



# SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES All SDG-11

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24



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# **Spreading the Joy of Christmas**

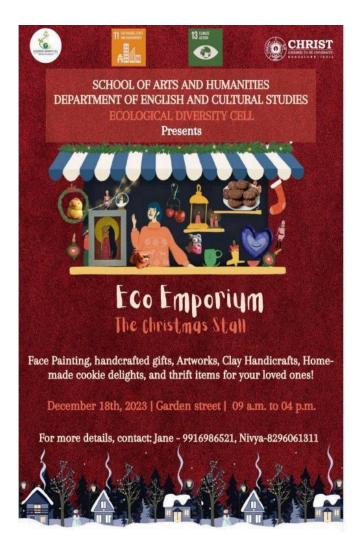
Venue: CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Central Campus

No. of Participants: 100

December 2023 to promote sustainable living and student entrepreneurship. The event showcased handmade and eco-friendly products, including wheat cookies, clay keychains, and natural deodorants, alongside thrifted clothes and books from Ullisu, a local sustainability-focused store. By encouraging reuse, waste reduction, and local production, the initiative reinforced the values of responsible consumption and community engagement central to SDG 11. The festive setup fostered social inclusivity and collaboration among students, faculty, and staff. Personalised Christmas wishes added warmth and strengthened community bonds. The activity not only celebrated the spirit of Christmas sustainably but also offered students hands-on experience in ethical business practices, teamwork, and green entrepreneurship, thereby contributing to building more conscious and sustainable urban communities.







# Lip balm and deodorant making workshop

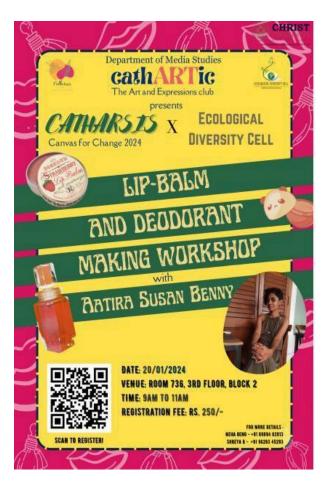
Venue: Room No. 736, 3rd floor, Block II

No. of Participants: 20

The Ecological Diversity Cell organised a hands-on workshop led by Ms Aatira Susan Benny, focusing on sustainable living and eco-friendly self-care practices. The session began with a discussion on the importance of conscious consumption and reducing chemical dependency in daily routines. Ms Benny demonstrated the process of creating natural lip balms and deodorants using easily available, biodegradable ingredients, showing how sustainability can be both accessible and affordable. Participants actively engaged in the demonstration and Q&A session, gaining practical knowledge of low-waste, DIY alternatives to commercial products. The workshop emphasised that small, mindful lifestyle changes collectively contribute to more sustainable and resilient communities—core to SDG 11. By inspiring students to adopt eco-conscious habits, the event encouraged responsible production, reduced waste, and strengthened awareness about individual roles in fostering sustainable urban living.







#### **SDG Week - Roundtable conference**

**Venue:** Central Block, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sky View

No. of Participants: 200

The Roundtable Conference, held on 13 February at Sky View, Central Block, as part of SDG Week, centred on the theme "SDG Crossroads: Planet, People, and Profit." The event brought together expert speakers who addressed pressing issues such as plastic and waste management, urban sustainability, and gender equality. Through interactive discussions, participants exchanged perspectives and shared innovative approaches to creating inclusive, environmentally responsible communities. The conference highlighted the vital connection between gender equity and sustainable development, emphasising women's leadership in driving environmental and social change. Attendees were encouraged to adopt eco-conscious practices and advocate for inclusive policies within their organisations. By integrating discussions on waste reduction, community resilience, and gender inclusion, the session embodied the principles of SDG 5 and SDG 11—promoting equitable, sustainable, and resilient societies through collaborative action and informed participation.







