

Sustainable Development Goal - 15 Report 2024







Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.



Life on Land Biodiversity Deforestation Conservation Ecosystems

## " Introduction "

Galgotias University, set on a lush 52-acre green campus, champions SDG 15: Life on Land by prioritizing biodiversity and sustainability. The university integrates eco-friendly practices, including tree plantations, plastic-free initiatives, and organic orchards, creating a living laboratory for sustainability education. Events like the 4th World Environment Summit and biodiversity seminars inspire conservation efforts, raising awareness of India's unique flora and fauna. The School of Agriculture offers hands-on training in organic farming and beekeeping, while research initiatives explore medicinal plants in Doon Valley, floriculture challenges in Himachal Pradesh, and nanotechnology for ecofriendly biodiesel. With initiatives like the Biodiversity Park and 'Ek Ped, Desh Ka Vikaas,' Galgotias actively fosters research, innovation, and action, driving a greener and sustainable future.

### Organic Farming Training and Setup in Kanarsa Kanarsi

This May, Galgotias University, in collaboration with the All India Agricultural Students Association-Uttar Pradesh (AIASA-UP), organized an organic farming training program in Kanarsa Kanarsi. The initiative aimed to educate local farmers on sustainable agricultural practices, including the production of eco-friendly inputs like Jeevamrit, vermicompost, and vermiwash. As part of this effort, an organic product setup was established, managed by Farmer's Friend, a startup by agriculture students, with financial support from both institutions. Located on the farm of progressive farmer Mr. Jeet Ram Singh, the project provides hands-on training and practical implementation of organic farming methods, fostering sustainability and empowering farmers. This collaboration promotes ecosystem restoration and serves as a replicable model for other regions.

## "Galgotias University Campus Initiatives"

## Sustainable Campus Landscaping

Galgotias University embraces sustainable landscaping practices to support SDG 15: Life on Land. By incorporating drought-tolerant plants like native grasses and succulents, the campus minimizes water consumption while promoting biodiversity. These resilient plants thrive in local conditions, reducing the need for irrigation and chemical fertilizers. The initiative preserves soil health, enhances green cover, and provides habitats for local fauna, contributing to a balanced ecosystem. Through sustainable landscaping, the university fosters environmental stewardship, demonstrating how thoughtful plant selection and resource-efficient practices can protect terrestrial ecosystems and promote harmony with nature.

## Galgotias Leads Tree Plantation Drive for Greener Tomorrow

On International Worker's Day, Galgotias University organized a significant tree plantation drive, planting over 750 saplings across the campus to promote environmental sustainability and enhance its green cover. The event aimed to foster environmental awareness and encourage active participation from the university community.Faculty members, students, staff, and National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets enthusiastically joined hands to plant native tree species. The drive began with an inspiring address by a distinguished professor from a premier institute and an IEEE Fellow, who emphasized the critical role of trees in combating climate change, improving air quality, and supporting biodiversity.Participants worked in designated areas under the guidance of the horticulture team, planting trees while learning about sustainable practices. Interactive sessions underscored the benefits of afforestation, and refreshments provided a welcoming and collaborative environment. This impactful initiative reflected the university's commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable

### Soil Testing for Farmers of Nearby Villages

On World Environment Day 2024, Galgotias University provided free soil testing services to 40 farmers from Gautam Budh Nagar, promoting "Ecosystem Restoration." Led by the School of Agriculture, the initiative offered soil health insights to farmers from villages like Falaida, Kanarsa, and Junaidpur. Outreach through village sarpanches and WhatsApp connected with 650 farmers. The initiative, aimed at promoting sustainable farming practices, was widely appreciated and reflects the university's commitment to ecosystem restoration and supporting local agriculture.

2

Galgotias University addressed issues related to SDG 15 by promoting sustainable agriculture, reducing plastic pollution, enhancing soil health, and fostering biodiversity through community engagement and innovative solutions.



# Galgotias' Green Initiative - Harvesting Rain, Sustaining Life

Galaotias University actively contributes to SDG 15: Life on Land by implementing a robust rainwater harvesting (RWH) system. This initiative enhances water conservation, supports biodiversity, and mitigates environmental degradation. The system includes rooftop and surface rainwater collection, gutters, downspouts, and advanced filtration units, ensuring efficient rainwater capture and storage for non-potable uses such as irrigation and toilet flushing.Recharge pits and permeable surfaces facilitate groundwater replenishment, combating depletion and fostering ecological balance. By integrating RWH into its campus design, the university reduces dependency on freshwater resources and promotes sustainable resource management. This initiative also raises environmental awareness among the university community, fostering a culture of responsibility toward preserving natural ecosystems and supporting long-term land sustainability.

### " Study on Sustainability at Galgotias University "

## Programs -

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Environmental Sciences, M.Sc. in Sustainability Courses offered -G1UA401C - Construction Engineering G1UA401B - Geotechnical Engineering G1UA402B - Remote Sensing & Geographical Information System BCE01T3503 - Water Supply & Treatment Systems MTPE5002 - Highway Geometric Design MTPE5003 - Traffic Engineering and Safety MTPE5004 - Intelligent Transportation Systems A1UA205B -Fundamentals of Soil Science A1UA104B - Introduction to Forestry A1UA203B - Soil and Water Conservation Engineering A1UA410B - Problematic Soils and their Management ARI3002 - Manures, Fertilizers and Soil Fertility Management AGRI3018 - Principles of Organic Farming AGRI4007 - Mushroom Cultivation Technology AGRI4016 - Agriculture Waste Management AGRI4017 - Organic Production Technology AGRON505 - Conservation Agriculture

### Galgotias' Green Initiative - Harvesting Rain, Sustaining Life

On Earth Day 2024, Galgotias University organized a Model Making Competition by the School of Agriculture, focusing on "Planet vs Plastics and Integrated Farming System." The event aimed to raise awareness about plastic pollution and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Students showcased innovative models addressing the harmful effects of plastic on ecosystems and human health, while also presenting solutions like biodegradable packaging and recycling initiatives. Additionally, they highlighted integrated farming practices, such as organic farming and agroforestry, that support biodiversity and sustainable land management. The competition reinforced Galgotias University's commitment to environmental sustainability and SDG 15: Life on Land.



## Zero Waste Campus: Promoting Sustainable Waste Management

Galgotias University's "Zero Waste Campus" initiative, aligned with SDG 15 (Life on Land), focuses on reducing waste generation and promoting sustainability. The program encourages effective waste segregation, with distinct categories for recyclables, organic waste, non-recyclables, and hazardous waste. By raising awareness through workshops and digital campaigns, the initiative educates students, staff, and faculty on responsible waste management practices. The campus has implemented strategic infrastructure, including color-coded waste segregation bins, composting stations, and recycling units. Engagement is incentivized with a rewards program, and competitions foster community participation. The initiative also features collaborations with local waste management firms to ensure proper recycling and composting. Results include increased recycling rates, reduced landfill waste, and heightened sustainability awareness among the campus community. This initiative not only helps conserve natural resources but also supports the broader goal of ecosystem restoration and environmental stewardship.