

Assessment of Sustainability Literacy and Knowledge Among Academic and Professional Staff

Institution: Amity University Madhya Pradesh (AUMP), Gwalior

Assessment Year: 2024–2025

Submission for: QS Sustainability Rankings 2025

Category: Environmental Impact – Sustainability Literacy Assessment

Purpose of the Assessment

As part of AUMP's commitment to advancing sustainable practices and achieving global benchmarking through QS Sustainability Rankings 2025, an institutional survey was conducted to measure the sustainability knowledge and literacy of all academic and professional staff.

Assessment Tool

An online Google Form was created and disseminated to gather data on the awareness and understanding of sustainability principles and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations. The survey also aimed to assess the initiatives that AUMP should undertake to achieve sustainability among university staff.

Form link: <https://forms.gle/91pwTVGnYfQdhyz57>

Participation Details

Participants: Faculty and Office Staff (Academic and Professional)

Mode: Online via Google Forms

Total Respondents: 385

Question Wise Summary of Survey Responses

Section 1: Understanding of Sustainability Concepts

Question 1: What does "sustainability" mean to you?

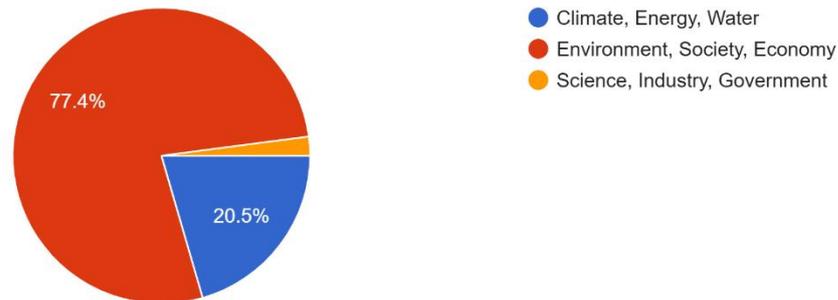
The responses from 385 faculty and staff members at Amity University Madhya Pradesh reflect a robust understanding of sustainability, with a majority expressing nuanced awareness of its environmental, social, and economic dimensions. Overall, the responses indicate that sustainability is not just a conceptual term but a recognized and valued principle within the institutional culture. The feedback suggests that most staff understand sustainability as both a practical responsibility and a moral obligation, aligning closely with the university's green mission.

This conclusion affirms AUMP’s readiness to deepen its sustainability initiatives, supported by a community that is both aware and motivated to engage in sustainable development goals.

Question 2:

Which of the following best represents the "three pillars of sustainability"?

385 responses



The responses from 385 faculty and staff members reveals a strong understanding among respondents regarding the foundational concept of sustainability. A majority of 77.4% correctly identified the three core pillars of sustainability as Environment, Society, and Economy—a widely accepted model that emphasizes a holistic approach to sustainable development.

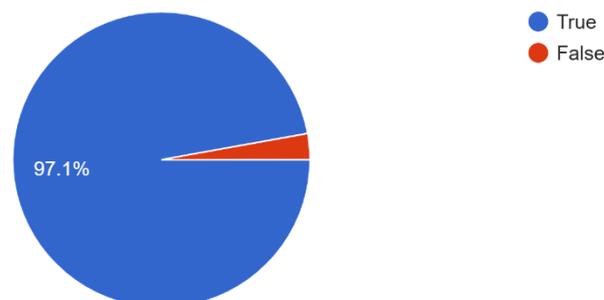
Key Takeaways:

- Most respondents (over three-fourths) have a clear grasp of the standard sustainability framework.
- A small portion would benefit from targeted awareness campaigns or training to reinforce the foundational principles.

Question 3:

Climate change is primarily caused by human activities

385 responses



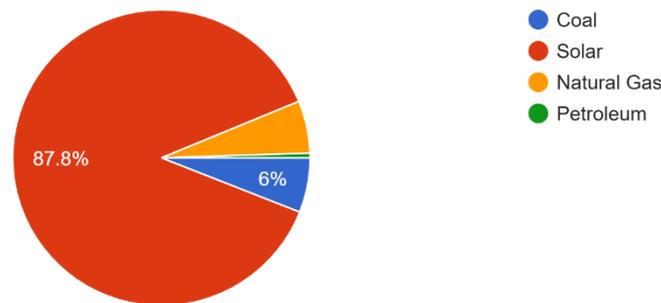
The responses present a resounding consensus among the respondents, with 97.1% agreeing that climate change is primarily driven by human activities. This level of awareness provides a strong foundation for promoting sustainable practices and climate action at the institutional level.

