

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



17.2.1 Does your university have direct involvement in, or input into, national government or regional non government organisations SDG policy development - including identifying problems and challenges, developing policies and strategies, modeling likely futures with and without interventions, monitoring and reporting on interventions, and enabling adaptive management?

Involvement in National and Regional SDG Policy Development

Manav Rachna University (MRU) actively participates in SDG policy development at both the national and regional levels. This direct involvement includes identifying challenges, developing strategies, creating frameworks, and monitoring interventions related to sustainable development. By collaborating with renowned organizations and co-hosting international conferences, MRU contributes to shaping SDG policies and adapting them to address contemporary issues.

Identifying Problems and Challenges for SDGs

MRU, in partnership with the Institute of Peace and Research Action (IPRA), works toward identifying key challenges and obstacles to achieving SDGs. This collaboration focuses on sustainability issues relevant to both the national and regional contexts, enabling the university to engage in discussions that address these challenges at policy forums throughout the year. These discussions provide insight into emerging problems and encourage innovative solutions.



Developing Policies and Strategies for Sustainability

MRU contributes to policy development and strategic planning for SDGs, particularly through its involvement in the New Delhi Declaration and the Leadership Conference Indo-Pacific, held from April 11-13, 2023. During this event, MRU collaborated with global leaders to present the New Delhi Declaration, which outlines a comprehensive policy framework for sustainable peace and environmental conservation. The declaration includes specific initiatives, such as:

1. **Establishing Peace Hubs and Youth-Led Peace Clubs:** These platforms foster youth leadership and community engagement, encouraging young individuals to contribute to peace and SDG initiatives.
2. **Promoting a Service-Oriented Lifestyle:** Encouraging community service as a lifestyle choice to create a compassionate and interconnected society.
3. **Strengthening Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations:** Building networks with civil organizations to amplify the impact of SDG efforts and enable more extensive community outreach.

Modeling Likely Futures with and without Interventions

The New Delhi Declaration and the Leadership Conference Indo-Pacific facilitated discussions on projecting future scenarios based on the presence or absence of sustainable interventions. By co-hosting this conference, MRU helped model these potential futures, emphasizing the importance of timely interventions for peace and environmental sustainability. Through these dialogues, MRU contributed to creating foresight models to guide future SDG efforts.

Monitoring and Reporting on Interventions

MRU actively monitors the impact of its initiatives through partnerships and collaborative projects. The New Delhi Declaration’s initiatives, including grassroots environmental conservation strategies, are continually reviewed to assess their effectiveness in achieving the intended outcomes. The Leadership Conference Indo-Pacific’s forum allows MRU to report on the progress of its peace and sustainability efforts, reinforcing accountability and adaptive management in the implementation of SDGs.



Gather to Discuss Innovative Ways to Foster Peace



AMBASSADOR VIJAY NAMBIAR

MR. JAMES P. FLYNN

AMBASSADOR VIRENDRA GUPTA



SWAMI CHIDANAND SARASWATI

DR. VIKRANT TOMAR

PADMA SHRI AGUS INDRA



DR. BINNY SAREEN

DR. MARSUDI SYUHUD

SRI M, FOUNDER OF SATSANG FOUNDATION

Enabling Adaptive Management

To ensure flexibility and responsiveness in its SDG initiatives, MRU fosters adaptive management practices. Through its partnership with IPRA and other organizations, the

university participates in ongoing discussions, gathers feedback, and makes necessary adjustments to its approaches. This adaptive strategy enables MRU to respond effectively to evolving challenges in sustainability and policy implementation.

Collaboration for Mental Health and Well-being (SDG 3)

MRU's commitment to SDG 3, Good Health and Well-being, is reflected in its collaborations with organizations like The Art of Living, Brahma Kumaris, and Heartfulness. These partnerships involve:

1. **Sessions and Trainings on Mental Health:** Workshops and training sessions, conducted in collaboration with The Art of Living and Brahma Kumaris, focus on enhancing mental health and reducing stress for students and the community. Dr. Binny Sarin, a member of the MRU Advisory Board, provides expert guidance in promoting inner peace and well-being.
 2. **Heartfulness for Campus Wellness:** MRU's partnership with Heartfulness includes sessions that equip students with life skills and environmental awareness. Students also engage in training programs and conferences in Hyderabad to discuss mental health and sustainable development goals with peers from other universities.
-

Grassroots Environmental Conservation and International Engagement

MRU's environmental initiatives also extend to grassroots levels, supporting local conservation efforts while promoting global engagement:

- **Grassroots Conservation Initiatives:** The New Delhi Declaration emphasizes the importance of grassroots environmental conservation, with MRU actively participating in scaling up these efforts through collaborations with civil society organizations.
 - **International Conferences:** MRU students participate in international conferences, engaging with students from other universities to discuss SDGs and sustainability strategies. These interactions enhance students' understanding of global issues and foster a collaborative approach to problem-solving.
-

Through these actions, MRU exemplifies how academic institutions can play a transformative role in SDG policy development and adaptive management, contributing to a sustainable future for both local and global communities.