# ECOQUEST: A WORKSHOP EXPLORING 'R'S SUSTAINABILITY

Venue: CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Yeshwanthpur Campus No. of Participants: 52

The *Ecoquest Workshop* was an interactive and practical session designed to promote sustainable living and responsible waste management, aligning with SDG 11—Sustainable Cities and Communities. The event began with engaging icebreaker activities that fostered collaboration and openness among participants. This was followed by an awareness session highlighting the environmental and societal importance of proper waste management practices in urban settings. Participants gained hands-on experience in eco-friendly initiatives, including composting, bio-enzyme production, and techniques to reduce reliance on single-use plastics. These activities empowered attendees to adopt sustainable habits that minimise waste generation and promote cleaner, more resilient communities. Beyond skill-building, the workshop also strengthened the participants' sense of collective responsibility and community engagement, inspiring them to act as advocates for greener cities. Through education and practical action, the event successfully translated sustainability concepts into everyday practices.





# Sustainability Week promotional video screening

Venue: Room 604

No. of Participants: 260

As part of Sustainability Week (12–17 February 2024), the SDG Cell of CHRIST (Deemed to be University) organised the screening of the Sustainability Week Promotional Video across all classes of the English and Cultural Studies Department. Members of the SDG Cell led the initiative, raising awareness about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the importance of building sustainable communities. Students were also encouraged to participate in the department's Mini Sports Event to promote engagement and collaboration. The activity fostered environmental consciousness, community participation, and commitment to sustainability within the academic setting.



#### Santhe field visit

Venue: Ragi Kana Grounds, Gottigere

No. of Participants: 22

Students visited the *Santhe*, a sustainable market that promotes minimal waste and eco-conscious consumption. They interacted with local vendors to understand non-industrialised production and sustainable alternatives such as reusable cutlery and cloth, or paper bags. The visit highlighted how community-driven markets support responsible consumption and local livelihoods. Students also attended a session by Meghna from Baduku Samvada College on the gendered and caste histories of folk percussion music, exploring its cultural significance. The experience encouraged students to reflect on sustainability through economic, social, and cultural dimensions, fostering holistic awareness of sustainable community practices.





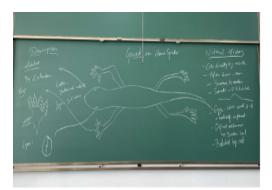


# Forests of life - Azim Premji University

**Venue:** Azim Premji University **No. of Participants:** 110 interns

The Forests of Life event, held at Azim Premji University on 5 November 2023, brought together diverse sessions exploring climate change, biodiversity, and cultural heritage. The exhibition featured over 110 interns from across India, showcasing regional displays under themes like Forests of Life, Forests of Action, Forests of Wonders, and Forests of Hope. Interactive sessions included a terrarium demonstration, documentary screening, and workshops on ecology, fungi, and naturalistic studies. The event emphasised the interconnection between communities and nature, highlighting sustainable practices and traditional ecological knowledge. Aligning with SDG 11, it promoted environmental awareness, cultural preservation, and collective responsibility toward building resilient and sustainable communities.





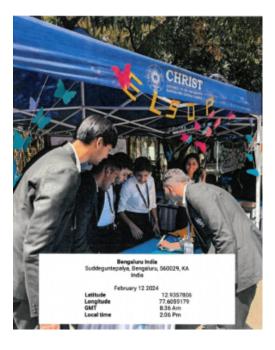


# **Exhibition Stall and awareness-creating activities**

Venue: Garden Street, Christ (Deemed to be University), Central Campus

No. of Participants: 170 visitors

The sustainability stall served as an interactive platform to raise awareness about eco-friendly practices and community participation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Featuring posters, charts, and engaging games like "Myth or Fact" and "Segregate the Waste", the stall encouraged visitors to think critically about waste management and sustainable living. An interactive tree decoration activity, where participants added thumbprints, symbolised collective responsibility toward environmental protection. Faculty and students actively engaged in discussions on sustainable habits and waste segregation. The initiative successfully fostered dialogue, collaboration, and shared responsibility for building sustainable communities—core to SDG 11's vision of inclusive, resilient, and environmentally conscious urban living.