The results affirm that the majority of AUMP’s academic community recognizes human responsibility in climate change, which is essential for fostering a campus culture that supports climate-positive initiatives, sustainable behaviour, and proactive environmental policies.

Question 4:

Which of the following is a renewable resource?

385 responses



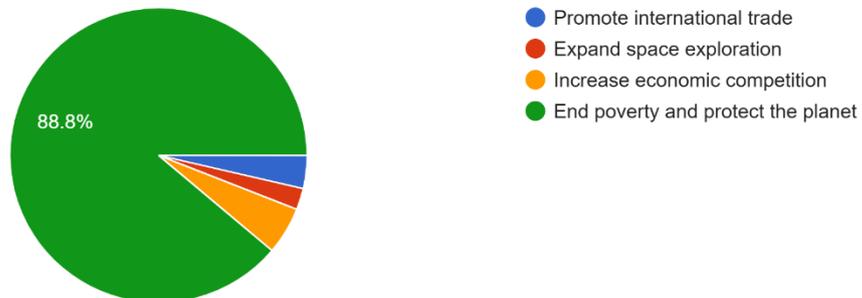
Most respondents—87.8%—correctly identified Solar as a renewable resource. The high percentage of correct answers shows that most respondents have a sound understanding of what qualifies as a renewable energy source. This insight presents an excellent opportunity for integrating more sustainability and energy literacy modules into faculty development programs and student curricula.

The responses demonstrate that a majority of the AUMP community is well-informed about renewable resources. However, focused awareness drives or workshops can help clarify lingering confusion about energy categories—particularly as sustainable energy use becomes more crucial in academic, policy, and practical domains.

Question 5:

What is the primary goal of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

385 responses



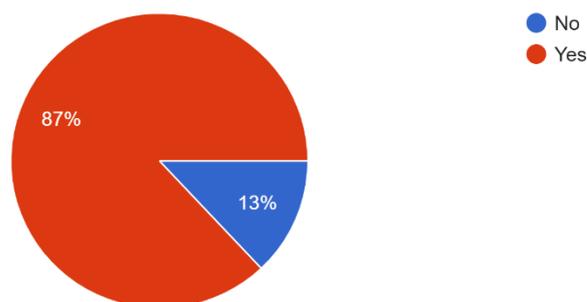
A significant 88.8% of respondents correctly identified "End poverty and protect the planet" as the primary goal of the SDGs. This strong majority indicates a high level of awareness and understanding of the core mission of the SDGs among participants.

Section 2: Awareness of Institutional Sustainability Initiatives

Question 6:

Are you aware of any sustainability policies or practices implemented by our university?

385 responses

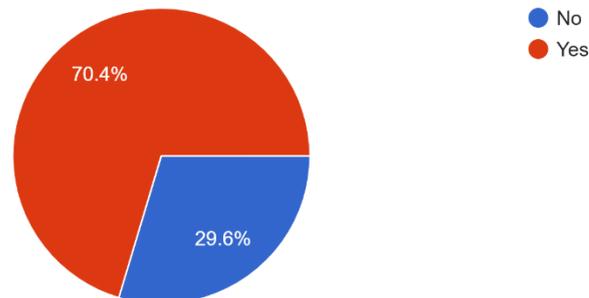


A strong 87% of participants responded "Yes", indicating they are aware of sustainability policies or practices implemented by the university. The majority of respondents are aware of the university's sustainability initiatives. Strengthening communication strategies can help ensure full community engagement in the university's sustainability journey.

Question 7:

Have you participated in any sustainability-related events, training, or campaigns at the university?

