology
(Deemed to be University)**

Rajiv Gandhi Salai, Chennai – 600119, Tamil Nadu, India

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DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

Particulars	Details
Policy Title	Environmental and Sustainability Policy
Policy Number	EOMS 21001: 2018/Pol/SE/2025-2026/01
Version Number	4.0
Date of Approval	03/07/2026
Reviewed By	IQAC
Approved By	Executive Council
Review Frequency	Once every Three Years
Next Review Due	02/07/2029
Policy Status	Active

DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION :

This document constitutes an official policy of the Deemed to be University. The provisions of this policy shall be implemented and interpreted in accordance with the applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, and in conjunction with other relevant policies, regulations, ordinances, and guidelines of the Institution.



SATHYABAMA

INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

CATEGORY - 1 UNIVERSITY BY UGC

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

1. PREAMBLE

Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology is committed to environmental stewardship, sustainable development, resource conservation, climate responsibility, and disaster resilience. As a higher educational institution dedicated to academic excellence and societal advancement, the Institution recognizes its responsibility to minimize environmental impact, promote sustainable practices, conserve natural resources, and build a resilient campus ecosystem.

The Institution shall integrate environmental sustainability principles into its academic, research, operational, infrastructure, and community engagement activities. Through systematic planning, implementation, monitoring, and continuous improvement, the Institution seeks to create a green, energy-efficient, environmentally responsible, and climate resilient campus.

This Policy establishes a comprehensive framework for environmental protection, sustainable resource utilization, waste management, energy conservation, water stewardship, carbon footprint reduction, green campus initiatives, and disaster preparedness.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this Policy are to:

- Promote environmental sustainability across all institutional activities.
- Conserve natural resources through responsible utilization practices.
- Minimize environmental pollution and ecological impact.
- Promote efficient management of energy, water, and other resources.
- Reduce carbon emissions and support climate action initiatives.
- Establish effective waste management and recycling systems.
- Foster environmental awareness and sustainable behaviour among stakeholders.
- Develop a resilient campus capable of responding to emergencies and disasters.
- Comply with environmental laws, regulations, and sustainability standards.
- Support national and global sustainability goals.

3. SCOPE

This Policy applies to:

- Students
- Faculty Members
- Administrative Staff
- Technical Staff
- Research Scholars
- Contract Employees
- Service Providers
- Visitors and Guests

The Policy covers all academic, administrative, residential, research, sports, healthcare, transport, and support facilities operated by the Institution.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

The Institution shall adopt a holistic sustainability framework encompassing:

- Green Campus Initiatives
- Energy Management
- Water Conservation
- Waste Management
- E-Waste Management
- Carbon Footprint Reduction
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Sustainable Procurement
- Environmental Audits
- Disaster Preparedness and Resilience

The framework shall support continuous environmental improvement and sustainable campus development.

5. GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVES

The Institution shall promote a Green Campus culture through environmentally responsible practices.

Initiatives may include:

- Tree Plantation Programmes
- Landscaping and Green Cover Enhancement
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Sustainable Transportation Practices
- Green Building Initiatives
- Eco-Friendly Campus Development
- Environmental Awareness Campaigns
- Sustainable Procurement Practices

The Institution shall continuously strive to improve environmental performance and ecological sustainability.

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Institution shall establish a systematic waste management framework based on the principles of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, and Responsible Disposal.

Waste management practices shall include:

- Source Segregation of Waste
- Collection and Transportation
- Recycling and Reuse
- Composting of Biodegradable Waste
- Safe Disposal of Non-Recyclable Waste
- Waste Reduction Programmes

Waste shall be managed in compliance with applicable environmental regulations and local authority requirements.

6.1 E-WASTE MANAGEMENT

The Institution shall ensure environmentally responsible management of electronic waste generated from:

- Computers
- Servers
- Printers
- Networking Equipment
- Batteries
- Electronic Devices
- Laboratory Equipment

E-waste shall be:

- Identified and segregated.
- Recorded and inventoried.
- Stored safely.
- Disposed of through authorized recyclers or government-approved agencies.

The Institution shall encourage refurbishment, reuse, and recycling wherever feasible.

7. WATER CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Institution shall promote efficient utilization and conservation of water resources.

Water conservation measures may include:

- Rainwater Harvesting Systems
- Water-Efficient Fixtures
- Leak Detection and Repair
- Wastewater Treatment and Reuse
- Groundwater Recharge Initiatives
- Water Consumption Monitoring
- Sustainable Irrigation Practices

The Institution shall periodically assess water usage and implement measures to reduce wastage.

