



COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

STUDENT LED SOCIETY TO ENGAGE WITH SUSTAINABILITY

A student-led society focused on engaging with sustainability is an excellent initiative that can make a significant impact on promoting sustainable practices, raising awareness about environmental issues, and encouraging positive change within the student community and beyond. Building a strong community of like-minded students dedicated to sustainability can create a lasting impact and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Following activities are undertaken by different student clubs in the University:

- **Education and Awareness:** Organize workshops, seminars, webinars, and awareness campaigns to educate students about sustainability, climate change, conservation, and eco-friendly practices. Involve experts and professionals to share their knowledge and experiences.
- **Sustainable Campus Initiatives:** Collaborate with the university or college administration to implement sustainable practices on campus, such as waste reduction, energy conservation, water-saving measures, and sustainable transportation options.
- **Green Events and Competitions:** Host eco-friendly events, green challenges, and competitions to encourage students to adopt sustainable habits and creative solutions for sustainability issues.
- **Community Outreach:** Engage with the local community and other student groups to promote sustainability beyond the campus. Participate in or organize environmental cleanup drives, tree-planting activities, or partnerships with local environmental organizations.
- **Sustainable Lifestyle Campaigns:** Encourage students to adopt sustainable lifestyles, such as promoting plant-based diets, reducing single-use plastic, and adopting sustainable fashion practices.



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- **Research and Innovation:** Support student research projects focused on sustainability and environmental issues. Encourage innovation and projects that address real-world sustainability challenges.
- **Advocacy and Policy Initiatives:** Advocate for sustainable practices and policies at the institutional and governmental levels. Participate in discussions, petitions, and campaigns to push for positive change.
- **Partnerships and Networking:** Collaborate with other sustainability-focused organizations, both within the academic community and externally, to share knowledge, resources, and ideas.
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Integration:** Align the society's activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to provide a global framework for addressing various sustainability challenges.
- **Green Entrepreneurship:** Encourage and support student-led green startups and projects that aim to solve environmental issues or promote sustainable products and services.
- **Inclusive Approach:** Ensure that the society welcomes students from various backgrounds and disciplines, recognizing that sustainability is a multidisciplinary endeavour.
- **Social Media and Communication:** Utilize social media platforms and other communication channels to spread the message of sustainability, share success stories, and inspire others to take action.

The following student societies are present at CUSAT for undertaking one or more of the afore mentioned activities.

National Service Scheme, CUSAT

National Service Scheme of CUSAT is a unit of excellence, packed with activities, brimming with energy and resonating with vibrancy. Through a slew of programmes and initiatives, the unit truly upheld the envisioned objectives and mission of National Service Scheme. The selfless service of NSS volunteers touched every aspects of societal life including Awareness Campaigns, Asset creation, Sustainability, Empowerment, Art & Culture, Service to Needy



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and other social services aimed at promoting welfare of society through improving the quality of life and enabling the members of the society to lead a life of dignity.

The NSS, CUSAT is comprised of 11 NSS units with around 1100 volunteers who actively extend their services to many parts of Kerala. The volunteers actively participated in various camps conducted widening their knowledge horizon and equipping them with some important skills. The camps and trainings they get help them to be a better personality to show compassion and will to help others. Programmes for hair donation to cancer patients, honouring organ donors, constructing houses for poor and programmes for the disabled were highlight of CUSAT NSS activities.

Volunteers also upheld the motto of conserving the environment through their cleaning and beautification activities. By planting trees, they set an example to influence others to protect the environment to make the world a better place to live in. The environment was rejuvenated with the effort of students. They engaged in various farming and garden creation activities with efficient follow-up and maintenance. NSS volunteers were keen to empower the downtrodden of society through various initiatives serving the poor and needy. The art and culture were also promoted through various activities.

“Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world. Upholding the motto of ‘Not Me But You’, NSS volunteers of CUSAT as a team lay out themselves in the service of mankind. Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. Through their selfless service, CUSAT NSS highlights the message that serving others is the way in which we ourselves grow and develop. All these activities aim at the personality development of students.

Link: <https://nss.cusat.ac.in/>

Green Warriors

Green Warriors is a passionate and proactive student-led club dedicated to promoting sustainability, environmental awareness, and eco-conscious practices within our campus and the broader community. The mission is to empower students to take collective action towards a greener and more sustainable future.

Activities of Green Warriors include:

- Awareness Campaigns: The Green Warriors organize regular awareness campaigns on campus to educate students about pressing environmental issues.