385 responses



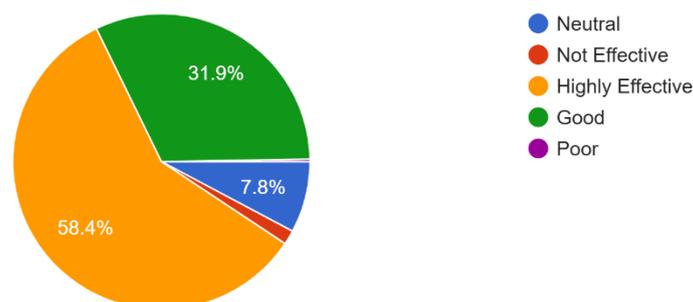
Based on the survey, most respondents (70.4%) have participated in sustainability-related events, training, or campaigns at the university, while 29.6% have not.

This data indicates a strong level of engagement among the university staff or students in sustainability initiatives, highlighting the effectiveness of existing programs. However, with nearly one-third of participants not involved, there remains an opportunity to expand outreach and increase participation through awareness campaigns and inclusive activities.

Question 8:

How effective do you think the university is in promoting sustainability among staff and students?

385 responses



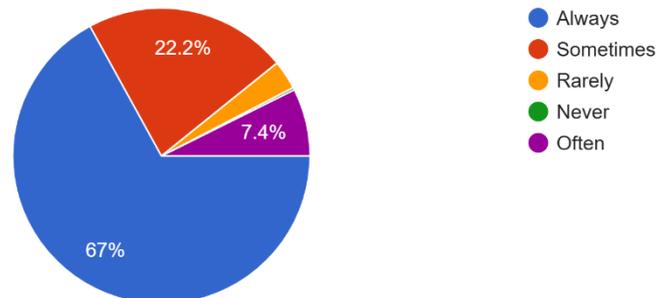
According to the survey, most respondents (58.4%) perceive the university's efforts in promoting sustainability among staff and students as highly effective. Additionally, 31.9% rated the efforts as good, while only 7.8% remained neutral and a very small portion rated it as not effective or poor.

The data indicates a largely positive perception of the university's sustainability initiatives, with nearly 90% of respondents acknowledging the effectiveness of these efforts. This suggests that the university is on the right track but can still enhance its strategies to engage the remaining neutral or less satisfied participants.

Question 9:

Does your department integrate sustainable practices in its daily operations?

379 responses



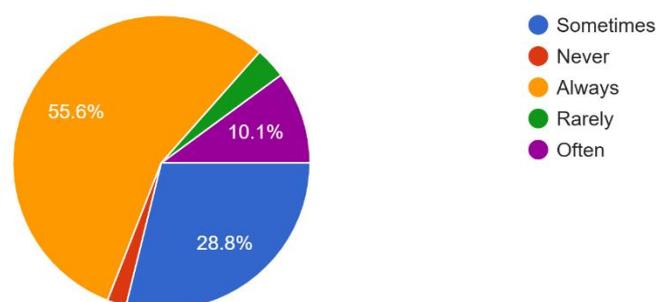
Based on the survey, a majority of respondents (67%) indicated that their department always integrates sustainable practices into its daily operations. Additionally, 22.2% responded with sometimes, while smaller percentages reported often (7.4%) and rarely (3.4%). Notably, no responses indicated that departments never adopt sustainable practices.

The results demonstrate a strong commitment to sustainability at the departmental level, with most departments consistently incorporating sustainable practices. However, there is still room to enhance consistency and frequency among those departments that only sometimes or rarely engage in such practices.

Question 10:

Are sustainability topics discussed during staff meetings or departmental planning?

385 responses



The final survey insight reveals that 55.6% of respondents indicated sustainability topics are always discussed during staff meetings or departmental planning, while 28.8% said it happens sometimes. A smaller portion noted such discussions occur often (10.1%), while only a few reported rarely or never.

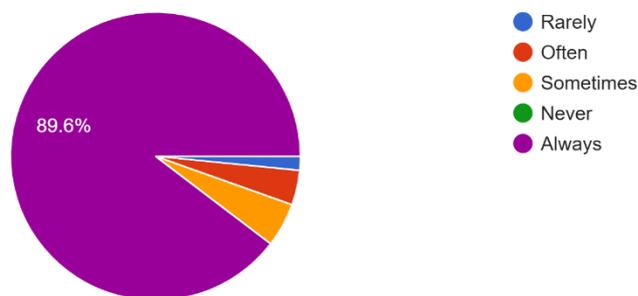
These findings demonstrate a proactive approach by AUMP departments in integrating sustainability into administrative and planning processes. Combined with high levels of participation and positive perceptions of sustainability efforts, this positions AUMP well on its journey toward achieving institutional sustainability goals and contributing meaningfully to the global agenda.