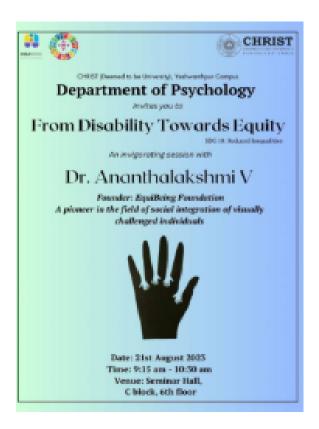
# From Disability Towards Equity by Dr Ananthalakshmi V

Venue: Seminar Hall No. of Participants: 120

Dr Ananthalakshmi, representing Equibeing, an NGO dedicated to promoting inclusivity and equality, addressed students on understanding and normalising interactions with persons with disabilities. Sharing personal experiences, the speaker highlighted how individuals with disabilities create their own paths to success and fulfilment despite societal challenges. The session encouraged empathy, awareness, and acceptance as essential aspects of community development. Dr Ananthalakshmi also shared volunteering opportunities with Equibeing, motivating students to actively contribute toward inclusivity initiatives. The talk aligned with SDG 11 by fostering social equity and emphasising the role of inclusivity and accessibility in building compassionate, sustainable, and resilient communities.







# Pre Vachana Event: Panel Discussion on Gender, Food, and Identity in Displaced Communities

Venue: Block A, Seminar Hall 2, CHRIST (Deemed to be

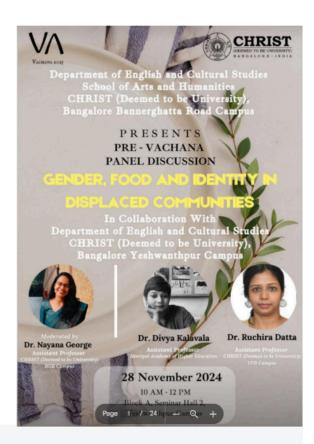
University), Yeshwanthpur Campus.

No. of Participants: 200

The Pre-Vachana Panel Discussion, moderated by Dr Nayana George, featured Dr Ruchira Datta and Dr Divya Kalavala exploring the intersections of food, culture, diaspora, gender, and caste. Dr Datta highlighted how the globalisation of packaged ethnic foods creates "distancing," empowering women in India financially while generating feelings of guilt among diaspora communities. Discussions drew on Tulasi Srinivas' *Masala Matters* to illustrate how convenience foods influence cultural connection and identity for second-generation immigrants. Dr Kalavala examined the role of language, migration, and urbanisation in shaping Dalit women's visibility and agency. Culinary practices, including acts of resistance like beef consumption, were discussed as expressions of identity and empowerment. The panel also addressed cultural authenticity, evolving diaspora identities, and how displaced communities reclaim heritage through food. Audience interactions reinforced the importance of representation, highlighting how gender, caste, and migration influence cultural narratives. Overall, the session offered nuanced insights into food as a medium for resistance, empowerment, and identity formation in globalised contexts.







# Cultural performance- Huli Vesha

Venue: Academic Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bannerghatta Road

Campus

No. of Participants: 300

On July 8, 2024, Christ University's BGR campus hosted a captivating Huli Vesha (Tiger Dance) performance to mark the commencement of the Ellipsis Association for 2024–2025 and inaugurate Carnival Week. Huli Vesha, a traditional folk dance from coastal Karnataka celebrated during Navaratri, features performers painted and dressed as tigers, showcasing agility, strength, grace, and majesty, accompanied by drummers and horn players ('kombugalu'). The Dulchendru group enthralled students with their energetic performance, illustrating the symbolic valour of the tiger and highlighting the region's rich cultural heritage. Beyond entertainment, the event fostered awareness of folk traditions, animal worship in mythology, and the importance of cultural appreciation. Students actively engaged with stalls and activities organised by the Ellipsis Association, gaining insight into various clubs and initiatives on campus. The immersive experience encouraged participation, cultural sensitivity, and holistic development among the student community.