8. ENERGY MANAGEMENT

The Institution shall promote energy efficiency and sustainable energy utilization.

Energy management initiatives may include:

- Energy Conservation Programmes
- Energy-Efficient Equipment
- LED Lighting Systems
- Smart Energy Monitoring Systems
- Preventive Maintenance of Electrical Systems
- Renewable Energy Utilization
- Solar Power Generation
- Energy Audits

The Institution shall strive to reduce energy consumption and improve energy performance continuously.

9. PLASTIC-FREE CAMPUS

The Institution is committed to reducing the use of single-use plastics and promoting environmentally sustainable alternatives.

The following practices shall be encouraged:

- Restriction of Single-Use Plastic Products
- Promotion of Reusable Materials
- Sustainable Packaging Practices
- Awareness Campaigns on Plastic Reduction
- Environmentally Responsible Procurement

Stakeholders shall actively support efforts to maintain a plastic-free campus environment.

10. CARBON NEUTRALITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

The Institution shall undertake initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute towards climate sustainability.

Measures may include:

- Energy Conservation
- Renewable Energy Adoption
- Sustainable Transportation
- Green Infrastructure Development
- Carbon Footprint Assessment
- Carbon Reduction Strategies
- Tree Plantation and Carbon Sequestration Initiatives

The Institution shall work towards progressively reducing its carbon footprint and supporting long-term carbon neutrality goals.

11. GREEN AUDIT AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT

The Institution shall conduct periodic Green Audits and Environmental Audits to evaluate environmental performance and sustainability initiatives.

The audits may assess:

- Energy Consumption
- Water Usage
- Waste Management Practices
- Carbon Emissions
- Green Cover and Biodiversity
- Environmental Compliance
- Sustainable Resource Utilization

Recommendations arising from audits shall be incorporated into institutional planning and improvement initiatives.

12. DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCE

The Institution shall establish a comprehensive disaster management framework to ensure preparedness, response, recovery, and resilience.

The framework shall address:

- Natural Disasters
- Fire Incidents
- Flooding
- Cyclones
- Earthquakes
- Chemical Hazards
- Electrical Accidents
- Public Health Emergencies
- Other Emergencies Affecting Campus Operations

Emergency response plans shall be periodically reviewed and updated.

12.1 Emergency Preparedness

The Institution shall:

- Conduct Risk Assessments.
- Develop Emergency Response Procedures.
- Establish Communication Mechanisms.
- Maintain Emergency Resources and Equipment.
- Conduct Mock Drills and Simulations.
- Train Stakeholders in Emergency Response.

12.2 Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity

The Institution shall establish measures to ensure continuity of critical academic, administrative, and support services during emergencies.

Appropriate recovery plans shall be developed for:

- Infrastructure Restoration
- Information Technology Systems
- Academic Operations
- Student Support Services
- Essential Utilities

13. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION

The Institution shall promote environmental consciousness through:

- Awareness Campaigns
- Workshops and Seminars
- Green Clubs and Eco Groups
- Community Outreach Programmes
- Sustainability Projects
- Student Participation Initiatives

All stakeholders shall be encouraged to actively contribute to sustainability efforts.

14. GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The implementation of this Policy shall be overseen by:

- Executive Council
- Vice-Chancellor
- Registrar
- Director Administration
- Green Campus and Sustainability Committee
- Environmental Audit Committee
- Energy Management Committee
- Disaster Management Committee
- Heads of Schools and Departments
- Estate and Maintenance Department

These authorities shall ensure effective implementation, monitoring, review, and continual improvement of sustainability and resilience initiatives.

15. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Green Campus and Sustainability Committee

The Committee shall:

- Coordinate sustainability initiatives.
- Monitor environmental performance.
- Recommend improvement measures.
- Promote awareness programmes.

Disaster Management Committee

The Committee shall:

- Develop emergency preparedness plans.
- Coordinate emergency response activities.
- Conduct mock drills and safety reviews.
- Monitor disaster risk reduction initiatives.

Schools, Departments and Centres

They shall:

- Promote environmental responsibility.
- Support sustainability initiatives.

- Ensure compliance with this Policy.

Students, Faculty and Staff

All stakeholders shall:

- Utilize resources responsibly.
- Follow environmental and safety guidelines.
- Participate in sustainability programmes.
- Report environmental and safety concerns.

16. MONITORING, COMPLIANCE AND REPORTING

The Institution shall establish mechanisms for:

- Environmental Performance Monitoring
- Sustainability Reporting
- Green Audit Reviews
- Energy Audit Reviews
- Waste Management Assessments
- Compliance Verification

Corrective and preventive actions shall be implemented wherever required.

Issued by

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