Section 3: Personal Behaviour and Practices

Question 11:

Do you regularly switch off lights and equipment when not in use?

385 responses



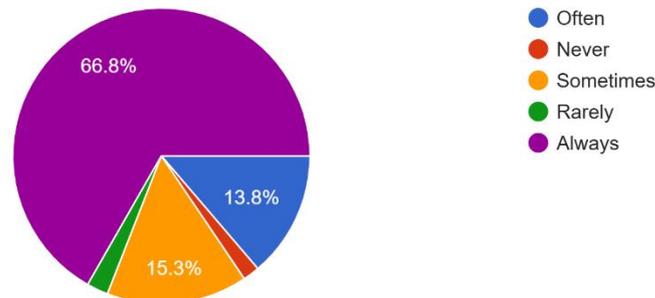
The chart illustrates the staff members' everyday sustainable behaviours, particularly with regard to energy conservation. There is a strong individual culture of environmental responsibility, as evidenced by the overwhelming majority of respondents (89.6%) who stated that they always turn off lights and equipment when not in use. Fewer respondents chose "sometimes," "often," or "rarely," with almost none choosing "never."

Staff members' admirable personal dedication to sustainability is demonstrated by this behaviour, which also supports AUMP's larger institutional initiatives for environmental stewardship. When implemented uniformly throughout the university, these proactive practices greatly lessen the campus's carbon footprint and support the objectives of the QS Sustainability Rankings 2025.

Question 12:

How often do you use digital alternatives to reduce paper usage?

385 responses



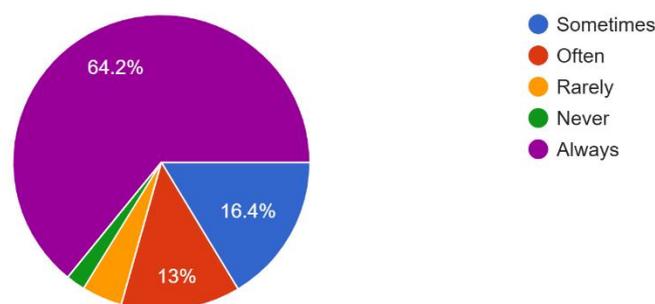
The chart shows how staff members are using digital alternatives to cut down on paper usage. 13.8% of respondents said they frequently use digital tools instead of paper, compared to a noteworthy 66.8% who said they always do so. Just a small portion said they never used digital alternatives, while smaller percentages said they did so occasionally (15.3%) and infrequently (3.1%).

These results show that AUMP has made progress toward paperless operations, demonstrating awareness and action in accordance with worldwide sustainability trends. The university's objective of creating an environmentally friendly campus is supported by the extensive use of digital resources.

Question 13:

Do you segregate waste into recyclable and non-recyclable categories?

385 responses

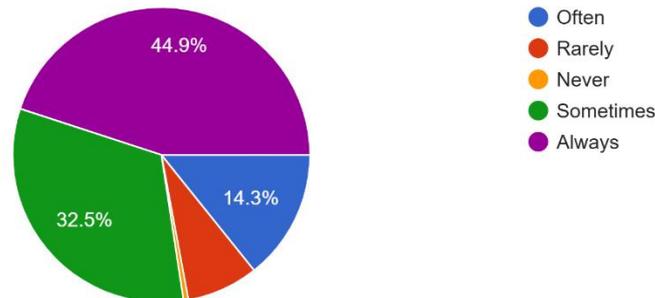


The sustainability projects that participants most frequently suggested are shown in the chart. The majority cited the installation of solar panels and other renewable energy sources as the top recommendation. Subsequently, recommendations were made to eradicate plastic use on campus, enforce stronger waste segregation regulations, and plant more trees. Additionally, a sizable portion of responses highlighted sustainability workshops and awareness campaigns.

This suggests that the community is cognizant of sustainability's behavioural and infrastructure components. While the emphasis on awareness reflects a push toward shifting mindsets and long-term cultural shifts at AUMP, the focus on renewable energy and greenery shows a desire for noticeable, long-lasting environmental changes.