## SDG Environmental Film Festival with ALT EFF 2024

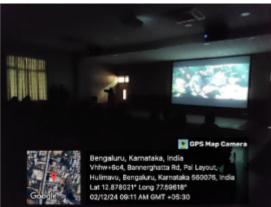
**Venue:** Mini Auditorium **No. of Participants:** 150

The All Living Things Environmental Film Festival was held on December 2–3, 2024, at Christ University, Bannerghatta Road Campus, in the mini auditorium. Over two days, seven documentary films were screened, focusing on environmental sustainability, pollution, and topics aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The event included panel discussions, an open-mic session, and interactive discussions, providing participants with opportunities to reflect on ecological issues and their own consumption patterns. Students gained increased awareness of environmental challenges and the importance of adopting socially and culturally responsible practices.

Through thought-provoking films and dialogue, the festival encouraged students to engage with sustainability concepts actively, fostering a sense of responsibility towards protecting ecosystems and promoting eco-conscious behaviour in daily life. The festival successfully blended education, awareness, and participatory learning.







# A Lakeside view: What Bengaluru's lakes are trying to tell us

Venue: Council room, central block

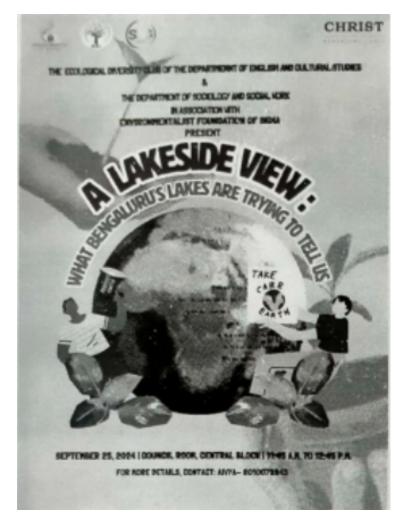
No. of Participants: 51

The session began with Mr Ad Akho addressing the rising summer temperatures in Bengaluru and Chennai in 2024, noting Bengaluru's second-highest recorded temperature on April 29, which triggered a severe water crisis. He discussed the city's primary water sources, causes of scarcity, and the impact on residents.

Ms Pragati followed, highlighting the environmental consequences of unplanned urbanisation, lack of waste segregation, and polluted lakes and rivers. She emphasised the role of the Environmentalist Foundation of India (EFI) in restoring and preserving water bodies. An interactive group activity engaged participants as stakeholders—hospitals, apartments, NGOs, and government—to propose solutions for preventing future crises. The session concluded with reflections on individual actions to mitigate climate change and foster sustainable urban living.







# Sound waves of change: Empowering communities through radio

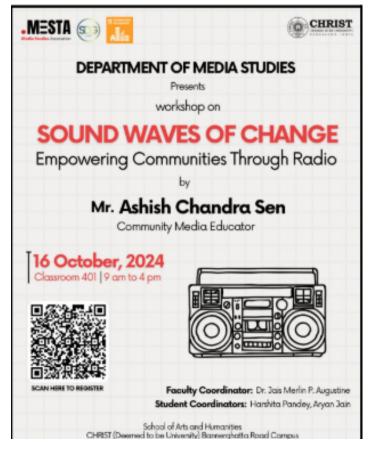
Venue: Rooms 401 and 408 No. of Participants: 50

The Media Studies Department at Christ University, Bannerghatta Road Campus, conducted a workshop titled "Sound Waves of Change: Empowering Communities through Radio" under the guidance of Dr Jais Merlin and P. Augustine. The session introduced students to community radio, showcasing diverse storytelling styles and genres, with a video screening highlighting initiatives like Sangham Radio in rural areas.

Students engaged in discussions reflecting on the social impact of community radio and participated in interactive scriptwriting exercises, learning about voice-overs, sound design, and effective storytelling. Hands-on fieldwork allowed them to develop action plans for specific communities, fostering creativity, teamwork, and practical application of knowledge. The workshop emphasised local narratives, community-driven media, and the power of radio as a tool for social empowerment and engagement.







#### Sustainable Cities and Communities with Special Reference to Infrastructure

**Venue:** Multipurpose Room, Devdan Block, Kengeri Campus

No. of Participants: 75

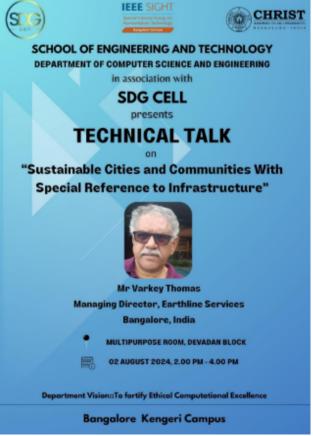
The session highlighted sustainable urban development, focusing on integrating green spaces and natural landscapes into construction and city planning. The speaker emphasised eco-friendly materials, renewable energy, and water conservation as essential practices for environmentally responsible development.