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- **Sustainable Campus Initiatives:** Working closely with the university administration, we actively implement sustainable practices on campus. From promoting recycling and reducing waste to advocating for energy-efficient measures, we strive to make our campus a role model for sustainability.
- **Tree Plantation Drives:** To combat deforestation and enhance green spaces, we organize tree plantation drives both on and off campus. These events not only contribute to carbon sequestration but also foster a sense of responsibility and stewardship towards the environment.
- **Green Challenges:** We host fun and engaging green challenges and competitions that encourage students to adopt sustainable lifestyle choices. Challenges like "Plastic-Free Week" and "Eco-Art Exhibitions" promote creativity while inspiring positive behavioral change.
- **Community Outreach:** The Green Warriors extend their reach beyond the campus by engaging with the local community. We collaborate with environmental organizations and participate in clean-up drives, beach clean-ups, and awareness sessions in nearby schools.
- **Sustainable Entrepreneurship Workshops:** The Green Warriors organize workshops on sustainable entrepreneurship, encouraging students to develop innovative solutions to environmental challenges. We support and promote student-led green startups and ventures.
- **Policy Advocacy:** As advocates for sustainability, we engage in discussions and campaigns aimed at influencing institutional policies related to environmental protection and sustainability practices.

Link: <https://iqac.cusat.ac.in/Web/GreenCampusInitiatives>



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Sparsham: CSR Club

The CSR club was made official in 2019 with a formal structure and objectives after a series of discussions with School of Management Studies by the alumni and students under the current name “SPARSHAM”. Sparsham took up many activities to give support to the needy. A bank account was formed to raise funds for the Sparsham activities and the summary of the same is shared in its official meeting at the year-end.

Link: <https://sms.cusat.ac.in/clubs-cells/sparsham-club/>

Nature Club

The Nature Club at Campus is a thriving and enthusiastic community of students dedicated to celebrating and conserving the wonders of the natural world. With a focus on environmental education and sustainable practices, the club organizes regular outings, nature walks, and field trips to foster a deeper connection with nature. Through interactive workshops, guest lectures, and eco-friendly initiatives on campus, the Nature Club strives to raise awareness about environmental issues and inspire positive action. Guided by a shared passion for biodiversity and ecological preservation, the Nature Club serves as a beacon of environmental consciousness, encouraging students to become responsible stewards of the environment and advocates for a greener future.

Link:

- School of Management Studies, CUSAT : <https://sms.cusat.ac.in/clubs-cells/nature-club/>
- School of Engineering, CUSAT : <https://soe.cusat.ac.in/natureclub/>
- School of Legal Studies, CUSAT : <https://sls.cusat.ac.in/activityClub>

Indian Green Building Council (IGBC), School of Engineering, CUSAT

IGBC (Indian Green Building Council) is a non-profit organization which strives to bring about best energy and environment practices. IGBC CUSAT Student Chapter is an initiative towards the same. It was inaugurated on 14 March 2018 by the Hon. Vice-Chancellor Dr. J Latha in the presence of Chairman IGBC Kochi Chapter, Mr. B R Ajith. The student chapter



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has active participants from students of EEE, Mechanical, Civil and Safety, and Fire departments of School of Engineering (SOE).

Link:

- <https://igbc-cusat.in/>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/igbc-student-chapter-cusat/?originalSubdomain=in>

Centre for Green Literature Studies, CUSAT

This unique Centre of study has initiated its function from the current academic year (2021-22) that concentrates on Green Literature/Eco Literature of Hindi and Malayalam and will definitely make in-depth study on the various literary, philosophical aspects of the Green Literature. The particular Centre has its own relevance in the present scenario, because it aims to address major concerns of the world and it will expound the new relationship with nature. This Centre will also generate new vision among the young generation and instil new world views in the minds of common man through outreach programs. This centre as the Departments of Hindi hopes, will disseminates new literary imaginative insights and reframe the society in a positive manner. The centre also intends to offer a programme, PG Diploma in Green Literature.

Link: <https://hindi.cusat.ac.in/programs/index.html>

Smile makers

Smile makers is an NGO formed by the students and alumni of CUSAT for taking up greening of activities at campus. The activities taken up by smile makers include steel straw adoption campaign, greening of earth and conducting waste collection drives in the campus.

Link:

- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/smilemakers-org/?originalSubdomain=in>
- <https://www.facebook.com/smilemakers.in/photos/a.2433093506975522/2511904975761041/?type=3>