Question 14:

Do you use sustainable transport (walking, cycling, carpooling, public transport)?
385 responses



High Commitment to Sustainable Transport

Nearly half (44.9%) of respondents reported that they "Always" use sustainable transport. This is a strong indicator of environmentally conscious behaviour among the participants. It suggests that sustainable commuting methods like walking, biking, and public transport are accessible and integrated into their daily lives.

Sustainable transportation options are becoming more and more popular. The locals appear to be cognizant of how their commutes affect the environment. The difference between "Sometimes" and "Always," however, suggests that there is potential to increase usage frequency through better infrastructure, incentives, or awareness.

Question 15:

Have you undertaken any personal initiatives to reduce your carbon footprint? Please describe.

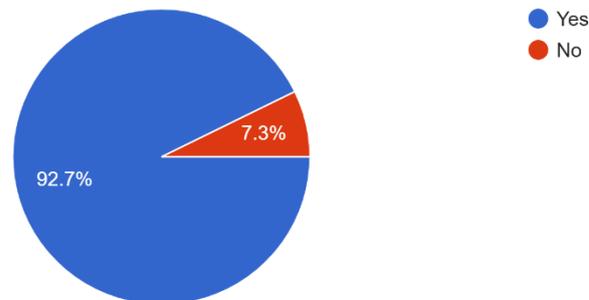
The respondents illustrate the personal actions that AUMP employees are taking to lessen their carbon footprints. Using reusable items like bottles and bags and planting trees were mentioned by a sizable portion of respondents. Additionally, many have switched from driving cars on campus to walking or bicycling. While some highlighted using digital tools to go paperless, many mentioned initiatives to decrease single-use plastics. Actions like composting, waste segregation, and awareness campaigns within their circles were reported by fewer but still noteworthy respondents.

Training Needs and Attitudes

Question 16:

Would you be interested in attending a workshop or course on sustainability practices?

385 responses



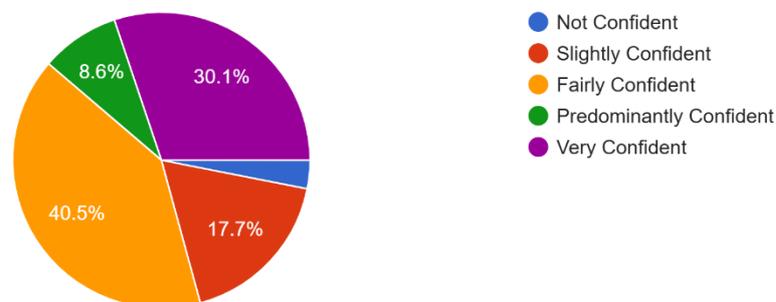
The graph indicates a high desire to take part in workshops or classes with a sustainability focus. The vast majority of respondents said "yes," indicating a desire to learn more about sustainable practices and how they might be used on campus or in daily life. A smaller group gave the response "Maybe," suggesting interest but reliant on variables like workload, timing, and the relevance of the content. Very few respondents said "no," usually citing a lack of time or prior knowledge.

This pattern indicates a definite need for educational opportunities related to sustainability. It implies that the university community is open to actively expanding their knowledge and abilities in addition to being conscious of the significance of environmental responsibility.

Question 17:

How confident are you in explaining sustainability concepts to others?

385 responses



The graph shows respondents' differing degrees of confidence in their ability to articulate sustainability concepts. A significant percentage (roughly 45–50%) said they are only moderately confident, indicating a rudimentary comprehension of sustainability concepts but a need for more explanation or nuance. About 30% said they were extremely confident,

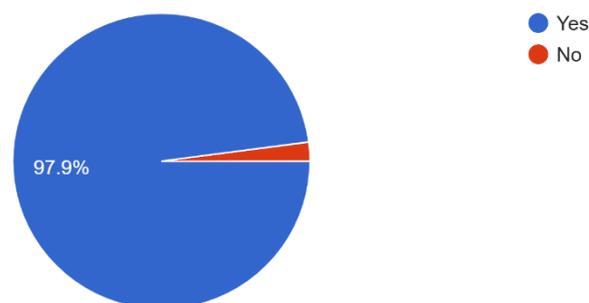
demonstrating a firm understanding of the subject. Conversely, a smaller percentage (roughly 15–20%) acknowledged that they were unsure or had only a hazy understanding.