An interactive exercise invited participants to spend seven minutes experiencing nature closely, fostering appreciation for its importance in sustainable urban planning. Community involvement was stressed to ensure developments meet local needs while preserving the environment.

Students gained insights into sustainable design, eco-conscious construction, and the role of green spaces in enhancing urban livability. The session reinforced the need to balance development with environmental preservation to create sustainable, resilient communities.







#### Plantation drive in collaboration with "A Rocha India"

**Venue:** Anekal Forest range, Bannerghatta

No. of Participants: 26

On September 27, 2024, the SDG Cell of the Department of Economics, Christ University, Yeshwanthpur Campus, in collaboration with A ROCHA India and the Karnataka Forest Department, organised a plantation drive at Anekal Forest, Bannerghatta. Students and faculty participated in educational sessions on biodiversity, wildlife conservation, and elephant protection, followed by a nature walk.

At the plantation site, 26 participants planted 200 saplings, including banyan, jamun, rosewood, and bamboo, and engaged in watering and caring for the trees. Reflective discussions emphasised environmental restoration, sustainable practices, and the importance of studying landscapes before planting. The hands-on activity fostered appreciation for conservation efforts, teamwork, and community engagement, leaving participants with renewed commitment toward protecting natural habitats and contributing to sustainable development.







# Jamkhandi Rural Camp

**Venue:** Jamkhandi Village, Karnataka **No. of Participants:** 26 volunteers

The Jamkhandi Rural Camp was organised in the heart of Jamkhandi to promote sustainable living through solar energy utilisation and waste management. Twenty-six volunteers worked together to create awareness among villagers who were previously unfamiliar with these concepts. Through workshops, demonstrations, and interactive sessions, villagers learned about renewable energy, environmental cleanliness, and community responsibility. Around 80 beneficiaries were directly impacted. The initiative successfully inspired the local population to adopt eco-friendly practices, reducing dependency on non-renewable resources. This camp became a model of how awareness and grassroots involvement can transform rural areas toward sustainability and green development.



# **Health Camp in Madiwala**

**Venue:** Madiwala, Community. Bangalore **No. of Participants:** 15 volunteers

The Health Camp in Madiwala was organised to provide essential medical check-ups and health awareness for residents. A team of 15 volunteers assisted in serving over 65 participants. The initiative emphasised preventive healthcare, hygiene education, and the importance of regular medical screening. Through community outreach, it promoted health equity and ensured access to basic medical services. The event strengthened community well-being and fostered proactive healthcare practices, reflecting SDG 11's vision of inclusive and resilient communities with improved quality of life.



# Old age home visit and distribution

Venue: St. Chavara's Old Age Home, Bengaluru

No. of Participants: 30 volunteers

The Old Age Home Visit and Distribution event was conducted at St. Chavara's Old Age Home to share care, companionship, and joy with elderly residents. Volunteers organised games, cultural performances, and distributed essential supplies to brighten their day. The visit promoted emotional well-being, inclusion, and dignity among senior citizens. It also encouraged youth empathy and social responsibility. By fostering interaction across generations, the event reinforced SDG 11's goal of inclusive communities that value and support all age groups, ensuring social cohesion and compassion within urban society.



# Wellness fair - Special school visit

Venue: Special School facilitated by HNH, Bengaluru

No. of Participants: 20 volunteers

The Wellness Fair organised by HNH included a visit to a special school, where volunteers engaged children with disabilities through creative and recreational activities. Art, storytelling, and games fostered inclusion, happiness, and mutual understanding. The program emphasised that wellness includes emotional and social health alongside physical well-being. It inspired volunteers to value diversity and promote equal opportunities for all. This compassionate engagement promoted inclusivity and acceptance within the community, aligning with SDG 11's emphasis on building cities that are inclusive, participatory, and accessible for everyone.



# **World Down Syndrome Day Rally**

**Venue:** In partnership with Asha Niketan F.M.R, Bengaluru

No. of Participants: 10 volunteers

To commemorate World Down Syndrome Day, HNH partnered with Asha Niketan F.M.R. to organise an awareness rally. Ten volunteers participated, impacting over 65 individuals. The rally emphasised inclusivity, acceptance, and equal rights for people with Down Syndrome. Through slogans and banners, participants spread messages about empathy and understanding. The event inspired community dialogue and encouraged a more compassionate attitude toward differently-abled individuals. It reflected SDG 11's objective of fostering inclusive, supportive urban environments that celebrate diversity and uphold dignity for every community member.



# SHG Mela / Women's Day (Trash 2 Cash)

Venue: Christ University

No. of Participants: 50 volunteers

The Women's Day celebration, sponsored by Trash 2 Cash, brought together women workers and volunteers in a joyful event of unity and empowerment. Around 50 participants took part in activities that promoted collaboration and friendship. Sponsored by Ankit Jain and Jaikumar Chandrashekar, the event also featured a Self-Help Group (SHG) Mela showcasing women's creativity, entrepreneurship, and sustainable products. It celebrated women's contributions to environmental management and social equity. By highlighting women's roles in sustainability, the event strengthened community inclusiveness and directly supported SDG 11's commitment to sustainable, equitable societies.



# **Launch of Police Marshals / Police Marshals Session**

**Venue:** Christ University

No. of Participants: 50 volunteers

The Police Marshals initiative, in collaboration with Bengaluru City Police and Aarohan Foundation, focused on community safety and youth leadership. Before the launch, a preparatory session involved 39 participants discussing substance abuse and cybercrime awareness. The official launch featured 26 student marshals, recognised as safety ambassadors. The program encouraged collaboration between students and police officials to create safer campuses and communities. It instilled civic responsibility and proactive engagement among youth. This initiative exemplified SDG 11 by strengthening social safety, inclusivity, and partnership in building resilient community networks.



#### Court of Women on Covid

Venue: Christ University

No. of Participants: 100 volunteers

The Court of Women on Covid, organised by CSA in collaboration with Vimochana, provided a platform for women and non-binary individuals to share their pandemic experiences. Discussions focused on gendered violence, economic struggles, and systemic neglect during COVID-19. Activities included a "Women in Black" march, poetry circles, art walks, and street plays. The event fostered empathy, awareness, and collective advocacy for justice and inclusion. By amplifying marginalised voices, it promoted inclusive community dialogue and gender-sensitive urban recovery, aligning with SDG 11's goal of building safe, equitable, and resilient communities.



#### **Animal shelter visit**

Venue: Love for Forgotten Animal Shelter, Nettigere, Bengaluru

No. of Participants: 31 volunteers

Thirty-one CSA volunteers visited the Love for Forgotten Animal Shelter in Nettigere, home to nearly 100 rescued dogs. Volunteers participated in bathing the animals, cleaning enclosures, and learning about animal welfare from the caretaker. The visit raised awareness about responsible pet care, urban stray management, and humane environmental practices. It fostered compassion and understanding toward neglected animals. Through this engagement, volunteers recognised the importance of empathy in community life. The initiative resonated with SDG 11 by promoting humane, environmentally responsible, and inclusive urban communities that value all living beings.



# **Sustainability and Urban Resilience Session**

**Venue:** National Centre for Sustainable and Ecological Cities (NCSEC), Christ University **No. of Participants:** 80 participants

The session highlighted the importance of sustainable and resilient urban development, focusing on eco-friendly design, community engagement, and long-term planning. Students explored how green landscapes and resource-efficient construction materials contribute to healthier and more resilient cities. Through interactive discussions and guided observation, participants examined the relationship between built environments and ecological well-being. The session emphasised responsible urban growth, disaster preparedness, and balancing modernisation with environmental conservation. By linking theoretical concepts with real-world urban challenges, the activity encouraged students to think critically about inclusive, safe, and climate-conscious cities. Aligned with SDG 11, the session inspired participants to envision sustainable communities supported by mindful planning and ecological responsibility.