According to this data, even though a sizable portion of the AUMP workforce is knowledgeable about sustainability, there is still opportunity for improvement in terms of communication and depth of understanding. Few are prepared to take the lead or sway others, but most believe they can have a general discussion about the subject.

Question 18:

Do you think sustainability should be a part of staff orientation/training?

385 responses



There is broad support for incorporating sustainability into staff training programs, as seen in the chart. Most respondents concurred that this kind of training would give employees the skills and information they need to incorporate eco-friendly practices into their everyday work. While some respondents voiced concerns about implementation time or resources, a smaller group believed it would help staff set an example for students.

These answers demonstrate a strong conviction in the role that leadership and education can play in promoting sustainability.

Question 19: In your opinion, what is the biggest sustainability challenge facing the university?

The survey indicates the top challenges faced in advancing sustainability on campus.

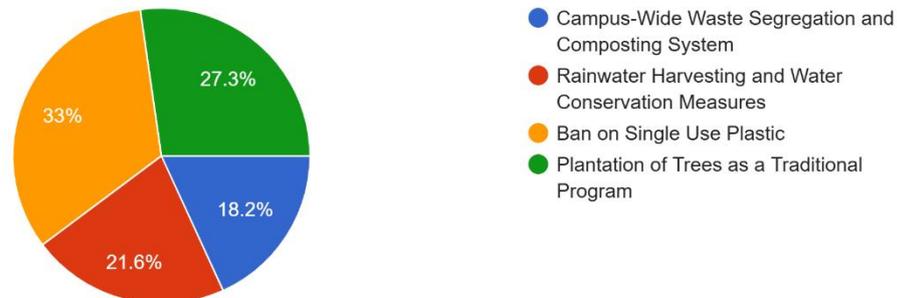
Inconsistent enforcement of eco-policies, continued use of plastic, limited student involvement, and lack of awareness were frequently mentioned. A few responses highlighted energy overconsumption and poor waste segregation practices.

This points to a need for better policy execution, increased awareness, and cultural change. While structural efforts exist, behaviour change, and community participation remain critical barriers that must be addressed to make sustainability efforts more effective and lasting.

Question 20:

Which of the following sustainability practices would you recommend the university to implement?

385 responses



Among the 385 respondents, the most recommended sustainability practice for the university to implement is a Ban on Single Use Plastic, with 33% of the votes. This is closely followed by the Plantation of Trees as a Traditional Program at 27.3%, indicating strong support for nature-based solutions.

Rainwater Harvesting and Water Conservation Measures received 21.6%, showing moderate interest, while Campus-Wide Waste Segregation and Composting System was the least preferred, with 18.2%.

The survey results suggest that faculty and staff members prioritize immediate and impactful actions like banning single-use plastics and tree plantation. These findings can guide the university in setting sustainability priorities based on professionals' recommendations.

Question 21:

What suggestions do you have for improving sustainability practices on campus?

Energy and Resource Efficiency

- Promote the use of renewable energy sources such as solar panels on rooftops and solar-powered streetlights.
- Encourage energy-efficient lighting (LEDs) and automatic light sensors in classrooms and offices.
- Implement water-saving systems like dual flush toilets, rainwater harvesting, and water sensors.
- Introduce smart metering to monitor and reduce electricity and water usage.

2. Waste Management and Reduction

- Minimize food waste by promoting portion control and reusing surplus food through donation programs.

- Set up waste segregation bins across campus for biodegradable, recyclable, and hazardous waste.
- Encourage paperless work by using digital platforms for assignments, notes, and notices.

3. Green Campus Initiatives

- Organize regular tree plantation drives and adopt-a-tree programs.
- Develop and maintain green zones and biodiversity parks on campus.
- Promote organic gardening and composting of biodegradable waste.

4. Plastic-Free Campus

- Ban single-use plastics in cafeterias, vending machines, and during events.
- Promote reusable alternatives like steel/glass bottles, cloth bags, and biodegradable cutlery.
- Set up awareness campaigns on the harmful effects of plastic pollution.