# Trivandrum Sustainability Summit 2024 - Sustainable Cities & Communities Initiative

Venue: Christ Nagar College, Trivandrum

**No. of Participants:** Students, sustainability practitioners, industry experts, faculty members, and partner organisations

The Trivandrum Sustainability Summit 2024 directly supported SDG 11 by promoting sustainable, resilient, and environmentally responsible community practices. The event focused on building sustainable cities by encouraging carbon-neutral event management, low-waste operations, and resource-efficient planning. Participants engaged in discussions on mobility, urban sustainability, waste reduction, and community-centred environmental responsibility. The summit also highlighted the importance of integrating sustainability into institutional culture, showcasing models for greener campuses and socially conscious community behaviour. Through collaborative sessions, expert talks, and practical demonstrations, the event strengthened awareness of how cities and institutions can reduce ecological impact while improving livability. Overall, the summit served as a platform for advancing sustainable urban development and community participation aligned with SDG 11.



### Comprehensive Energy Audit – CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Central Campus

Venue: CHRIST University – Bangalore Central Campus

No. of Participants: 15

The comprehensive Energy Audit conducted at CHRIST University's Central Campus (12–18 March 2024) directly supports SDG 11 by promoting sustainable campus operations through efficient energy management. The audit assessed electricity consumption, solar energy generation, power quality, and usage patterns across academic, administrative, and residential blocks. It identified major energy loads—lighting, HVAC, motors—and recommended sustainable upgrades such as installing an additional 200 kW solar plant, replacing 1,000 ceiling fans with BLDC models, adding sensor-based lighting in classrooms, and adopting sub-metering for block-wise monitoring. The audit also emphasised transportation efficiency and behaviour-based conservation. These measures aim to reduce carbon emissions, enhance energy efficiency, cut utility costs, and strengthen the campus's transition toward a smart, sustainable, and resilient institutional environment.

# Access to University Facilities for Art and Cultural Activities

The university provides a vibrant and inclusive environment that actively supports art, culture, and community engagement, aligning with SDG 11. State-of-the-art facilities such as auditoriums, open-air theatres, exhibition galleries, and dedicated cultural zones allow students to explore and showcase diverse creative expressions. These spaces host exhibitions, theatre productions, music and dance performances, and interdisciplinary cultural festivals that nurture artistic talent across disciplines. Newly developed areas like the Birds Park and landscaped green spaces further enhance cultural accessibility by providing scenic outdoor venues for installations and performances. By ensuring open access to these facilities, the university strengthens cultural sustainability, fosters collaboration, and promotes meaningful interaction between the campus community and the broader public.









# Access to Open spaces, Sports fields, and Green Spaces

CHRIST (Deemed to be) University provides extensive access to open spaces, well-maintained sports fields, and lush green areas, supporting SDG 11 by promoting sustainable, inclusive, and healthy community environments. The Central Campus houses multiple football and cricket grounds, basketball and volleyball courts, badminton courts, and a 400-meter athletic track, along with dedicated indoor fitness centres. These facilities remain accessible to students throughout the day, encouraging physical activity, teamwork, and overall well-being. The campus also features open green lawns, landscaped gardens, tree-lined pathways, and eco-conscious spaces that foster relaxation and environmental awareness. Together, these sports and green infrastructures strengthen community engagement, support active lifestyles, and reflect the university's commitment to sustainability and urban resilience.







# **Sustainable Commuting**

CHRIST (Deemed to be University) promotes sustainable commuting practices across its campuses to reduce carbon emissions and support an eco-friendly mobility culture. The university encourages walking, cycling, and the use of public transport among students and staff to limit dependence on private vehicles. Facilities such as dedicated cycle stands, electric-vehicle charging points, and campus buggies make green commuting convenient and accessible. Carpooling and shared-ride practices are actively advocated to minimise traffic congestion and reduce fuel consumption. Regular awareness initiatives further highlight the benefits of low-carbon travel. Through these measures, CHRIST fosters a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable campus environment, aligning with its long-term vision of responsible urban living.