Alignment with QS Indicators

This activity directly contributes to the Environmental Impact category in the QS Rankings:

“Does your institution have an assessment tool for assessing sustainability literacy and knowledge of all staff (Academic and Professional)?”

 **Answer: YES**

Conclusion of the Survey Report

The sustainability literacy survey conducted at Amity University Madhya Pradesh marks a significant step toward institutionalizing sustainable thinking and practices across campus. The responses revealed:

- High awareness of sustainability and SDGs among staff.
- A strong interest in further training and participation in sustainable initiatives.
- Positive perception of AUMP’s green efforts, though with constructive feedback for improvement.

- Importantly, this assessment reflects AUMP's dedication to fostering a culture of environmental responsibility. The university acknowledges the need for continuous development in this area and commits to regular assessments, enhanced training modules, and broader staff engagement in future green initiatives.

Future Commitment

- Institutionalize sustainability training as part of staff induction.
- Conduct this survey biannually to track progress.
- Launch workshops, webinars, and green campus drives guided by survey feedback.
- Integrate sustainability across academic curricula and administrative policies.

Sustainability Literacy and Knowledge Survey – Amity University Madhya Pradesh, Gwalior

This survey aims to assess the sustainability literacy, awareness, and practices among staff members of the university. Your responses will remain confidential and will help in enhancing sustainability initiatives on campus.

* Indicates required question

1. Name *

2. E-mail *

3. Department *

4. School/Institute *

Section 1: Understanding of Sustainability Concepts

5. What does "sustainability" mean to you? *

6. Which of the following best represents the "three pillars of sustainability"? *

Mark only one oval.

- Climate, Energy, Water
- Environment, Society, Economy
- Science, Industry, Government

7. Climate change is primarily caused by human activities *

Mark only one oval.

- True
- False

8. Which of the following is a renewable resource? *

Mark only one oval.

- Coal
- Solar
- Natural Gas
- Petroleum

9. What is the primary goal of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? *

Mark only one oval.

- Promote international trade
- Expand space exploration
- Increase economic competition
- End poverty and protect the planet

Awareness of Institutional Sustainability Initiatives

10. Are you aware of any sustainability policies or practices implemented by our university? *

Mark only one oval.

- No
- Yes

11. Have you participated in any sustainability-related events, training, or campaigns at the university? *

Mark only one oval.

- No
- Yes

12. How effective do you think the university is in promoting sustainability among staff ^{*} and students?

Mark only one oval.

- Neutral
- Not Effective
- Highly Effective
- Good
- Poor

13. Does your department integrate sustainable practices in its daily operations?

Mark only one oval.

- Always
- Sometimes
- Rarely
- Never
- Often

14. Are sustainability topics discussed during staff meetings or departmental planning? ^{*}

Mark only one oval.

- Sometimes
- Never
- Always
- Rarely
- Often

15.

Mark only one oval. Option 1**Personal Behavior and Practices**

16. Do you regularly switch off lights and equipment when not in use? *

Mark only one oval. Rarely Often Sometimes Never Always

17. How often do you use digital alternatives to reduce paper usage? *

Mark only one oval. Often Never Sometimes Rarely Always

18. Do you segregate waste into recyclable and non-recyclable categories? *

Mark only one oval.

- Sometimes
- Often
- Rarely
- Never
- Always

19. Do you use sustainable transport (walking, cycling, carpooling, public transport)? *

Mark only one oval.

- Often
- Rarely
- Never
- Sometimes
- Always

20. Have you undertaken any personal initiatives to reduce your carbon footprint? *
Please describe.

Training Needs and Attitudes

21. Would you be interested in attending a workshop or course on sustainability practices? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

22. How confident are you in explaining sustainability concepts to others? *

Mark only one oval.

Not Confident

Slightly Confident

Fairly Confident

Predominantly Confident

Very Confident

23. Do you think sustainability should be a part of staff orientation/training? *

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

24. In your opinion, what is the biggest sustainability challenge facing the university? *

25. Which of the following sustainability practices would you recommend the university to implement? *

Mark only one oval.

- Campus-Wide Waste Segregation and Composting System
- Rainwater Harvesting and Water Conservation Measures
- Ban on Single Use Plastic
- Plantation of Trees as a Traditional Program

26. What suggestions do you have for improving sustainability practices on campus? *

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

